

Saturday Review

SRI LANKA

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Off With 6th Amendment-TULF

The Tamil United Liberation Front will it seems continue to press that the 6th Amendment which debarred its members from sitting in Parliament should be rescinded.

A former TULF MP said certain amendments have to be made to the Constitution to solve certain problems.

As we go to press, the TULF has not taken a final decision on the matter.

WHO WILL WIN?

Tamilnadu's Reaction

The pace of political events in the North and East is hectic.

Even as we write, we are not sure we will not be overtaken by events and become outdated.

The Interim Administration and who should be Co-ordinator seems to have been problematic.

We were first told that Jaffna's Municipal Commissioner, Mr. C. V. K. Sivagnanam is going to be the Chief Administrator.

Twenty four hours later the papers said that the LTTE was insisting on the appointment of Mr. K. Pathmanathan, the Additional Government Agent of Trincomalee, as the Chief Administrator.

As we go to press, we are not quite clear what shape the Interim Administration is going to take or who will head it or its powers.

One thing is clear-INTERIM IS INTERIM.

The LTTE have indicated that unless their nominees get a place in the Interim Administration, they will withdraw from it.

The Eelam Revolutionary Organisation of Students (EROS) has announced that it will not participate in the Interim Administration - though they will not obstruct it.

While the wrangle goes on, some political observers think that the ultimate winners will be the TULF headed by the Ex-opposition Leader and Secretary-General, Mr. A. Amirthalingam.

They seem to have India's backing.

But let no one underestimate the Tigers.

They have shown they are no push-overs.

Either militarily or politically.

Indian High Commissioner, Mr. J. N. Dixit had more than 15 hours of talks with the LTTE and reportedly there was a very, very frank exchange of views.

The SATURDAY REVIEW reliably understands that the Indian High Commissioner, Mr. Dixit, and the Tigers had some rounds of talks, lasting several hours, where there was an acrimonious exchange of views.

Some of the points discussed were about the personnel of the Interim Administration,

colonisation, and the opening up of Police Stations in the North and East.

The SR understands that on these points there was sharp disagreement.

The exact details of what was said and what was agreed upon at the discussions have not been OFFICIALLY released to the press by either side.

What's going to happen is anyone's guess.

Your guess is as good as ours.

Who's The Traitor?

Text of a statement by V. Pirapakaran.

President J.R. Jayewardene is trying to foster regional differences and bring about the split among the Tamil speaking people of the North and East. President J.R. is trying to alienate the Tigers from Eastern Province. This

is the gist of a statement released by the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE).

Mr. Pirapakaran statement goes on to say: The Indian Government which has not understood the cunning machinations of J.R. has unleashed baseless and false propaganda campaign against the Tigers.

India's stance which favours the Jayewardene Government has cost us very great concern and disappointment.

We wish to emphasise that the Indian stance is against the interests of the Tamil speaking people.

The Indian Government has charged the LTTE with the betrayal of India by its stand on the appointment of the Chief Administrator in the Interim Government. But the real position is that the betrayal is by India itself.

We have not accepted the Indo Sri-Lankan Accord.

We have not recognise the sovereignty and the territorial integrity of Sri-Lanka.

If this Accord takes into account the interest of the Tamil Speaking people, if it will lead to safeguarding the security of the lives of the Tamil Speaking people, if it can paved the way to the welfare of the Tamil Speaking people, we are prepared to cooperate:

This is all we told India.

We took this stand for the following reasons:- on one

side we were compelled, on the other we have to maintain our friendly relations with India.

Lastly the Indian Prime Minister personally gave me certain assurances. Believing these assurance and trusting India to fulfil these promises we agreed to co-operate.

The Indian Premier assured me that once the accord was signed there will be an immediate merger of the North and East and a lion's share of representation and administration, including Police functions will be handed over to the Interim Administration.

Two months have passed since Indo-Lanka peace Accord was signed.

There are no signs of the setting up of the Interim Administration.

President Jayewardene try to set up his administrative control in the North and East oblivious of his assurances about the Interim Administration that had to be set up in the Tamil Speaking Provinces.

(Continued on page 8)



Thileepan - The Last Respects

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His Vision Was Clear

It started out quite simply as complex things often do, to fight against a set of all too transparent breaches of the Indo-Sri Lanka Accord which India was pretending not to see through.

How many deaths

Will Gandhi demand

Just to keep faith

With his own accord?

When Mahatma Gandhi was assassinated, Nehru declared, "the light has gone out of our lives". In the darkness that ensued other men calling themselves Gandhi have emerged and assassinated the spirit of the Mahatma — it seems.

Thileepan has not died in vain. His death has welded all the Tamil speaking people of the North and East into a united front for liberation from oppression. A thousand Thileepans have arisen to take his place on fasting daises in the temples of Mullaitivu, Trincomalee, and Batticaloa. The repercussions of his martyrdom have shown to India and the rest of the world in no uncertain

language that the Tamil speaking people are equally good in the use of arms as well as in the use of non-violent weapons in their singleminded and titanic determination to achieve liberation from oppression at any cost.

As a witness to the excruciating pain that he went through, I write on the first two days of the fast Thileepan was seen bent down on kneeling and writing but, his face ebullient as usual. The third day saw him wane and pale, tossing this way and that in pain. He had refused to brush his teeth in the morning for fear that water may enter his bowels. Gradually his words became inaudible, his vision blurred and his movements painstakingly slow and difficult. But his ambition, his vision was clear. Not for a moment did he falter. He was a man of gigantic will power. A fire no one dared to get close to. His words and his actions always went hand in hand.

On the fourth day his last public speech made the

thousands gathered around him weep unconsolably. One of the speakers implored him to take water amidst an uproar of cheer from the crowds. It was then that he said that even though he was unable to speak he had to do so, as one of the speakers had spoken in a manner that was derogatory to his mode of satyagraha. He said that asking him to drink water was like disrespecting his satyagraha, and that it was not for this purpose that he had come there. He added, "I am certain about my end, along with my 650 comrades — I will watch you making an independent Tamil Nation a reality from the skies". Again and again he said that a people's revolution must break out soon and that it was for this purpose that he was dying. No army can fight against the people's might. Mother Nature too wept openly for him on that day.

On the sixth day when I saw him again his pain and restlessness were obvious, the agony of each passing hour was assuaged by his dreams materializing before him; the dream — a people's struggle. A roaring lion had lain down to fortify the people's moral might. The dam that had

twenty years ago in the village of Urelu he went to school like any other, but his strong determination singled him out from the rest. He would go to temple festivals when he was small and throw away the prasatha offered after poojas, swearing never to taste it before the tasted freedom. A chess champion at his Alma-mater Jaggna Hindu College, he used his calm resolute moves later on in the political arena. On one occasion when he was yet in his first year at the medical faculty, he was surrounded by the Sri Lankan armed forces and asked to draw the face of a tiger whereupon he promptly drew that of a cow. When questioned about the obvious blunder he answered that it was only a sketch of those he saw before him. He soon left to join the armed struggle. Once his guts were blown apart and had to be fetched in a polythene bag. No sooner had he been assembled in one piece than he became even more persevering and hard-working, working late into the night with hardly three hours of sleep a day, a machine that never tired, a machine that never gave up, a machine

A NEW PRINCIPAL

Johnians, past and present, are jubilant that their School will have a new Principal in October. The new Principal, Dr. E.S. Thevasagayam, M.A., M.Sc., Ph. D. is not new to St. John's. His father Mr. Eliathamby was Headmaster of the Church Primary School. Thevasagayam, after completing his primary education, joined St. John's College in 1933.

