

Hot Spring

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No. 18

Difficult to Grasp

"It is evident that one of the most difficult points for commentators to grasp and for large numbers of Tamils also-is that the Sinhalese, as I have maintained since I first began to write on Sri Lanka, have no intention whatever of reaching a 'negotiated settlement with the Tamils."

David Selbourne-quoted by A. J. Wilson in the 'Break-up of Sri Lanka.'

Surfeit of Peace Proposals from Colombo Not Relevant to People in the North

Clerics at Ecumenical Meeting

At an ecumenical gathering of Roman Catholics, Anglicans, Methodists, and members of the Jaffna Diocese of the Church of South India together with lay persons held on Wednesday, February 9, with the Rt. Rev. Kenneth Fernando, the Anglican Bishop of Colombo and Rev. Dr. Kingsley Muthiah the secretary of the Methodist Church also being present, clergymen from the North belonging to all sections of the Christian faith stressed the need for urgency and earnestness which should underlie any peace moves to settle the on-going war.

Rev. Dr. S. J. Emmanuel, the Vicar General of the Jaffna Diocese of the Roman Catholic Church, said that the task with

which Rt. Rev. Bishop Kenneth Fernando has visited Jaffna, was very urgent. He also stressed the need to listen carefully and take into account the aspirations of those who have taken up to arms as a last resort.

He also criticised the possible pseudo-Colombo based talks that have no relevance to those living under constant bombing and shelling by the Sri Lankan Armed forces. He also expressed the Tamil fear of such delayed peace efforts as the Government was trying to buy time to conduct peacefully their business in the South.

Rev. Donald Kanagaratnam, Archdeacon of Jaffna of the Anglican Church said that too much Colombo based peace proposals can

have no relevance to the people in the North.

Rev. Dr. Henry Victor also of the Anglican Church pointed out that any peace process which overtly insisted on the surrender of arms would not win the confidence of the Tamil people. He insisted that it should be dropped if the Bishop's moves are to stand the chance of winning some confidence among the Tamil people.

Rev. Fr. Selvaratnam, Director of 'Santhi Aham' said that there was a need to overcome the prejudices that have crept into the educational system.

Rt. Rev. Jebanesan, the new Bishop of the Jaffna Diocese of the CSI and Rev. Dr. Kingsley Muthiah, secretary of the Methodist Church also spoke.

'Observe Responsible Silence!' says a Christian Clergyman

There were attempts made to canvass support amongst Christians for a Six-point Peace plan put forward by the Anglican Bishop of Colombo, Rt. Rev. Kenneth Fernando at an informal gathering. The Six-point Peace Plan is as follows:-

1. Exchange of Visits;
2. Goodwill gestures such as release of prisoners;
3. A mutual dialogue between intellectuals of both communities;
4. A mutual dialogue between political leaders on both sides;
5. Surrender of arms;
6. Human rights and democratic process-elections

On hearing about the Peace Plan for the first time, a Christian clergyman reacted by blaming the Christians in the South for having remained silent for far too long a time, even when the Northerners were subjected to indiscriminate aerial bombing and shelling by the Sri Lankan Security Forces.

Someone from the audience quipped that this attitude was like the Biblical story, awaiting for the attack to cease and then play the role of the Good Samaritan!

This brought a retort from the one leading the discussion that even as Good Samaritans, as N.G.O.s, they had not performed their part well.

The Clergyman down South then posed the question as to what the Christians in the South could do at this juncture?

Tut, came the prompt reply from the Christian clergyman, 'Simple! Observe a responsible silence!'

Anglican Bishop Speaks to LTTE Leaders

A team of clerics headed by Anglican Bishop Rt. Rev. Kenneth Fernando held discussions with the LTTE on Friday, February 11.

The Bishop's team included Rev. Kingsley Muthiah, Secretary of the Methodist Mission, Dr. Jayakularajah, Fr. Rienzie Perera, Fr. Jebanesan, Fr. Jeyakumar and Archdeacon Rev. Donald Kanagaratnam.

The LTTE team included Mr. Karikalan, Deputy Head of LTTE's Political Wing, Dr. Anton Balasingam, Mr. V. Ilankumaran and Mr. V. Balakumaran.

