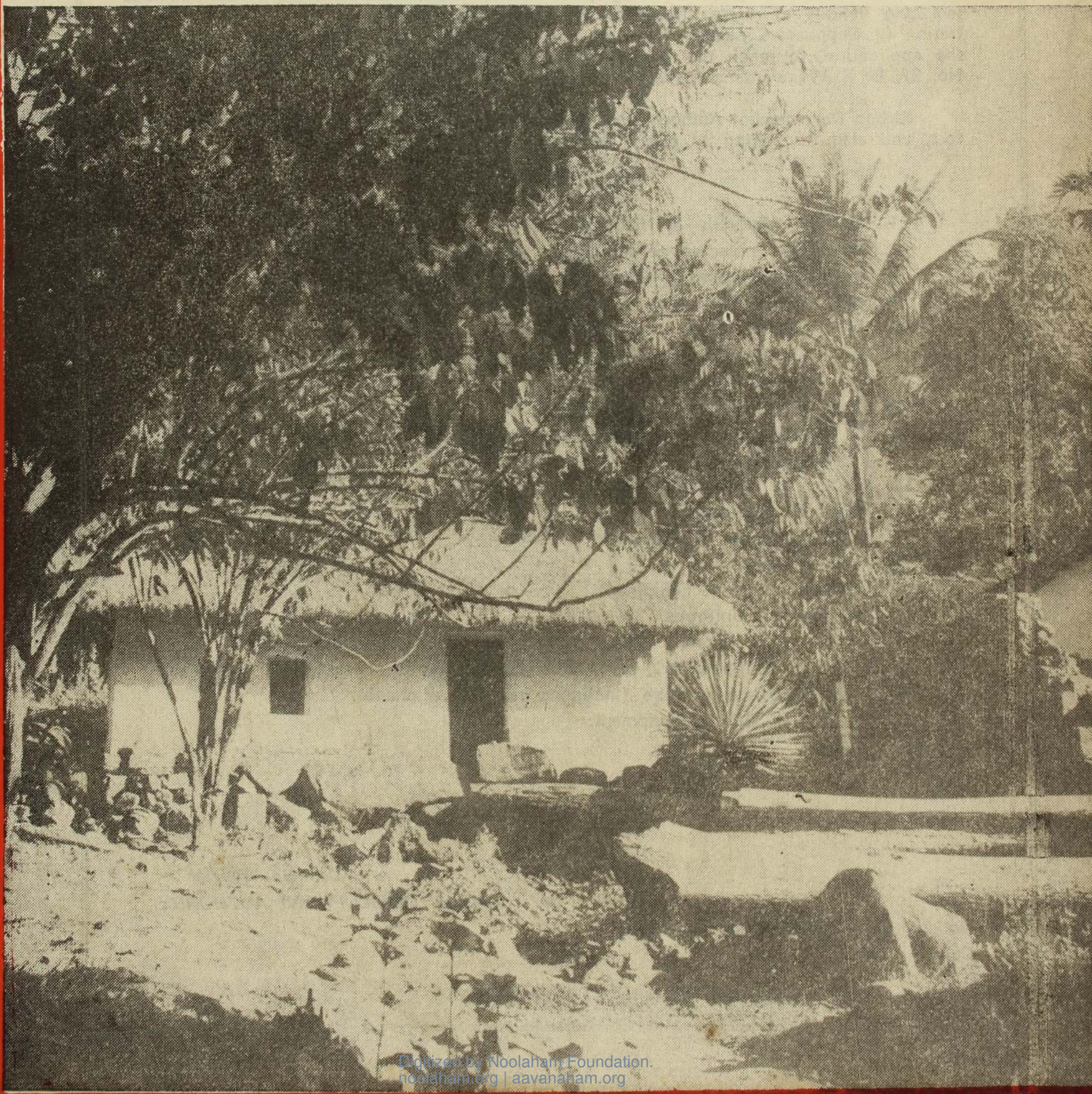


TRIBUNE



27TH YEAR OF PUBLICATION



URBAN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

Registration of Suppliers - Contractors

Urban Development Authority wishes to invite applications from Suppliers Contractors for the following Supplies-Services.