Academically, he had an enviable career: he won the Scripture and Class Prizes in seven out of the eight years at St. John's, and was first in the School at the London Matriculation Examination in 1941. He was College Prefect and Secretary of the S. C. M., and of the J. I. CCF.

REGIONAL TAXPAYERS' ASSOCIATION (NORTH & EAST)

All Taxpayers who have suffered losses to their business or private property are requested to furnish the details of such losses in the prescribed form available at our office in order to seek financial assistance and tax relief through our Association.

55 1/2, Kannathiddy,
Jaffna.

At Madras Christian College he passed the B.Sc (Zoology Honours) Examination in the Second Class, and was first in the College and second in the University (1947). At the University of California Berkeley U.S.A. he got his M.Sc. in Parasitology, obtaining straight A's in all the 13 courses (1956). He obtained his Ph.D for his work in Medical Entomology (1967), from Woosok University, Korea.

As teacher at St. John's (1947—1951), he taught Zoology and Biology in the Up-

He joined the Department of Health as entomologist and worked at the Medical Research Institute. He was later entomologist in the Department of Agriculture, and in 1962, joined the World Health Organisation as Consultant, from which post he has retired. As Consultant Entomologist he worked in Sarawak, Malaysia, other parts of Asia, and Africa. During his work in the W. H. O., he trained teachers and trainers of teachers in health work.

He is a committed Christian and has involved himself in Christian work. At

by **J. M. Sabaratnam**

per School, (H.S.C., G. C. E. A.L.) and London Inter Science) and helped to build up the Biology Department. His versatility is shown by the fact that before he completed five years, he was Senior Science Master, (in charge of Laboratories), Senior House Master, Prefect of Games, Master-in-Charge of the College Sunday School and Secretary of the Brotherhood (a fellowship of Christian teachers). Outside School he was a Director of the Y.M.C.A., Member of the Parish Church Council, and Secretary of the Jaffna Football Referees Association.

Madras Christian College, he was Secretary of the S. C. M. and attended the Triennial Conference of the India Burma-Ceylon S. C. M. He was selected to attend the Christian Leadership Conference for the All-India SCM. At various times and places he was member of the Parish Councils, Vicar's Warden, People's Warden, Synod Representative and Lay Reader. He was also a member of the Board of Directors of the St. Gabriel's School, Kuala Lumpur, as the Bishop's representative.

Thus to his task at St. John's he brings ability, versatility, wide experience in various fields including teaching, and he comes with the resolve to do his best.

by **Gitanjali Asirwatham**

kept his own emotions from overflowing had now river-tered the waters of the people's emotions in its own direction. Thousands of people from all walks of life gazed mutely and turned away to wipe out the tears from the corners of their eyes. Such a human spectacle of suffering had never before disturbed their minds to such an extent. The experiences of bombings, shellings and helicopter strafings were all acceptable it seemed, but not this. (One hour slipped into another and one man's thoughts were as aloud as another's. What news from India, On the fourth day in response to all our tears India asked the L.T.T.E. to surrender any of their arms not yet surrendered and to release all the Sinhalese prisoners captured until then. Pirabakaran issued an appeal to all people that there should be no acts of violence during this fast. It was Gandhi who taught them this.

Who is this Thileepan? Parthipan was the name given to him at birth. His mother died ere he learnt to walk. Born just over four and

that ate, slept and dreamt only one thing and that was a land where he could be free from any form of subjugation. He may not have possessed the cunning of a Machiavelli or the political wisdom of a Chanakya, but he certainly knew how to organise a people's revolution.

On the day before his final exit from his body, he murmured in a state of unconsciousness "water, water". But that too he refused to take, for the thirst for freedom far surpassed the thirst for life. He beat against his once shell-pierced stomach, but his hunger could only be appeased by giving him his freedom.

It is said that Gandhi has become a statue but, has Ghandiam too become a statue we ask Mr. Nedumaran hailed Thileepan as the greatest satyagrahi that he had ever seen. The memory of this great freedom fighter will not be erased from this land as long as Tamil people inhabit the earth. He said that he was deeply grieved that India had delayed taking action for 12 long days. Had she taken the measures that she had now one week ago, Thileepan would have lived. India no other, was solely responsible for his death, he said Mahatma Gandhi was a leader of a great popular uprising in defence of Truth. Here was such a man.

There is a general feeling among the people that this Agreement was imposed by India on the Government of Sri Lanka and the Tamil groups. It is not my intention in this article to go into all the circumstances that led to the signing of the Agreement, how and why it appeared so suddenly like a meteor on the horizon. My aim is only to discuss a few matters which are of paramount importance to the future welfare of the Tamil people of this country. They are as follows:-

1. REFERENDUM

According to the Agreement a referendum will be held on or before 31st December, 1988 to enable the people of the Eastern province to decide whether the Eastern province should remain linked with the Northern province, or whether it should constitute a separate administrative unit. The President, in his discretion, can postpone such a referendum. The referendum when held will be monitored by a local

wards. This speech was widely reported in the local press. It only shows that even before the trial has started, death sentence has already been passed by no less a person than the President himself. A few days later in a message to the people his Excellency had said that he and members of his Government would campaign against the merger.

Mr. M.H. Mohamed, Transport Minister, addressing a press conference in Madras on August 29, 1987 had expressed himself against the merger of the two provinces. He had said that the Muslims and even the Tamils in the Eastern province would vote against the merger. A referendum is a must. It could only be postponed and cannot be cancelled. So thinks Mr. M.H. Mohamed and also he thinks that there is a movement in the East against the domination of Tamils from the North and that it itself would work against the merger. (Vide the *Hindu* of 30th August 1987). The mem-

will be fair to all parties concerned, should be found. According to the proposals of 19th December 1986 it was agreed to have Amparai District detached from the rest of the Eastern province. If this district is detached, the Eastern province will become an overwhelmingly Tamil-speaking province and there cannot be any valid objection to the merger of the two Tamil-speaking contiguous provinces: further, this will not in any way harm the Sinhalese. A referendum becomes unnecessary. In my view Amparai Electorate and not the District may be detached from the rest of the present Eastern province. If it becomes necessary and if the Tamils and Muslims residing in the Electorate so desire, they can be settled in the other parts of the Eastern Province. There may be opposition from some Tamil and Muslims groups to this proposal, but they have to be convinced of the dangers lurking in the referendum proposal.

signing this Agreement". It was reported in the Indian newspaper, the *Hindu*, that the Prime Minister of India at a public meeting held in Madras on August 2, 1987 had said, "under this Agreement approximately one-third of Sri Lankan territory will be made a single province, where the Tamils will have a clear majority. They will have regional autonomy, comparable to the State Governments of India. This represents an immense advance on what has been asked for by the Tamils in Annexure C in 1983. It represents major concessions made by the Sri Lankan Governments".