The discussions were said to have taken place in a cordial atmosphere and the LTTE team was reported to have stressed on the need for the creation of a con-

ducive atmosphere to enable peace talks to begin.

Shell Attack

Several shells were launched by the Sri Lankan Army encamped in the islands towards the coastal areas of Jaffna town. 50 calibre guns were also fired.

(Continued to page 4)

NEW ARMY CAMP AT THANDAMALAI

News from Batticaloa said that the Sri Lankan Army had opened a new camp at Thandamalai in the Batticaloa district.

The new camp is reported to have been opened on

Tuesday, February 7.

The same report also said that the Army camp at Pulukanavi was closed and it was that which had now been brought to Thandamalai.

FISHERMEN AFFECTED

Fishermen from Araly are unable to do fishing because of Naval thuggery. Fishermen have complained of systematic attack on them and as a consequence they are unable to earn their living. When they are out fishing, Naval boats, using para lights to identify, fire

at them. As a result they had to abandon their work and return. Even on Wednesday, February 9, in the early hours of the morning they were fired at and had to swim back to shore abandoning their boats and fishing implements.





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Cutting the Ground Under the feet of Peace - Makers

The question in Parliament by Mr. Nihal Siripala de Silva of the Opposition SLEP about any talks between the Government of Sri Lanka on the one hand and the LTTE on the other has been replied in the negative by the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs, Wimal Wickremasinha.

The Tamil bogey had always been the weapon of the Sinhala chauvinists. There is nothing strange about it.

Just as this question was asked in parliament and answered therein, two teams of clergymen led by their respective leaders had come in to Jaffna and returned to Colombo. We refer to the Roman Catholic Team which came to Jaffna under the leadership of the Archbishop of Colombo and the Methodist Mission Team which came under the leadership of Rev. Dulip Fernando.

While these respected ecclesiastical leaders were in Jaffna, they expressed the need and the hope for peace. After the return to Colombo of the Catholic Team, we also had news of the Roman Catholic Church offering to mediate between the Government and the LTTE.

The period of stay of these religious groups in Jaffna - in fact the Anglican Bishop Rt. Rev. Kenneth Fernando's team is still staying in Jaffna, as we write this - coupled with their statements and interviews to the mass media in Jaffna made many believe that there was some substantial move in some quarter or other to initiate some talks which will result in some political settlement and consequent end to war.

We do not know what the effect of this team's visit in Sinhala Rata was, but we are sure the so-called 'national press' could not have been comfortable and there might have been ghost stories - we vouch not because we haven't seen any of these papers - published with the intent to jeopardise any move aimed at solving the nationalities' problem.

The question and answer referred to at the beginning of this editorial lay bare the whole conspiracy. It is a joint conspiracy by the Government and Opposition to see that the canker of the Sinhala - Tamil conflict lasts for ever as the miserable merchandise in which they trade to gain in their political vocation.

The Tamils are well aware of the game of the Sinhala politicians and press. There are Sinhalese gentlemen - no doubt honourable and sincere so far as they are concerned - who think that the totally unacceptable claim of the Sinhala politicians to rule the Tamils in the latter's country need some accommodation. This perhaps arises out of the last 150 years of history and may not take much more time to vanish.

The question in parliament and answer referred to in this editorial is nothing but a move - a conspiratorial move - to cut the ground under the feet of the Christian clergymen who wish to bring some solution and peace.

Political Aspirations of Tamils Need Recognition

Last week was full of activity in Jaffna with teams from Colombo going here and there expressing shock and concern at the damage caused to Jaffna and of course talking of peace. One is reminded of a visit to a funeral house to express condolence.

These teams included a Roman Catholic group headed by His Grace, Nicholas Marcus Fernando, the Archbishop of Colombo, a Methodist Team, headed by Rev. Dulip Fernando and the Anglican Bishop of Colombo, Rev. Kenneth Fernando.

The Catholic Team and the Methodist Team have since returned. Rev. Kenneth Fernando is still in Jaffna.