Applications indicating the name of Supplier-Manufacturer-Contractor, Business Registration Number, Postal & Telegraphic Address Telephone Number, Credit Facilities available, validity of offers, should be forwarded under Registered Cover marked "Registration of Suppliers-Contractors" on the top left hand corner of the envelope containing the application, to reach the Deputy Director (Supplies), Urban Development Authority, No. 27, D. R. Wijewardana Mawatha, Colombo 10, on or before 30th December, 1981.

Urban Development Authority reserves the right in the selection of Suppliers-Contractors, and also for calling of offers from other sources as well.

List of Items

1. Drawing Materials & Instruments.
2. Stationery (including carbon paper, typewriter ribbons etc.)
3. Duplicating, Typing, Off-Set and Photo Copying paper.
4. Type writers, Calculators and Duplicating Machines.
5. Paper rolls for Calculating Machines.
6. CR. Registers, Field Note Books, Duplicating Books, and Short-hand Note Books.
7. Date Stamps & Rubber Stamps.
8. Soaps Disinfectants & Insecticides.
9. All Electrical Items (including fans, bulbs etc.)
10. Liquid Ammonia.
11. Printing & Duplicating Ink.
12. Drugs & Medicines
13. Ammonia Paper & Developer.
14. Tyres & Tubes
15. Office Furniture & Equipment.
16. Tailoring of Uniforms.
17. Rebuilding of Tyres.
18. Servicing of Typewriters, calculators, Duplicating & Photocopying Machines.
19. Repairs to Office Furniture (including rattaning of chairs).
20. Repairs to Office Equipment.
21. Printing.

Director-General

URBAN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY.

No. 27, D. R. Wijewardana Mawatha,
Colombo 10.

TRIBUNE

Ceylon News Review

*A Journal of Ceylon and
World Affairs*

Founded in 1954
Every Saturday

Editor: S. P. Amarasingam

Vol. 26 -- No. 15

December 12, 1981
43, Dawson Street,
Colombo 2.
Tel: 33172

CONTENTS

| | |
|--------------------------------|----|
| FROM THE EDITOR | |
| — <i>Ruralia</i> | 1 |
| EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK | |
| — <i>Supply-Side Economics</i> | 2 |
| FILM FOCUS | |
| — <i>Alistair Maclean</i> | 5 |
| MEDIA | |
| — <i>Upali, Ronnie, JR</i> | 7 |
| CUBA | |
| — <i>Statement</i> | 8 |
| SRI LANKA CHRONICLE | |
| — <i>Nov. 22-28</i> | 9 |
| WORLD NEWS | |
| — <i>Nov. 21-27</i> | 11 |
| CANCUN | |
| — <i>Dialogue</i> | 13 |
| ADMINISTRATION | |
| — <i>Village Level</i> | 15 |
| LETTER | |
| — <i>T.U.L.F.</i> | 16 |
| WITHOUT COMMENT | |
| — <i>Horses</i> | 17 |
| SOVIET UNION | |
| — <i>Some Impressions</i> | 18 |
| SYRIA | |
| — <i>General Elections</i> | 21 |
| FREE TRADE ZONE | |
| — <i>Limited Employment</i> | 21 |
| CONFIDENTIALLY | |
| — <i>More Onions</i> | 24 |