If this is going to be the position, if there is going to be regional autonomy and full-blooded devolution of power with division of powers between the Centre and the Provinces, this important change in the political structure will inevitably necessitate certain fundamental amendments to the present constitution of Sri Lanka. According to some constitutional

amend if it became necessary, the changes which they intended bringing to solve the ethnic problem. They would not say the same now after the signing of the Agreement. Yet the possibility is there that two or more Sinhala-dominated political parties can get together and change, at some future time, the entire political and constitutional structure so as to nullify an essential part of the Agreement, the devolution of power. Here again can the Indian Constitutional experts devise some clause to be included in the constitution which will serve as an impenetrable shield so as to prevent such attempts? or, is it going to be that the guarantor, the Government of India, will serve as the impenetrable shield? Time along will provide the answer.

4. REHABILITATION OF TAMIL YOUTH

The Agreement states, "The Government of Sr-

INDO-LANKA AGREEMENT:

SOME THOUGHTS by T. Subramaniam

committee and observed by a representative of the Election Commissioner of India. This element has been introduced into the Agreement probably because of the notoriety the last referendum has acquired. Now there are books and reports on the last referendum so that it may not be erased from the minds of the people and they can always go to them to refresh their memory and learn lessons as to how a referendum should not be held. There may not be a repetition of such practices at the proposed referendum, but there are other factors which should be considered carefully when anybody discusses this question of referendum.

(a) His Excellency the President in his address to the National Executive Committee meeting of the U.N.P. held on July 25, 1987 had stated that some of the Tamil and Muslim ministers from the Eastern Province had assured him that their people would never vote in favour of a merger of the North and East which would be on trial for one year. Hence the referendum would show that the majority of the people in the Eastern province reject the merger. That question then would be a thing of the past from that time on

wards of this Government are at the old game of the imperialists of divide et impera, divide and rule, divide the Tamils of the East from those of the North, 'divide the Muslims from the Tamils'. There is no doubt that the Government in order to wreck the merger will resort to all sorts of shady tactics and devices, machinations and manipulations which have become notorious. It will employ all the resources at its command to achieve its end. It had made it plain that it is totally against the merger.

(b) The President of Sri Lanka, unlike the President of India, is an active partyman and is permitted by law and the constitution to participate actively and canvass openly in any election campaign. The present Constitution renders the President immune from legal proceedings, both in his official and private capacity while he holds office (Article 135 (1)). This factor of the Head of the State campaigning in the referendum is a serious matter and the Tamil people of this country should pay serious attention to this aspect.

(c) In view of these reasons I suggest that, without resorting to the device of a referendum, a solution that

Although Mr. M. H. Mohamed has said that a referendum is a must, it is not so. According to the Agreement it is not mandatory. If my suggestion is accepted and implemented, it will help solve a serious problem and prevent many and ugly and unnecessary controversy that may arise after the referendum whatever its results may be. It is my suggestion the referendum should be avoided and a way should be found to avoid it. I have suggested one way that will be fair by all concerned, a compromise solution, and compromise is the essence of politics. It is now left to the Tamil people to consider carefully, the reasons I have urged against referendum.

2. DEVOLUTION OF POWER

The next important matter to be considered is the nature of the powers that will be granted to the Provincial Councils. The Agreement states that "These proposals are conditional to an acceptance of the proposals, negotiated from 4th May 1986 to 19th December 1986. Residual matters not finalised during the above negotiations shall be resolved between India and Sri Lanka within a period of six weeks of

lawyers like Prof. Christie Weeramantry, the present constitution cannot be amended to bring about such far-reaching changes. Only a new constitution can embody the new proposals.

The main question to be asked and answered is: Within a unitary Constitution can such changes as will satisfy the aspirations of the Tamil people be embodied? Can the Indian constitutional experts find ways and means by a preamble to the Constitution or by some other effective means to overcome the legal and constitutional impediments so that the aspirations of the Tamil people can be met? Dr. Colvin R. D. Silva is reported to have said: India is described by constitutional experts as a federal state which is unitary in spirit. Perhaps the devolution of power in Sri Lanka would be described by them as a unitary state that is federal in spirit". It is left to the Indian Constitutional experts to accomplish this task. But let us hope that it will be full-blooded devolution and not a more sham or semblance.

3. ENTRENCHED CLAUSES

In the past powerful Sinhala politicians went about saying that at any future time they could alter or

Lanka will make special efforts to rehabilitate militant youth with a view to bringing them back to the mainstream of national life. India will co-operate in the process". It is a laudable objective and we shall ever be grateful to India for all the assistance it will give towards the attainment of this objective. But besides the militant youth, there are thousands of Tamil youth, wandering as refugees, like the ancient wandering Jews, in the capitals of the world. It is disgraceful for any civilized country to have allowed such a situation to take place. They should be brought back and settled in the Tamil region. It will be the duty of the Regional and Central Government to do this. India's advice, co-operation and assistance in this matter too would be welcome.

It is the fond hope of many that the agreement can be repudiated or abrogated by revolts and protests, agitation and violence. The Government of India is not an individual like the late Mr. S.J.V. Chelvanayakam. The Agreement cannot be

(Continued on page 7)

VADAMARADCHY'S DEVELOPMENT POTENTIAL

Geographically the Vadamardchy East is a distinct region in the Jaffna Peninsula. It is a narrow sandy strip extending from Vallipuram in the North and Chundikulam to the South. The length of the sandy strip is nearly 75 km. and the breadth is 5 km. in the North and less than 3 km. in the South. The Vadamardchy lagoon separates this region from Pachchillaipallai. Sand dunes and long sandy beach are the main physical features of the region. Nallathanithoduwai is the Southern boundary of this region and separates the Jaffna District from the Mullaitivu District.

Prior to 1940's two Maniyakar divisions were in existence in Vadamardchy. They were named as Vadamardchy East and Vadamardchy West. They Vadamardchy West consisted of Uduppiddy, Valvettiturai, Kadaiveli, Puloly and Point Pedro. Chief Village Headmen Divisions (Udayar divisions). The Vadamardchy East Maniyakar Division consisted of the Kudathanai and the Chempiyanpattu divisions. In 1950's these two administrative divisions were amalgamated into a single DRO division namely Vadamardchy. In the late 1950's Chempiyanpattu (G.S. divisions 147 & 148) was amalgamated with Pachchillaipallai. In 1960 Vadamardchy was divided into two electoral districts namely Point-Pedro and Uduppiddy. Based on electoral division, Vadamardchy was divided into two DRO divisions known as Vadamardchy North and East and Vadamardchy South and West. The boundaries of the DRO divisions were identical with that of the electoral districts of Point Pedro and Uduppiddy until 1977. The boundaries of these electoral districts were changed in 1977 but boundaries of the AGA divisions were not changed. After the carving out of the Kilinochchi district the four G.S.DD of the Pachchillaipallai AGA's division which fall under Point Pedro electoral district remained within the Jaffna district. These G.S. divisions

Cherny, Mullian and Chundikulam were annexed to the Vadamardchy North and East AGA division.