On his last visit to Jaffna last year Rev. Kenneth Fernando secured the release of a few Sinhala Prisoners-of-War but was fouled by the then President so that he could do nothing to reciprocate the goodwill shown by Mr. Pirabakaran. In addition he had to face severe criticism from Colombo's so-called 'national' news-media because he had some good words for LTTE. Perhaps undaunted Rt. Rev. Kenneth Fernando has come again to Jaffna.

Whilst he is still here, we hear the Catholic Church has come forward to mediate. But, of course, the Government itself has not given any indications.

The matter is a little complicated by the arrival of Dr. A. T. Ariyaratne, his wife and their associate Mr. Jehan Perera who came to Jaffna for a private memorial service of Thanksgiving.

It is public knowledge that Dr. Ariyaratne has served the Sinhala cause by carrying out Sinhalese colonisations in the Tamil homeland with the political objective of the Sinhalese leaders coming down from the time of D. S. Senanayake to make the Tamils a minority in their own homeland. It is also public knowledge how 'sarvodaya' of which Dr. Ariyaratne is head, diverted huge sums of monies donated for Northeast to the Anuradhapura District. Thus the Sarvodaya which is headed by Dr. Ariyaratne caused two damages to the Tamils by one stroke. It spent some money in the Northeast to change the demographic pattern there and help in the Sinhalisation of the Tamil homeland. Then it spent monies given specifically for Northeast

in the Anuradhapura District to help the Sinhalese. Even the leader of such an organisation as 'Sarvodaya' was here last week but of course for a strictly private purpose. Of course as is the wont of ambitious men he has made some public utterances during an entirely private visit. One cannot rule

KUMARAN

out the possibility of the dirty hands of J. R. Jayawardhene behind Ariyaratna.

But whatever it is, the Tamils have been duped for nearly three quarters of a century that they may act with great caution.

Peace is desired by all. There is no magic about it. Of course the sufferers by war feel the pangs of war greater and are earnest about achieving peace. It is the position of the Tamils in Eelam today.

The irony of the whole situation is that the Government of Sri Lanka has not shown any indication of settling the problem with the Tamils.

No doubt the problem has been outstanding for a long time that it may not be possible to reach some agreement in a few rounds of sittings with any number of mediators.

What happens during this peace process matters much.

The situation throughout has been that while talks

take place between Tamil leaders and Sinhalese leaders the Government machinery is geared to consolidate the Sinhala state machinery in the Tamil homeland. This is a tragic situation witnessed by the Tamils not in the distant past to be forgotten.

Again we are also aware of the fact that there is international pressure, that something should be done to stop war. We also know that when donor countries meet or when UN Human Rights Groups meet the Sinhala Government announces various things which are not implemented but succeeds in getting aid or averting strictures.

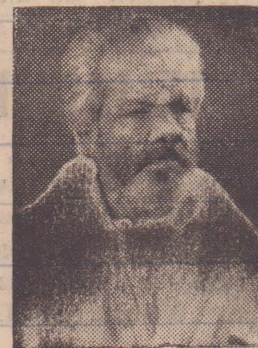
The most important thing for everyone to remember is that the war is taking place not because the Tamils are blood-thirsty. It is taking place because of an underlying political problem.

The underlying political problem is that it is the political aspiration of the Tamils that they should rule themselves in their homeland. There is still no indication that the Government is willing to abandon its pretended right to look after the affairs of Tamil Eelam and its people.

It is the earnest desire of the Tamils that these well-meaning people who certainly are trying to bring about peace with good intentions become bold enough even at this late stage to tell the Baudha-Sinhala chauvinists that the political aspirations of the Tamils must be recognised to bring about lasting peace.

Appreciation:

Versatile Scholar C. S. Kularatnam Passes Away



A veteran scholar of no mean repute Mr. Ka. Si. Kularatnam has entered into eternity. Articles on varied subjects were eagerly sought from him for publication in Souvenirs and Journals.

Late Mr. Kularatnam had authored a number of books in Tamil; his series on Hindu Civilization (INDU NAKA-

RIKAM) though out of print is still hunted for by research Scholars.

His book NORTH TO GOPALLAWA presents the history of Ceylon during the British period in the style of the noted historian, Trevelyan. This is another of his works in demand.

He had been the Honorary Editor of the "Milk White News" and he also published on his own HINDU CIVILIZATION a monthly Journal.