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

READERS WILL RECALL that a prestigious institution in Sri Lanka conducted a survey some years ago to find out the scope, extent and influence of the mass media on the people of this country, and in the course of its investigations tumbled on the discovery that word-of-mouth communication and gossip had more impact on opinion-making than the headlines, commentaries and editorials in the daily "national" (so-called) newspapers. The same question had come up for discussion recently at an international seminar organised in Colombo by the Konrad Adenauer Stiftung on "Rural Reporting". All those present there say that it was a very useful and instructive seminar in which there was general agreement that the (so-called) "national newspapers" published in Colombo had only marginal impact in the rural areas: and that this was not a phenomenon confined to this country alone but was common to a large number of Third World countries. It was common ground that the rural people in this highly literate island were kept informed not merely by the conventional organs of mass media (newspapers, radio and soon the TV), but also through a variety of other means—meetings, bulletins, word-of-mouth communication, gossip etc. etc. But with all this it was pointed out that the media did not pay any attention to the special problems of people living in our villages. There was also general consensus that it would be useful if a Foundation like the Konrad Adenauer Stiftung, which paid a great deal of attention to all questions connected with Rural Development in Sri Lanka, would undertake a scientific survey about all matters connected with Rural Communication. The first step would be to find out just how much rural people knew or did not know about matters which it was in their interest to know: and also how they came by the information they already had—by reading newspapers, or from those who had read them, or the radio, or meetings, or at gossip sessions in their neighbourhood. It would be also useful to know what facilities, Reading Rooms, Rural Development Centres and the like provided villagers in the matter of rural communication. The survey it was felt should go further and find out just what kind of "news" or "information" would interest rural people in identifiable zones in the island and the form they would like to get the information: how much they would think it worthwhile to pay for newspapers, books and the like: and the kind of reporting and presentation they would like. In such a survey the role of word-of-mouth gossip must be thoroughly investigated. Gossip is not a question peculiar to Sri Lanka alone. The *Time* magazine of October 26, 1981 in its "Essay" dealt with "The Morals of Gossip." The piece opened: "Gossip has always had a terrible reputation. A sin against charity, they said, quoting St. Paul. The odd, vivid term sometime used for it was backbiting. The word suggested a sudden predatory leap from behind—as if Gossip's hairy maniacal dybbuk landed on the back of victim's neck and sank its teeth into the spine killing with vicious little calumnies: venoms and buzzes. Gossip is rarely that wild. From the morning of the first individual folly of the race, gossip has been the normal nattering background noise of civilisation..... But does it play a heroic moral role hitherto unnoticed? Is gossip merely a swamp that breeds mosquitoes and disease? Or does it have higher functions in the ecosystem?" We will go into all this in a subsequent note. But whilst we are on the subject of rural communication we cannot resist the temptation to hark before our favourite hobby horse—rural housing. The picture on the COVER is only to remind ourselves and our readers of the kind of housing we would like to be made the basis for an improved and modernised version of a model village home. It is our view that the ordinary people of the country cannot afford concrete, cement and tiled houses which are not the most suitable for the traditional way of life in this tropical island. They need cheaper houses of local easily obtainable materials.

Supply-Side Economics

There is a great deal of talk in the world today about the "supply-side economics". This term is now widely used in international jargon on economic matters. The *Newsweek* of November 30, 1981, in an article about France, after detailing some measures initiated by Mitterand to squeeze the rich said: "... The pressure has become so intense that rich citizens now plan to retreat from Mitterand's down-side France—and head for Ronald Reagan's supply-side America". In Sri Lanka the term supply-side economics has not been used, but the "liberalised free enterprise" policies followed by the Jayewardene govt. savour of "supply-side" economics although a touch of the welfarism of the past has been retained.

Now, what is the philosophy behind the strategy of supply-management which has been proclaimed by many to be a panacea for the ills of all countries, developed, developing and the under-developed? This "new" philosophy is not really a novel one. In fact it is very old dating back at least to the eighteenth century and finally discredited, discarded and buried during the 1930s. It has been resurrected recently in the US and is being injected into the brains of new economists fully trained and brainwashed by US universities and organisations. The World Bank and the IMF have also been persuaded to adopt these policies by the US. The philosophy of supply-management or the supply-side economics is a modern version of the doctrine of the famous French economist J. R. Say (1776-1832). Say's thinking is summed up in his well known "law". "Supply creates its own demand" in other words, if the market is unfettered and the government intervention is the minimum possible, capitalists will increase investments leading to the maximum possible expansion of production-capacities and of output. In this process maximum possible generation of employment opportunities and incomes is expected to take place. The people with incomes at their disposal will buy the goods placed in the market. This way the problem of realisation is solved and the market is cleared. According to the believers in this "law" if the government keeps its hands off, the supply and demand will balance and the economy will be free of ups and downs and there will be no crisis of over or under-production. The followers of this philosophy press for the removal of "the offending government policies" and regulations. "Capitalists need two things in order to increase investments and production. They are increased financial resources and the freedom to operate".