The region had a population of 10,678 persons in 1971 and 13,673 persons in 1981. The present population is around 15,000. The intercensal growth between 1971 to 1981 was 21.9 percent. The region had a low density of population and the density of population in 1981 was 75 persons per sq. km. The following Table shows the density of population by G. S. divisions.

G.S. division	Area (sq. km)	Population	Density (sq. km)
Kuda - Karaiyoor	12.17	1494	123
Ampan	23.75	1330	56
Nagarkovil	30.00	1935	64
Chempiyanpattu	18.02	1947	108
Maruthankerni	19.56	4484	229
Mullian	63.40	2274	36
Chundikulam	14.29	204	14
Total	181.48	13673	75

The Maruthankerni G.S. division had a moderate density of population and this division includes the village of Aliyawalai, Uduthurai, Vatharayan and Maruthankerni. Further, it had nearly one third of the population of the region.

The distribution population in the region is mainly clustered in coastal fishing settlements. Kudathanai, Karaiyoor, Manalkadu, Koddodai, Kudarappu, Chempiyanpattu, Mamunai, Thalaiyady, Uduthurai, Aliyawalai, Vatharayan, Vettilaikerni and Kaddai-kadu are the main fishing settlements. Agriculture and fishing are important in Kudathanai, Ampan, Nagarkovil, Pokkaruppu and Mullian. In Chundikulam there are no permanent settlements except for migrant fishermen. Wadis. Nearly sixty percent of the population is Roman Catholics and the balance is Hindus.

The settlements lack modern facilities and amenities. Almost the entire region is not provided with electricity or pipe borne water supply. The road network and transport facilities are very poor. There is only a motorable road from Point Pedro

to Aliyawalai. From Aliyawalai to Chundikulam there is only a cart track available for transport: There is paucity of educational and health institutions. Most of the schools are under staffed and educational standard of the schools are very poor.

The majority of the gainfully employed population of the region is engaged in fishing. Nearly four thousand persons are working in Karavalai fishing. Karaivalai (Beach seine) is the popular method of fishing in this region during the South West

Monsoon. Fishing activities are relatively low during the the North East monsoon period. During the North East monsoon rainy season prawn fishing is important in the Elephant Pass lagoon (Eastern part) and fishermen from other areas also migrate to Chundikulam area for prawn fishing. Agriculture activity is insignificant. Small scale paddy cultivation and market gardening are found along the Point Pedro - Aliyawalai Road. Coconuts are grown mainly as a homestead crop but there are few estates at Mullian, Maruthankerni and Chempiyanpattu.

This is one of the regions which has untapped natural resources. Land, sand, water lagoon, long sandy beach and continental shelf are some of them. The land area of this region is nearly 185 sq. kilo meters and the major portion of this region is uninhabited and unutilized. The land available here could be utilized for several purposes especially for cashew, coconut, casurina, ipil ipil and joyoba cultivation. In Manalkadu casurina planting has proved a successful venture and this could be developed in other areas too. The southern part can be utilized

for coconut cultivation extension programme. Besides agriculture the land could be utilized for land settlements purpose.

Sand available at Nagarkovil area is popular for building construction. The quality and the grain size of this sand is superior to the sands available in other parts of the Jaffna peninsula. Sand dunes of Manalkadu could be utilized for construction purposes provided adequate conservation methods are taken to maintain the ecological balance. Government and Local authorities as well as individual property owners of the region could earn sizeable revenue from the sale of sand. Feasibility to set up a glass factory in Nagarkovil in the air for a long time. Close attention should be paid for the establishment of a glass factory using Nagarkovil sand.

Research study revealed that Manalkadu and Nagarkovil regions have good underground water resource. Based on the Manalkadu water resource a market town water supply scheme was initiated to supply water to Chavakachcheri, Point Pedro and Valvettiturai towns under a U.S.Aid Programme. The construction work has commenced but could not be completed due to the unsettled conditions prevailing in the Jaffna district. Since the situation has now improved the work could be recommenced.

by **Prof. P. Balasundarampillai**
Department of Geography, University of Jaffna

The Eastern part of the Elephant Pass lagoon has now been converted into a fresh water lake but it dries up in summer (June to September). Kangarayan Aru and other streams of the main land discharge water in this lagoon. Water from this lagoon is being carried to Vadamardchy by Mandalai Canal. Mandalai Canal is not in a proper condition at present to divert water from the Elephant Pass. Lagoon to the Vadamardchy Lagoon. Once the canal is properly rebuilt it will increase the flow of water into the Vadamardchy lagoon and it will in turn help the desalination and reclamation processes in the neighbouring areas of the Vadamardchy lagoon. Land nearly 10,000 acres in extent could be reclaimed along the Vadamardchy lagoon for cultivation and pasture development. In view of many

studies and proposals available for the development of the Vadamardchy lagoon, due consideration should be paid now for this scheme while accommodating the interest of the fishing community and other communities.

The region has good sandy beaches and scenic places which could be utilized towards the development of a tourist industry. Places such as Manalkadu, Vallipuram and Nagarkovil can form as centres of attraction for tourist. The entire coastal stretch from Vallipuram to Chundikulam has a prospective future for tourist industry. This area can be compared with Kovalam and Marina beaches of the South India.

The coastline of the region covers a length of 75 km. The fisheries resources in the coastal fishing area and deep sea fishing area are still not effectively exploited. The region has a vast potential for the development of fisheries industry. There was a proposal to build a Fisheries harbour at Nagarkovil and this project may be given due consideration. Further fisheries based settlements could be developed along the coast. Point Pedro rehabilitation committee has also put forward proposal to build fisheries settlements in the region to accommodate 5000 fisher families. The project for rehabilitation of Karaveddy fishermen at Chundikulam which was planned earlier could be taken up for implementation.

Low density road network and poor transport facility impede the progress of this region. Though this region is close to the Jaffna

Kand trunk road. It has not been linked properly with Thenmaradchy and Pachillaipalli. This region is linked with Pachillaipalli only by the Soranpattu. Maruthankerni Road. In order to improve the transport facility of the region the following roads have to be developed: 1. Nagarkovil Eluthumadduwal 2. Varani-Kudathanai 3. Iyakkachchi-Mandalai Kovilvaikal Chundikulam Road 4. Aliyawalai-Chundikulam Road 5. Kudathanai-Manalkadu Road 6. Minor Fisheries Roads in the region.

Point Pedro - Chundikulam Road may be taken up for development as part of the Eastern coastal highway. Converting the above roads into all weather roads will generate more economic activities to this region and

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TULF RECOGNISES MUSLIMS' SEPARATE IDENTITY

Text of a statement by the Tamil United Liberation Front.

The Northern and Eastern Provinces have been recognised by the Indo-Sri Lanka Agreement as "areas of historical habitation of Sri Lankan Tamil speaking peoples". The T.U.L.F. recognises the separate identity of the Muslims.