Mr. C. S. Kularatnam shone as a public Speaker too. Any function of importance, without Mr. Kularatnam had been unimaginable.

Palkalaippulavar (Versatile Scholar) is an epithet synonymous with KA. SI. KU. as he was affectionately and reverently called.

Mr. Kularatnam, in short (as his physical stature was) had been a mobile reference Library.

Let his Soul rest in peace.

K. Kanagarajah J. P.

Mannar: Seven Police Sentry Posts Out More Helicopter Flights

Seven Sri Lankan Police sentry posts on the main road between Mannar island and Talaimannar have been removed from the third of this month according to news from Mannar.

The same news said that these sentry posts have been removed so that they may not become subject to LTTE attack, according to top Police officials, but added that these posts were also

put up to prevent LTTE infiltration!

The report also said that helicopter movement in the area shows a marked increase since the removal of the Police Sentry posts.

Ideological Base for Eelam

Our Readers Say

The Tamil community throughout all the vicissitudes in their fortunes had fixed their 'larger hopes' on the ideology of upholding that they were a nation of people distinct in land, race and faith. Based on this ideology, the structure of Eelam Tamils has been shaped many years ago. It was this ideology that inspired Velupillai Pirabakaran in his march to liberate the land of Eelam from the claws and clutches of the Sinhala rulers. Any other ideology, save Eelam, is incapable of inspiring the Tamil community to action in the way of liberating themselves.

In nature an evolutionary process, the quest for the establishment of Tamil Eelam cannot be reversed. It has gone too far.

In the midst of the ongoing war and the counter measures adopted by the State, rabid communalists have

grabbed the opportunity of fleecing the Tamils outside the N.&E. in large sums of money, by giving information to the Police and the forces that they are Tiger suspects. These elements are emboldened in their operation because the State has turned a blind eye to the protests and pleas by those Tamils who were victimized. Passage of time can prove the situation still unpleasant for the Tamils, no matter to whatever social standing they may belong, living outside the N. & E. by way of violence at sight, parallel to what is predominant in the Western countries in the shape of Blacks & Whites.

Our memories cannot be that short by what befell the Tamils outside the N.&E. during the communal riots witnessed in the past. If we Tamils have a self-respect for ourselves, the scars of the riots should remind us to what depth the Sinhalese

have nursed their hatred towards the Tamils.

Whilst the N. & E. is thinning with the Tamil population, the State has made a steady stride in its colonization policy, putting the Sinhalese in the lands owned by the Tamils traditionally and subsequently displaced by armed forces. The modus operandi is to show the outside world that the N. & E. is not the traditionally homelands of the Tamils but that a fair section of the Sinhalese are domiciled. Therefore, the demand of the Tamils for an Eelam Nation is baseless. The LTTE is yoked with the arduous task of driving away these illegal settlers, and its pursuit, if it is to succeed, shall be the duty of every Eelamist to conform to the ideal by strengthening the population in the N. & E.

Vathiry. D. Jeevananthan

CMU Protests over Taxes

The Secretary of the Ceylon Mercantile Union (CMU), Mr. P. B. Tampoe, in a letter addressed to President D. B. Wijetunge who is also the Finance Minister, conveyed the Unions decision to call upon the Government to abolish the taxes levied from private sector employees on wages, salaries and other income such as allowances, bonus etc. as these moneys earned are not 'profits' but income from employment. This income is obtained by

doing work or rendering service and is not a 'profit'.

The Union has called upon the President to stop recovering the tax from employees by way of PAYE tax.

The Union also has protested against imposition of a Value Added Tax upon consumer purchases with a view to relieve businesses of the present Business Turnover Tax. The Value Added Tax will impose additional tax burdens on the already over-burdened masses of consumers.

We are Refugees

We are refugees!
In our own land
Our land is encroached by the enemy.
Therefore, streets temples and schools
Are now our dwelling places.
We haven't our needs
And commodities to live our lives.
We lost our property,
But, never our spirit.
One day the enemy repelled will be,
From our Motherland.
And we'll be free
Like all humanity
To live our own free lives in our homeland
Without the taint and shame of refugees.

Eelamalar

Is it an Independence Day?