To meet these two requirements the incidence of taxation on the corporate sector and on personal

incomes must be drastically reduced. The coffers of public financial institutions must be opened, interest rates reduced, and subsidies and cash assistance liberally allowed to the private sector. To meet the second precondition, capitalists must be given "freedom from crippling rules and regulations and policy aimed at stimulating the economy need only be concerned with increasing production (or removing barriers to such an increase): everything else, including the demand for the resulting output, will take care of itself". In a nutshell, the slogan inscribed on the banner of the believers in this philosophy is "get the Government off the back of the private sector". It is pointed out that ultimately government revenue will tremendously increase and all problems from unemployment to poverty will be solved. The increased production and incomes will give a much greater amount of revenue even at much reduced rates of taxation. The Government will be able to realize its dreams of balancing the budget. Deficit financing will be a thing of the past. With deficit financing gone and indirect taxes substantially reduced, besides increased labour productivity leading to lower costs of production, it is asserted that the prices of goods and services will go down. Thus inflation will vanish and the people and the country will enter an age of lasting price stability will be ushered. Governments will no longer be disturbed by slogan shouting working people and angry housewives. Strikes for increased wages and dearness allowances will disappear. Thus "the crowning achievement of supply-side economics, consistently applied, is thus seen to be what the vast majority of the people want most—and end to the inflation nightmare". Such is the scenario.

"Viewed against this background the rationale of various fiscal concessions, relaxations in licensing and other policies, it is argued that capitalists would increase financial resources at their disposal; that they must have full freedom to operate and that this freedom should not be disturbed by the Government or organised working class. Among the bourgeois economists before Keynes, none except Malthus had any doubts about the validity of this "law" but they had a difficult time to explain the periodic recurrence of crisis of over and under-production. Many explanations including a sun-spot theory were presented. It was the publication of Keynes' General Theory which administered a death blow to Say's law and it was buried fathoms deep. He demonstrated to bourgeois economists and leaders that this so-called law was invalid. For a long time, after the great depression, Keynesianism came to guide bourgeois economic thinking and policies. But, this also could not help realise the dream of crisis-free capitalist economic growth. But economic historians have pointed out "As a result, Keynesianism fell into disfavour. Its adherents dropped away in droves and began to search for

TRIBUNE, December 12, 1981

something new and more saleable. It was under these circumstances that today's fashionable theories, 'monetarism' and 'supply-side economics' were born. Each is essentially a simple-minded revival of a long discredited theory—monetarism of the old quantity theory of money and supply-side economics of Say's law".

There are a number of snags in the way of realisation of crisis-free capitalist economic growth in this country when capitalism is decaying all over the world. First, it is totally wrong to say that the expansion of supply usually creates enough demand for clearing the market, because the entire national income may not be spent on consumer and producer goods for various reasons. Second, since, the aim of capitalists is to reap maximum profits, they will naturally take the short-cut to achieve this. In Sri Lanka since it is a seller's market, they can restrict supply and increase price to maximise profits. Third it has been pointed out "there is no reason whatsoever to suppose that an increase in production, either by an individual capitalist, or by capitalists as a whole, would generate either the right amount or the right composition of demand to clear the market". Fourth, it is a totally untenable contention that capitalists in this or any other country are not in a position to increase investment and production, largely because of lack of financial resources. Nor is there any lack of incentives. There is no evidence to show that the reduction in the incidence of taxation and the relaxation of Government regulations and policies have any positive correlation with investment and production.

To sum up in the words of Sweezy and Magdoff (two radical economists): "It is more than a cynical fig-leaf to cover a policy of redistributing income and wealth in favour of the rich at the expense of the poor". Reaganomics is based completely on supply-side economics modified to suit the interests of American capitalism (which needs protection from competition from countries like Japan and Third World countries with cheaper manpower).

It is interesting to note that the 1981 Nobel Prize for Economics went to Prof. James Tobin of Yale University. This did not please the votaries of Reaganomics although it was widely acclaimed on university campuses round the US. This is because, although a spokesman of the selection committee went out of the way to explain that the prize was a recognition of a "technical contribution" and was not based on any consideration of the scholar's attitudes on economic policy. Dr. Tobin is a highly respected although critical exponent of Keynesian theory in fact, he labels himself a "post-Keynesian". He is severely critical of monetarism and specially of Mr. Ronald Reagan's economic policies and of the Federal Reserve Board.

TRIBUNE, December 12, 1981

The 63-year-old Yale economist has been honoured for his analysis of financial markets and their impact on how business and families in a capitalist system spend and save money. He has been an outspoken critic of Reaganomics and on the orientation of the Federal Reserve Board. His main point is that they have made the mistake of unleashing an inflationary tax policy and simultaneously restricting the volume of credit in the economy. But whilst pundits and professors agree, the rich are getting richer and the poor poorer.