The Muslims are a minority in the whole country as well as in the North-Eastern Province. In recognition of the above the T.U.L.F. suggest the following :-

(1) The creation of Muslim majority A.G.A. divisions in Kattankudi, Eravur, Ottamavadi / Valaichenai, Kinniya, Muthur, Thampalagam (Mullipotana), Erukampitti and Musali. The areas to be included in each of the divisions to be discussed and finalised taking in consideration historical, habitations, land, and resources.

(2) Establishment of a Municipal Council at Kalmunai and Urban Council at Sammanthurai, Kattankudi and Kinniya. The territorial limits of these bodies to be discussed and finalised.

(3) The T.U.L.F. in its proposals had suggested that members to the Provincial Council be elected from territorial constituencies in order to ensure adequate representation to the Muslims. We also suggested that the criteria for fixing the number of members for Provincial Council be one member for every (one thousand) 1000 Sq. km. and one member for every 30,000 population. The Government's proposal is for electing members on the basis of proportional representation with the administrative district as the electorate electing one member for 40,000 population in ad-

dition to the area. On this basis the North-Eastern Province will have 71 members ie 36 from the Northern Province and 35 from the Eastern Province. The Muslims are 32.27% in the Eastern Province, 4.73% in the Northern Province. The T.U.L.F. after full discussion with the Muslim Delegation agrees that legal provision should be made to ensure the return of not less than twelve Muslim members from the East and five Muslim members from the North.

(4) Legal provision shall be made to ensure that the Deputy Chief Minister of the North-Eastern Province shall be a Muslim unless Chief Minister duly appointed is a Muslim. Provision shall also be made to ensure that not less than 25% of the Council of Minister inclusive of a Minister for Muslim Affairs shall be Muslims.

(5) Entitlement for State land for Muslims in future land alienation shall not be less than 35% in the Eastern Province, 30% in the Mannar district and 10% in the rest of the Northern Province.

(6) Muslim entitlement for employment in the public sector shall not be less than their ratio in each district in the North - Eastern Province.

(7) Separate educational facilities upto University level shall be Provided for the Muslims. Educationally backward groups, areas and schools shall be given special consideration in admission to Universities.

(8) No statutes which would impinge on the rights and interests of Muslims shall be passed by the North-Eastern Provincial Council unless a majority of the Muslim members vote for it.

(9) We have expressed our views on other Matters raised in the memorandum of the Muslim Council and these matters need to be Considered further by both sides.

VADAMARADCHY'S...

(Continued from page 4)

also to the neighbouring especially to Eluthumadduwal. Eluthumadduwal was once a prosperous market town, but it has lost its importance now. Construction of Nagarkovil-Eluthumadduwal Road will help to change the economic landscape of the Eastern Vadamardchy and Eastern Thenmaradchy.

A new A.G.A. division should be created covering the areas from Kudathanai to Chundikulam. The proposed division may include the following divisions Kudathanaikaraiyoor, Ampan Kudathanai, Nagarkovil North, Nagarkovil South, Chempianpattu, Maruthankerni, Uduthurai, Mullian, Pokkaruppu and Chundikulam. The proposed A.G.A.'s division will slightly differ from the traditional Vadamardchy East area. Mullian, Pokkaruppu and Chundikulam G.S. divisions of Mullipattu of Pachilaipalli form part of the proposed A.G.A.'s division. Formation of a new A.G.A.'s division has been a long felt need of the people of this region. Further a new Pradheesiya Sabha may be created for this region in order to get the people's participation in the development of this area.

This region needs a well developed small service centre (small town) Either Maruthankerni or Nagarkovil may be chosen for the development. Maruthankerni is located midway between Kudathanai and Chundikulam

and has more than one third of the population of the Vadamardchy East. Maruthankerni is located one junction which has transport access to Jaffna, Point Pedro and Killinochchi. Few service institution are already in existence at Maruthankerni. Development of Maruthankerni as an important service centre will help to improve the educational and health services in the region and facilitate the development of relatively undeveloped Southern part of the Vadamardchy East such as Nithayaveddai, Vettalaikerni, Kaddaikadu and Chundikulam. Nagarkovil may be developed as the second important service centre of this area which will assist the development of the Northern part of the Eastern Vadamardchy:

In order to give effect to this suggestion special arrangements have to be made at district and national level.

I. The district administration should treat this region as the most under developed region in the Jaffna District and give priority in allocating funds for development disregarding the size of the population.

II. To man various social and educational institutions adequate number of personnel may be recruited with special service conditions suited to an under developed region.

III. When siting economic

and service institution preference may be given to this region.

IV. The plight of this region may be brought to the notice of national and International organizations which involved in socio-economic upliftment of the rural community, i.e. CIDA, SIDA, NORAD, Redbana, Sarvodayam etc.

V. Create awareness among the people of Jaffna about the problems and potentiality of the region.

The Vadamardchy East region with small population endowed with potential resources. These resources have not been properly utilized upto now. If proper attention is given to the development of this region, the people of the region as well as the Jaffna district will benefit immensely. There is evidence show that the Vadamardchy East region and Pachchilaipalli division had a large population and relatively better economy earlier than at present.

In the process of development particular attention should be paid for the conservation measures relating to removal of sand and extractions of under ground water for market towns water supply scheme. Removal of mangrove vegetation cover in the Vadamardchy lagoon area has created a disequilibrium in the ecological balance and this situation should be arrested without delay. The development of this region should be undertaken with proper consideration for conservation measures of natural resources.

REGIONAL TAXPAYERS ASSOCIATION FORMED

At the inaugural meeting of the REGIONAL TAXPAYERS' ASSOCIATION (NORTH & EAST) held recently at Hotel Gnanams, a large number of leading industrialists, businessmen, Doctors, Engineers, Hoteliers and Contractors assembled and discussed the various ways in which they were affected during the last 4 years of conflict.

In order to overcome the hardships they have suffered, they unanimously agreed to make financial assistance by way of interest free loans through the Banking system and suitable statutory amendments to the Inland Revenue Act allowing the large capital losses suffered due to reasons beyond their control during the last 4 years, to be treated as revenue losses which could be set off against future profits. A sub-committee was also appointed to go into the details of other losses suffered by the taxpayers and to seek appropriate remedies from the authorities concerned. In order to collect relevant information of the losses incurred necessary forms were issued to all those present.

Mr. N. Karunai Ananthan, who was elected President explained the important contribution made by the taxpayers in every country and emphasised the need for such an organisation in order

to voice their common grievances. He hoped that the Minister of Finance who has been very understanding and sympathetic towards those affected regions will be definitely helpful and respond favourably to the requests of the Association.

Other office bearers who were elected at the meeting are: Vice President - R. J. Gunaratnam; Joint Secretaries - R. Balasubramaniam, S. Selvendra; Joint Treasurers: S. Mahendran, T. Shanmugalingam. A Committee of 9 representing each profession and business was also elected; A fair number of places were allocated to the taxpayers from the Eastern Province.