Media View

The British obtained the maritime areas of the island of Ceylon from the Dutch; after some years they captured the Kandyan Kingdom and Vanni which was not amenable to be tamed by others and continued their rule.

The existence of three separate kingdoms during the advent of the Portuguese to this island, is a historical fact.

But the Sinhalese and the Tamils who had been subjugated, were brought under a Unitary form of government by the British to serve their own administrative convenience.

When granting Independence on February 4th, 1948, they left behind the same Unitary constitution.

They were under the notion that all the various nationalities would share political power under this Unitary System of government in accordance with the Soulbury Constitution.

They trusted in political justice that one nation would not subjugate another under Section 29 of the Constitution.

But what happened? Political justice was thrown to the wind. As far as the

Tamils were concerned, the story ended with the change of masters - from the British to the Sinhalese.

Even the existing rights enjoyed by the Tamils were systematically taken away. Tamil lands were grabbed by government - sponsored Colonization Schemes. Official status was denied to the Tamil Language. Tamils were reduced to second class citizens. Jaffna District was reduced to a pitiable status much below that of Third World Countries.

Under these circumstances, while the people in the South celebrate Independence Day, what is wrong on the part of our people to actively continue their liberation struggle calling the Freedom Day of the Sinhalese as a black day for them?

When after World Wars were concluded, boundaries of states were changed and multi-national states were formed on the thinking that the different races would live together under one state. But what is happening today? These experiments have proved futile and the number of states are increasing. And this in turn is adding strength to our fight for freedom.

Eelamadu -
Editorial of 4.2.94

Teedor News

Distribution of Cadju Plants

The Mullaitivu District Branch of the Tamil Eelam Economic Development Organisation (TEEDOR) distributed free cadju plants to people in the district from its 10 acre farm Nursery. Also 2000 co-conut plants have been sold to the people. These are now being reared by the people in their own lands.

Fishing Nets on loan basis

Eighty fishermen in the Mullaitivu District have been provided with fishing nets valued at Rs. 277,000/- on a loan basis. The cost of these nets are repayable by the fishermen in instalments during a period of 20 months.

Veterinary Services

TEEDOR has provided veterinary services by opening an Animal Health Centre at Kumilamunai in the Manal Aru area. The Centre provides services such as disease prevention, drugs and treatment of diseased cattle.

Self-sufficiency in Salt

A press-note issued by the TEEDOR says that due to the efforts made to attain self-sufficiency in salt there is sufficient salt for consumption. At the outbreak of the war in June 1990 a kilo of salt cost

Rs: 30/- as it had to be brought down from Colombo. Now plenty of stock is available and a kilo costs Rs: 10/- in the retail market.

Double-Burner Economy Oven

The double-burner economy oven in wide-spread use in Jaffna peninsula to tide off the scarcity of firewood has now been introduced in the Kilinochchi District too to prevent cutting down trees for firewood though firewood is not a problem in the Kilinochchi District. A TEEDOR news release says that these ovens are becoming popular in the Kilinochchi District too and already 117 orders have been placed with TEEDOR for the supply of these ovens.

Sesame Growing

The several Village Production Committees of the TEEDOR within the Kilinochchi District have each started a two acre farm within its area growing sesame, a grain widely in use amongst the Tamil people.

Village Uplift Schemes

Under TEEDOR's Village Uplift Schemes poultry farms have been opened at Ramavil and Kodikamam in Thenmaradchy and Alvai and Karanavai in Vadamaradchy. A fruit processing centre has been opened at Meesalai. 30 families have benefited by this scheme.

SPORTS

Basket ball Final

At the Basket ball Tourney organised by the Hatton National Bank, Centralites (Chocs) beat Patricians (Gold) by 47-31 at the Jaffna Campus Courts to annex the Trophy. Patricians were runners-up.

The Chief Guest at the match was Mr. W. P. Balasingam. Johnians (Reds) beat Jaffna University to get third place in the tourney.

Messrs. Rahulan and Nandakumar officiated.

CRICKET

St. John's drew with Canagaratnam M.V. on the latter's grounds in the inter-schools cricket match. The scores were:—

St. John's 226 for 8 decl. & 57 for 7 at close Canagaratnam M. V. 164 all out.