In Sri Lanka prices are going up and up. Real incomes are dropping. Brinjals this week cost Rs. 8 a kilo in the open market—though Markfed sold dried and shrivelled ones for a lesser price. Brinjals were among the cheapest vegetables in this country a year or two ago—a staple in the poor man's menu. There are no cheap vegetables anymore in Sri Lanka, even in the seasons when they are said to be plentiful. If salaries and earnings of ordinary people had gone up proportionately it would not matter. But today more and more people are getting poorer with the rupee buying less and less. The middle classes with fixed income are being pauperised. They eat less and less of the cheaper and less nutritious foods—and thus inviting slow malnutrition. Others with even less *real* incomes will soon be destitute. Unless the rising trend in prices is arrested, the government will find it difficult to face the common people



FILM FOCUS

Alistair Maclean

If there is one novelist who by his works has been irresistible to film makers for their cine exploits, he is Alistair Maclean, who is now rated as the world's foremost adventure writer. As one of the most prolific best selling novelists of all time, his novels have been translated into every major language. Seventeen of them have sold more than a million copies each and fourteen of them were made into motion pictures. This record leaves behind, even that of the prolific Ian (James Bond—007) Fleming, Alistair Maclean was born in Glasgow, Scotland, but spent his childhood in an isolated village in the highlands, where his father was a Parish Minister. After a few years "hitch" in the Royal Navy, which he describes as an "extension" and involuntary service, ranging from the Arctic to the Far East, Maclean returned home to complete his education with an M.A. from the Glasgow University and became a teacher. His own and his elder brother's experiences, together with his stint in the Navy provided much of the material for his first novel "H.M.S. Ulysess," which proved an immediate

best seller. Within 6 months of its completion 'Ulysses' was a Book Society Choice and had sold 150,000 copies, the first British novel ever to do so. Since then his follow up novels were "The Guns of Navarone" and its sequel "Force 10 From Navarone", "The Black Shrike", "Fear is the Key", "Night Without End", "The Satan Bag", "The Secret Ways", "South by Java Head", "Breakheart Pass", "Caravan to Vaccares", "Circus", "The Golden Rendezvous", "Ice Station Zebra", "Puppet on a Chain", "The Way to Dusky Death", "When Eight Belles Toll", "Bear Island" and "Where Eagles Dare". Among those filmed, the "Guns of Navarone, Puppet on a Chain" and "Where Eagles Dare" provided intense material for nail biting suspense. In the last named, Maclean wrote the screen play as well. Such deviations and investments in restaurants kept him away later from writing for some time. He stoutly confesses that he writes just for financial gain, but despite it, which might delight his Scottish soul, one has to conclude by his brilliant books, there is a hidden love for his craft as a writer, which accounts for the hypnotic spell he has cast over countless millions of readers internationally, with so many in Sri Lanka as well. His facile pen gathers effortlessly, the many ingredients that mix to make a good film, such as Force 10 from Navarone at the Savoy now.

FORCE 10 FROM NAVARONE (English): This eagerly awaited sequel to the "GUNS OF NAVARONE" is a Columbia release, which although not packing the punch and power of its predecessor as a war film, retains enough suspense and excitement as a dynamic entertainer. Taking off from the tense dying moments of the Guns when two monster guns at a strategic pass are blown to smithereens, the Task Force heroes behind the manoeuvre are assigned the sensitive and secret operation of blowing up a vital bridge, behind the enemy lines in Yugoslavia. Actors Robert Shaw and Edward Fox have taken over the roles of Mallory and Miller, portrayed by veterans Gregory Peck and David Niven in the earlier film, with the same unrelenting gusto that invigorates the series, both on land sea and aerial operations. Technically the film is buttressed with good camera work and sound effected particularly in the Night shots, intercepted by a witty dialogue that needles the story. Director Guy Hamilton, who filmed "The Battle of Britain" and many James Bond movies, proves that he can close up any weak links in such action packed films. Although this belated sequel may not evoke the same enthusiasm as the Guns, for its mostly to a generation that did not experience a war, yet it doles out enough action for ones moneys' worth. The Savoy cinema in which it is being screened now, is back at its best after a few recent setbacks.