Guerilla Attack in the South

According to Police sources quoted by the SLBC stated that a group of about 70 attacked a mini camp at Kosgoda, Galle in the early hours of 28th September. The attack was meant to collect arms for the proscribed JVP grenades, revolvers were used in the attack. A sentry, Private Jayantha was knifed to death, while Corporal H.P.S. Senanayake was seriously injured. One guerilla identified as S.A. Ajit was captured and is in Police custody at the Galle Hospital. Early reports indicate that about six sub machine guns had been taken by the guerillas and the raiders had left behind 2 unexploded grenades and 2 home made revolvers. Police inquiries were reportedly proceeding.

'NO REAL OR UNREAL SUPREME COUNCIL IN ENDLF'

Editor
SATURDAY REVIEW

This is with reference to the news published in the SATURDAY REVIEW (5th September).

The news regarding the Supreme Council of the ENDLF was totally wrong, and ill-aimed. It is true that Mr. Douglas and others were the members of the ENDLF. But Messrs. Douglas, Eswaran, Ashok, Selvam, Ramesh and Thangarajah were suspended on 7-7-87 for their anti-party activities and for the propaganda they did against some of our committee members.

There is no "real" or "unreal" supreme council in the ENDLF. Had they, as said in the news item, been the leaders of the ENDLF they would have been invited for the Delhi Talks. But comrades Rajan and Kanagarajan represented the ENDLF in New Delhi. They discussed with the Indian officials there and also met the Indian Prime Minister Mr. Rajiv Gandhi before he left for Colombo to sign the Peace Accord.

Now the Douglas faction had been expelled from the ENDLF on 14-7-87. They do not have any right to claim anything in the ENDLF.

Hence we request your goodself not to give any publicity to such claims as it might confuse and misguide the people.

Kilinochchi S. Robert

Pensions

Editor
SATURDAY REVIEW

The pensioners are grateful to the Government and to the energetic, sympathetic, and understanding Director of Pensions for having expeditiously responded to the Pensioners' grievances and grouses voiced through the courtesy of a benign and public spirited press. It is a matter for congratulation, since, the Government faced with numerous economic, social and political problems decided boldly and humanely to adjust the errors and anomalies in pension payments even before wrapping up the recent and long yearned and prayed for peace accord.

I would like to urge the following points for consideration:

(1) The recent pension revision is purely by way of

adjustment of errors and anomalies. On the whole, bulk of the pre 1985 pensioners seem to have received a fair deal, except a few stray cases according to some press reports which can be looked into by the D/P on individual representations being made by the aggrieved pensioners. The sterling pensioners also have had a

LETTERS

square deal although some of them feel they have not received full justice since they have not been paid at the correct current rate of exchange. It is clear that Government for some reason on other does not want to commit itself to altering the hitherto adopted rate of Rs. 15/- to the Pounds. But it has given the sterling

pensioners some worthwhile relief by revising the basic sterling pension.

(ii) It has been the practice in this country and possibly in some other countries also, to revise suitably pensions whenever salaried officers are given a pay-hike. In fact pensions are conceptually deemed as deferred payment of salaries. This consideration apart, pensions are based on salaries. Therefore pensioners can legitimately hope for some appropriate relief when public servants in service get a pay-hike from January 1988. It should not be forgotten that pensioners too gave of their best while in active service.

Will the Finance Minister be graciously pleased to make

a pronouncement on this issue at the appropriate time?

Colombo Dr.K.Subramaniam

No Magic Cure - All

Editor
SATURDAY REVIEW

A proverb for the wise says: 'It is honourable for a man to stop striving since any fool can start a quarrel'. Most important of all, what's needed is a change in human hearts and attitudes. Will Sri Lanka be united in the foreseeable future? The charms that divide the island are so deep and wide it would years before there is no hope of reconciliation. The dream of a peaceful unification must be seen as impossible as long as both the Sinhalese and Tamils have their human nature dominated by sectarian hatred, hostility, mistrust and

anger. Reunification is not a magic cure-all that will automatically bring peace. The problem is how to share an island in conditions of peace and reasonable fairness how people of different ethnic religions and political views can live together with toleration towards one another.

No peaceful solution appears to be on the horizon because the way to peace is not practised the way of peace they not known. Yet there will come a peaceful world tomorrow. The way of righteousness will be peace and effect of righteousness, quietness and assurance. For ever Tamil people will dwell in a peaceful habitation, in secure dwellings and in quiet resting places. That truly will be the day when Tamils' eyes are smiling, when Tamils' hearts are happy. "Unfree shall never be at Peace".

Miss. Indu Thalayasingham
Sandilipay

Headless Headlines

Editor
SATURDAY REVIEW

Your paper continues to bristle with not only spelling and grammatical mistakes but also with errors that contradict facts and mislead and confuse the reader.

Please refer to Pirapa-karan's statement "Freedom more precious than life", in your special supplement of 28th September, 1987. The passage "Twenty four hours before Thileepan died after refusing to take a drop of water etc." is nonsense.

In the same statement, the sentence "Then, I said, we would give up the fast" is torn from the preceding sentence to give a distorted meaning. It should have followed the preceding sentence thus: "Only then we would give up the fast".

Apropos the above, I refer you to the news headed "Agreement Acceptable-Prabh", on page 8 of issue No. 29 of 8th August, 1987. But in the second para of the news "Prabhakaran replied that the agreement will have to be considered as unacceptable to them." Is not the heading contradictory? I think the vast majority of the Tamils consider the agreement unacceptable.

T. S.
Jaffna.

Note by Editor: We have noted your spelling of names in keeping with Tamil pronunciation.

'Referendum Not Advisable'

Text of a statement by the Eelam National Democratic Liberation Front (ENDLF) Eelam People's Revolutionary Liberation Front (EPRLF) People's Liberation Organisation of Tamil Eelam (PLOT), Tamil Eelam Liberation Organisation (TELO).

1. The proposed referendum to be held in the Eastern Province is not advisable as (a) it militates against the concept of a Tamil Homeland or the recognition of, both, northern and eastern provinces as "the habitual habitation of the Tamil-speaking people"; (b) it is fraught with the imminent danger of jeopardising the conceded concept of one Tamil linguistic province;

2. The question of statelessness and absence of civic rights of more than 2.5 lakhs of the Upcountry or the Plantation Tamils of Sri Lanka has been excluded from the Draft agreement. It is our considered opinion and political position that all stateless Upcountry Tamils should be granted Sri Lankan citizenship.

3. In regard to the question of disarmament of the Tamil militants, a peace-keeping force from India may supervise this process. We have no objections to surrendering our arms to this peace-keeping force.

4. The withdrawal of the armed forces, as a reciprocal measure, should, as a first step, assume positions prior to December 19, 1986; for it is only after agreeing

to a political solution on that date, that the Sri Lankan Government resorted to major military offensives, leading to the present ground situation in the Northern and Eastern provinces;

5. The dismantling of the military camps and bases, other than those in existence prior to June 1981 (ie at the time of the District Development Council elections) is essential and may commence simultaneously with the surrendering of arms.

6. The proposed General Amnesty shall be granted immediately with the signing of the accord should include all those Sinhala political prisoners incarcerated on allegations of sympathy with the just and democratic demands of the Tamil-speaking Peoples;

7. Rehabilitation of the victims of the genocidal attacks by the Sri Lankan armed forces and the reconstruction of areas devastated, is of crucial importance in creating the conditions for the holding of elections, as well as on humanitarian and economic grounds.