Jaffna Hindu drew with Jaffna College at Vaddukoddai.

Scores:— Jaffna Hindu 173 all out and 76 for 2 at close.

Jaffna College 104 all out.

Wijetunge Needn't Bother-Tamils Do Not Require his Generosity

the 'estate' Tamils may demand the estates and that it

Mr. D. B. Wijetunge, the President of Sinhala Rata, is now on the war path. A man who was credited with Deafness and Blindness as his qualities for his rise, has now abandoned his muteness which is associated with deafness and blindness, and is now making bold statements especially at public meetings. In his latest speech at UdaNuwara he has said that he would never grant Eelam. Perhaps, he probably cannot appreciate the fact that political demands are never begged from rulers and they are never granted either by the rulers charitably. That is a lesson in history.

Tamil Eelam Not a Gift to be received

When the Tamils made the demand for Tamil Eelam they never expected any Sinhala ruler to grant it in a plate of gold-and themselves to receive it with all the gratitude. If that were history - that rulers grant the demands of people - the world would be a paradise. The Tamils, therefore, knew that their demand should be won by them. And the win can be achieved in many ways - by the submission of persuasive arguments, non-co-operation with the rulers, civil disobedience and other political actions. The Tamils did try all these methods only to be repressed and oppressed and finally to be suppressed by violence-first let loose through thugs and hooligans and later directly taken over by the Sinhala state's armed forces. In the last resort, the Tamils were forced to take to arms to defend themselves and their motherland from Sinhala imperialism and liberate Tamil Eelam. The Tamil demand for Tamil Eelam will con-

tinue until Tamil Eelam is achieved. Mr. Wijetunge ought to know that the demand for Tamil Eelam did not emanate from the LTTE. Its progenitors are long dead now. But the demand is not dead and will continue to be there till it is achieved. This is a lesson for which Mr. Wijetunge need not scan the books of history to learn but ought to know from personal knowledge. He is sufficiently old to know what has happened in this island because he himself has been an-eye-witness starting his politi-

VENTHAN

cal career as private secretary to Mr. A. Ratnayake who was a Minister in D. S. Senanayake's cabinet of 1947.

Unsolicited Concern for our Poverty

If Mr. Wijetunge had only proclaimed his 'obstinacy' at Udanuwara and left it at that, the need to write this article would not arise. He seems to have expressed statements which would convey the impression that he is also 'concerned' about the Tamils when the Tamils themselves have never burdened him with such onerous duty.

He has posed the question what would happen to the Tamils if all are sent to the Northeast to live in there on promise of grant of Tamil Eelam and answered that question himself that the Tamils would only have to eat sand or hard earth. He has gone on to say that the Northeast is not fertile - no tea or rubber - no resources whatsoever and that they (the Sinhalese) have to send all these and more for the Tamils to breathe in Tamil Eelam.

Nobody seems to have asked him why on earth the Government of Sri Lanka is spending such colossal sums of money to retain an arid land under its control and spend its own resources on feeding people of Tamil Eelam especially when they do not want the Sinhala government to take such care of them and prefer to be left alone and left to themselves. Even if no one asked such a question openly many of his listeners will be posed to ponder over such a question in private.

Tamil Eelam Rationale

But Wijetunge has provided ample testimony to his hypocrisy when he has proceeded to say that the Sinhalese are the 'majority' and therefore are only entitled to rule. He has said that the Sinhalese had ruled the 'country' and would rule it in the future too. The 'minorities' should provide the necessary help to the Sinhalese to rule.

Leaving out the historical distortions and inaccuracies in his speech one would wish to analyse his thinking in relation to the present. He believes that the Sinhalese should rule and that the Tamils should help the Sinhalese not only to rule the Sinhalese themselves but also to rule (misrule) the Tamils also. In other words he wants the Tamils to wear the chain of bondage willingly! Perhaps he thinks that Eelam Tamils should like the hill-country Tamils provide the vote bank for men of his coterie to assume power only to be later kicked and insulted.

Mr. Wijetunge does not understand the rationale behind the Tamil Eelam demand. The Tamil Eelam demand does not exclude the right of the Sinhalese to rule but it only confines the rule of the Sinhalese to Sinhala Rata and in like manner restricts the Tamil rule to Tamil Eelam only.