8. In regard to the devolution of power under the proposed accord further negotiations should include (a) The scope and extent of devolution (b) and matters pertaining to (i) land distribution (ii) national police force (iii) provincial force (iv) Trincomalee Harbour (v) Education etc.

9. Necessary provisions should be made for an interim administration during the "interim period", so as to ensure free and fair elections to the provincial assembly; We suggest that a Board or a Commission be appointed, for the purpose of carrying out administrative functions during the interim period as well as for the purpose of ensuring free and fair elections. Its members should include those acceptable to the Tamil political organizations associated with the on-going peace process.

10. In the event of providing representations to Tamils in such administration, it should be broad-based and encompassing the above Tamil political organizations. What we have mentioned above are some of our apprehensions and suggestions. We once again pledge our support to the Government of India in its sincere pursuit in creating the conditions where our People can live in peace that is honourable and equitable.

Trincomalee Erupts Again

Sivasothinathan (47) father of 5 children and Moorthy (48) father of children were brutally murdered by a group of Sinhalese wielding swords and knives in Trincomalee on 29th September. Arumuganathan, father of 6 children was grievously hurt in the same incident. A grenade was thrown at Vigneswara School on the morning of 30th September while the school was in session but no one was injured.

DEVILS AT WORK

The Indo-Sri Lanka peace Accord involves the Muslim community as much as the other two ethnic groups living in the country. The clashes that took place during the past few years involved the Muslims living in the Eastern province too. Therefore their reactions to the Accord is of the utmost importance.

From the statements made by President Jayewardene after the Accord was signed it is clear that he had agreed to the merger of the North and East only as a temporary measure, and he as well as the rest of the Government fully expect the people of the Eastern province to opt for separation when a Referendum takes place.

Muslim leaders like M.H. Mohamed have also expressed their determination to see that Muslims do not agree to a merger of the North and East. It would not be therefore wrong to presume that all the resources of the Government and its Muslim supporters will be exerted to prevent the merger from being permanent.

Some of the happenings in the Eastern province right now particularly in the Mutur and Amparai areas indicate that certain forces are already at work trying to set the Muslims against the Tamils.

Everyone knows that after the failure of the talks at Thimpu, gangs of thugs were assembled in Colombo and elsewhere and despatched to the East in vans and buses to destroy and pillage Tamil villages with the assistance of the so-called home guards, as well as certain sections of the Armed Forces. That these same forces will try the same tactics again is more than likely.

Indo-Lanka

(Continued from page 3)

called J.R. Rajiv pact. It is a solemn Agreement signed by two Heads of Governments. It is an instrument recognised by International Law. Abrogation will have its consequences. It is our hope and prayer that both parties to the Agreement will implement it in the letter and spirit.

I have discussed only those aspects of the Agreement that affect the Tamil people vitally as other matters of the Agreement are not of immediate concern to us.

Only the Indian Peace Keeping Force stands in their way.

The reactions of the Muslims in the Eastern Province as distinct from the Muslims in the South should be studied very carefully. For a long time the Muslim business community centered mainly in Colombo and its environs have exercised leadership over all the Muslims. This is because the Muslims are an interspersed minority and the tendency is always to back up any group that is capable of leadership. This of course cannot last for ever, because Muslims like all others are divided into different groups and strata where interests are not the same. The under-privileged sections sooner or later begin to look for different leadership.

We believe that this is already taking place in the Eastern Province, because the way of life of the Muslims living in these parts is quite different from the life-style of the Markan Markars, M. M. Mohameds and A.C.S Hameeds of the South. As they realise this, various groups in the Eastern Province are emerging, searching for ways to accommodate themselves in the new situation. The future will largely depend on what directions these new groups will take. Will they agree for the continuation of the merger or will they be lured by the blandishments of Jayewardene, Mohamed and company? The answer to this will depend on the way the Tamil groups — militants and other smaller groups will respond the aspirations of the Muslims during this interim period.

What exactly are the aspirations of the Muslims? Ap-

art from such matters as opportunity of employment, land alienation and subjects which are common to all, the main aspirations of the Muslims is to get the other groups and in particular the Tamils — to accept the fact that the Muslims are a separate group with a distinct identity of their own which they would like to preserve at all costs. They resent very much the suggestion that because they speak the Tamil language, they are part and parcel of the Tamil section

Time and again Tamil leaders from the North have tried to woo the Muslims, by telling them that they (Muslims) and Tamils are one. Muslims have never been swayed by these overtures. New Tamil leadership must recognise these mistakes of the past, and try to win over the Muslims by accepting their aspirations

to be treated as a group with a separate identity.

People who speak the same language do not always constitute a homogeneous group. For example, Tamil Christians do not consider themselves to be a separate group. They think that they are all Tamils. The same applies to Sinhala Christians. But the yardstick cannot be applied to Muslims who have historically evolved themselves into a separate group.

The greater part of the American Continent is inhabited by people all of whom speak one language and share a common culture but they have evolved into separate nations and nothing will induce them to merge even though they live in contiguous areas. The same applies to Arab nations living in North Africa. Unless Tamil leaders realise this basic truth, all their overtures to the Muslims will be in vain. This also will allay the fears of the Muslims. If this is not done, Tamil leaders will play into the hands of Jayewardene, Mohamed and others.

— byIRA

Normalcy Returns To Jaffna

After a break of nearly a fortnight all Government Departments, business establishments and Schools were open and back at work. The death fast of Thileepan in support of the 5 demands of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam and his consequent death triggered off sit-in strikes and closure of Government and Commercial establishments.

Economic Snags In Lankan Performance

The World Bank Report of 1987 whilst lauding the liberalisation of the economy, has identified public sector enterprises which contribute 30% of the gross domestic product as behind high tariff walls which only encouraged domestic market. It advocates reduced tariff protection and supports exports incentives and increased efficiency of public sector enterprises.

Funds on Tap

Ministry of Rehabilitation is to allocate 32 million rupees for immediate rehabilitation work in the North and East. According to these sources, Jaffna is to get 9.7 million, Trincomalee 8.5 million, Batticaloa 3.3 million, Vavuniya 4 million and Kilinochchi 1.3 million. Within the next 3 months. These funds are to be channelled to 21,000 families and to activate schools, roads, transport, ferry service and other immediate needs.

NEWS BRIEFS

Kilinochchi Quiet

The disturbances of recent days in Kilinochchi which led to the closure of private and public institutions have abated and conditions are fast returning to normal. Public Servants who could not attend office, are trickling back to work. Schools have re-opened, market activities were in full swing and people went about their normal business.

Seeds Of Peace

Rev. Ambrose De Paoli, Papal Nuncio who was the Chief Guest at St. Marys College Trincomalee School Day Celebrations, stated that the seeds of peace had been sown and it required a fertile soil to grow and bear fruit.

No Spoke In The Wheel

V. Balakumar, leader of the Eelam Revolutionary Organisation of Students (EROS) has stated that his group does not wish to be in the interim administration but it will not in any way be a spoke in the wheel for the smooth running of the administration.

Normal Train Service Soon

The 'Yarl Devi' the operation of which was curtailed for sometime, is to resume its normal services next week. The train which was extended up to Kilinochchi on the 30th, will be run up to Jaffna as usual in few days' time according to railway sources.

A Day Of Mourning

29th September was observed as a day of mourning in the Jaffna Peninsula. Ships and business establishments were closed and vehicular traffic was few and far between.

Vavuniya Observes Hartal

At Vavuniya many Sinhalese reportedly joined in the Hartal to mourn the death of Thileepan, the leader of the Political wing of the LTTE. Shops and business establishments were reported closed on 28th September.

Gift Packages

Colombo was raided by Indian Air Force planes on 29th September but with the blessings of the Sri-Lankan Government, Canvas tents in neat packs were air-dropped for the use of nearly 5,000 Sri Lankan soldiers in the South. This gesture was made at the request of the Sri Lankan Government.

Curfew in Trincomalee

A curfew was declared at Trincomalee after a clash on 1st October. The curfew will be for 48 hours and is expected to be lifted today, Saturday. Three civilians were reported injured in the clash and admitted to Hospital.

Madras Christian College Tambaram

The Alumni of Madras Christian College are kindly requested to send in their names and addresses to the undersigned at your earliest in order to revive the M.C.C. Alumni Association in Jaffna, and to celebrate the 150th Anniversary of the College in a suitable way. Thank you.

A. KADIRGAMAR,
Principal,
Jaffna College,
Vaddukodai

Saturday Review

SRI LANKA

Tiger Stance

"We are of the view that Mr. Pathmanathan should be made the Chief Administrator of the Interim Council for the amalgamation of the Provinces of the North and East. If this suggestion does

not find acceptance with the Government, we will not participate in the Interim Administration". This was the text of a telex message sent by V. Pirapakaran to President Jayewardene. So said Dr. Anton Balasingham, the political spokesman of the LTTE at a Press Conference held on the night of 30th September. Associated at this Conference was the Deputy Leader of the LTTE, Mr. Mahattaya and Mr. Yogi, the head of the Political Wing of the LTTE.

Dr. Balasingham further stated that the Government did not form the Interim Council on the nominees submitted by them and instead the Government had made their own nominees to the Council. "If the Government is showing so much apprehension in the formation of

an Interim Council, how could the Government be expected to redress our grievances and demands?"

Dr. Balasingham reiterated the LTTE stance that unless Mr. Pathmanathan is appointed as Chief Administrator, it will not participate in the Interim Administration and re-commence our Ahimsa Struggle". "Our first preference for the post of Chief Administrator was Mr. Pathmanathan, he pointed out. The other nominees to the Interim Council were Sivananada Ruben, Romesh and Muslims Al Haj Adam Lebbe and Seyadu Mohamed and Mr. Kasiananthan, the poet.

At the request of the Government, besides the name of Mr. Pathmanathan, our second preference was Mr. Sivanandasundaram and the third preference was Mr. C.V.K. Sivagnanam but President Jayewardene chose to appoint our third preference, Mr. Sivagnanam who has now declined acceptance of the offer.

In this connection Mr. Dixit was contacted by us on the telephone on the morning of 30th September and he assured us that he would contact the President and keep us informed. Later when Mr. Dixit was contacted by telephone he informed us that the President would accept the names of M/S Sivanandasundaram and Romesh but not that of Mr. Pathmanathan. As for Mr. Kasiananthan, Mr. Dixit earlier stated that he had associated himself in anti-Indian protest meetings and that at they would not, therefore, like his nomination.

Regarding Mr. Tissa Jayakody, it was pointed out he was at one time the Deputy High Commissioner for Sri Lanka in India and had been making investigations in regard to the LTTE and had connection with a bomb throwing incident and was forced to leave Sri Lanka on protests launched by Mr. Veeramani of the DMK, and he had been appointed to the Interim Council in spite of this accord.

"As far as the Eastern Province is concerned, we will not commit the mistakes made by the TULF. Mr. Pathmanathan is considered most acceptable for the Eastern Province because he was born in Batticaloa and was Additional Government Agent, Trincomalee who had vehemently stood out against Sinhala colonisation in the Trincomalee district."

"Up to the time of going to the Press no reply had been received by Pirapakaran from President Jayewardene".

'DON'T FORGET SUPREME SACRIFICE'

The Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) led by Mr. V. Pirapakaran met Major General Hakirtheer Singh on 1st October to discuss the composition of the Interim Administrative Council for the North and East and allied matters.

The discussions centred around the directives sent by Mr. J.N. Dixit, High Commissioner for India in Sri Lanka from India.

The others present at the conference were the Deputy Leader of the LTTE, Mr. Mathaya and Dr. Anton Balasingham.

In an interview to the press soon after the conference, Dr. Anton Balasingham explained as follows: As President Jayewardene has declined to appoint Mr. Pathmanathan, Additional Government Agent, Trincomalee, as the Administrator in Council, it was suggested that the Tigers should suggest three other names for the post. However Mr. Pirapakaran is equally adamant that Mr. Pathmanathan should be appointed and none other.

The reason for the President's refusal was given as that he believed that Mr. Pathmanathan had neither the experience nor the aptitude to hold that post to which Mr. Pirapakaran replied that within a short interval Mr. Pathmanathan had not only earned the respect of the people under his charge but

also familiarised himself thoroughly with the problem of forced colonisation and other important matters under his jurisdiction "Why" asked Mr. Pirapakaran "is the president different about nominating him as administrator? He refused to accept the position of the President.

The General agreed to forward a report of the

proceedings to New Delhi.

When asked by a correspondent what would be the next step by the Tigers, Dr. Balasingham replied that no one should forget the supreme sacrifice made by Thileepan in favour of their five demands and added they would inform the people shortly what they propose to do, if their demands were not met.

Who's the...

(Continued from page 1)

Moreover Sinhala colonisation is being hurriedly carried out on a massive scale.

It is under these circumstances that we put forward five minimum demands and started a death fast in accordance with the Satyagraha mode of struggle.

The Indian Government which realised what the Tamil masses in the North and East were prepared to do if Thileepan who had started the death fast, died, panicked and approached us for peace talks.

The Indian High Commissioner Mr. Dixit was interested in saving the life of Thileepan.

Instead he tried to bargain with us by giving us baseless assurances.

It is because of our principled and firm stand that

ultimately a decision was taken to set up an Interim Administration.

This "Tug-Boat diplomacy" led to Thileepan's death.

Despite these assurances given to us by India, up to now the Interim Administration has not been set up. The President is not prepared to appoint as the Chief Administrator the person whom we nominated.

Our movement wants to give greater representation to the Eastern Province.

The President fears that this will lead to more support for us in the Eastern Province.

This is the actual position today.

Sinhala chauvinism does not want either the merger or the unity of the Tamil Speaking People in the North and East.

It is because of this that President Jayewardene adamantly refuses to appoint



Mahathaya, Deputy Head of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, hands over Thileepan's body to the Medical Faculty of the University of Jaffna.



Youth Mourn Thileepan