We might also tell Mr. Wijetunge - whether he is capable of understanding it or not that, that has been the position in this Island throughout its history - the Sinhalese ruling themselves and the Tamils ruling themselves and the Island's possession remaining divided between the two peoples. Here and there strong kings either of Sinhalese or Tamils may have ruled the other as well but such rare incidents were temporary and short and belonged to the ancient days

of rule by dynasties and had never been the feature of any period of permanent duration. The two peoples Tamils and Sinhala have lived their separate ways and developed their own languages, religions, cultures, institutions, law and states. British colonialism and imperialism brought the two together to serve its own ends and this relic of colonialism and imperialism must go for the natural growth of the two peoples.

Sinhalese cannot attack territorial integrity of Tamil Eelam

There is one other matter which needs mention. Mr. Wijetunge has said that

can never be granted. Well and good! If so, how can the Sinhalese demand areas in Tamil Eelam where they have been colonised illegally, stealthily and by the fraudulent exercise of the administrative machinery which came into the hands of the Sinhalese from the time of D.S. Senanayake? How can Wijetunge and his party hope to count on the Sinhala votes introduced into the Tamil homeland by colonisation to divide the Tamil territory? In as much as Sinhala Rata's territorial integrity is inviolable Tamil Eelam territorial integrity is also inviolable.

POSTAL SERVICE- Not an Essential Service

Action must be initiated by the Postal Authorities themselves to regularise the Postal Mail Service to the North, said Mr. Devanesan Nesiah, the Additional Commissioner for Essential Services and Secretary to the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs and Environment Protection, to a question posed by press correspondents as to whether his Ministry would take action to regularise the postal services in the context of the

fact that the Postal Service is an important link with the general public.

Mr. Nesiah further added that his Ministry does not consider the Postal Mail Service an essential service but it was the inefficiency of the Postal Authorities in the past that led to the disruption of mail services. It should be the responsibility of the Postal Department to take meaningful measures to regularise the postal services to the North.

Navy Fires on Fishermen- One Injured

Sri Lankan Naval boats using para lights fired at random on fishermen, in the waters of Gurunagar. This happened on Wednesday, February 9, about 9.00 p. m.

One of the fishermen,

Sebastian Cyril (aged 35), was injured. He was brought ashore by the other fishermen.

Sebastian Cyril is now warded in the Jaffna hospital with grievous injuries.

Shell Attack on Mallakam Three including Infant injured

Three people including a one and a half year old infant and a 49 year old woman were injured when shells launched from the Sri Lankan Army Camp exploded at Mallakam.

About 10.30 a.m. on Friday, February 11, the Sri Lankan Army encamped at Palaly launched shell attacks. Some shells exploded at Kottaikadu in Mallakam. Three people were injured and were admitted to the Jaffna Hospital.

The injured are S. Perinpanayaki (49) K. Suthaka-

Shell Attack

(Continued from page 1)

The shells exploded in the Jaffna Fort area, Kottadi and Navanthurai. No reports of casualties were received.

ran (29) and an infant aged 1½ years named Matheepan.

Three houses in the area were also damaged.

Helicopter Fire-Boats Damaged

A Sri Lankan helicopter fired on the coast and coastal dwellings at Polikandy in Vadamadachy on Wednesday, February 9, about 2.00 p. m.

A number of fishing boats on the coast were damaged.

New Era Publications, Luckshmi building, Dutch Rd,

Tragedy at Kaithady

The miserable tragedy that happened at Kaithady, Never be forgotten, on this month of February, Was a pathetic misadventure for our nation, The cause of mischance - not yet known.

There came a burst of thunder sound, Ask of our minds, - that far around, Oh! our warriors - where were they? All haste away in a trial - on their way.

All thoughts, all passions, all delights, All of theirs, vanish'd within a minute, Commander Ponnammam and all the ten, Departed from us, so soon.

The fragments of theirs were strewn, not in vain, At every Tamil's heart it will remain, Though our hearts be wrapt in sorrow, Bloom of Tamil Eelam, will be a glad tomorrow

- Malarannai -