CARRIE (English): This United Artists Production weaves a story around the phenomenon of TELE-

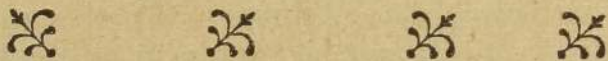
KINESIS—the power to move objects by motive control without any physical contact—a science that is being probed further now to explain some of the supernatural happenings of our times. The film opens erotically as the titles are trotted out and this titillating introduction tends to abuse the names of those who contributed to the naming of this unusual film. Hence the first ten minutes are as amusing as the last ten, when a shock is sprung on the unsuspecting audience in typical Hitchcock style. Sandwiched between these box office gimmicks is a convincing story that takes on to the unexplored regions of the human mind, which like the hidden four fifths of an iceberg freezes one to the unfathomed possibilities that lie ahead. Now let us get on to the story where Carrie (Sissy Spacek is the rather colourless moody and withdrawn student at the Bates High School. She becomes the victim of these handicaps as she is overrun and bypassed by her school mates in many activities and quite often held up to ridicule. These shortcomings are further aggravated, by her being the daughter of a widowed evangelist of doom, who keeps flaying her with the Holy Book with a misguided fury that begins to take its toll on her uninhibited daughter. These private storms keep buffeting Carrie, till escape enters triggering off a charged telekinetic condition that explodes bulbs, tips ashtrays to the floor, drops shutters closes exists and crack mirrors to a shattering climax at the annual school "prom" to claim the lives of many friends and a few foes. Quite surprisingly the Disco shaker, John Travolta too takes a brief character role to fade off in flames before nearing any mike to swing the stage, Director Brian de Palma is being talked about as the natural successor to the late Alfred Hitchcock and if one is to go by this film, he has certainly arrived to fill a famous vacuum. His efforts certainly arrest the cardiac regions, and leave the nerves tense and tout. Starlet Sissy Spacek is a fresh and freckled find to hit Hollywood and should go far. She personifies very effectively those terribly telling moments in the films. Telekinesis on the screen will leave you unrelaxed but its edifying values will leave you the wiser and remember not to be late for the film or leave the cinema even a minute early to relish the cine appetisers that will prove springers at both ends before and after you get to the meat of the film. It may leave you cold and creepy, but you will like it all the same.

HONDAMA NALUWA (The Best Actor) Sinhalese: A trashy film that takes the audience for a ride all along to dump them on a surprise ending that fails to bridge the disappointment in spite of the leg-pull. Vijay Kumaranatunga in the title role, Geetha Kumarasinghe and Sumana Amarasinghe, take on key roles, but even they could not set it on an even keel, for inept direction and weak photography keep dogging along. Preceding this film however was a short feature travelogue to "Dambadiva", the birth

place of the Enlightened One and other sacred spots, which amply compensated for the main feature failure.

WILLIAM HOLDEN: This column regretfully records the tragic demise of the very versatile actor who rose to the pinnacle of Hollywood stardom in the late thirties and remained there to the very end. He was charming, debonair and pleasantly handsome and took a many varied roles in his stride. Born on April 17, 1911, he entered the film world through the Pasadena College of Drama, and took to the next door nice boy type of roles and grew up to be an epitome of American Manhood. He took prominent roles in the Oscar Winners—Sunset Boulevard, and Stalag, both directed by Billy Wilder and won the best actors award for the latter film as a tough maverick hero. He has travelled widely and was in Sri Lanka more than once, one of these trips to take on the leading role in the films shot locally in 1957, The Bridge On The River Kwai, His other well known recent films were, Wild Rovers, Breezy, The Towering Inferno, Network, Damie — Omen II, the Day the World Ended. Turning Point, Streets of Laredo, The Moon is Blue, The Country Girl, Love is a many Splendored Thing, the World of Suzie Wong, The Devils Brigade and The Wild Bunch. Local filmgoers and Hollywood will certainly miss this very dependable leading man of the silver screen.

JAMES N. BENEDICT.



THE MEDIA

Upali, Ronnie, J. R.

A *Tribune* reader has written to the Editor and the letter was passed on to us that this column was extremely partial to the new *The Island* (Sunday Edition) and very unfair to other weekend papers like the *Sunday Times*, *Sunday Observer* and the *Weekend*. "Your columnist Valmiki says that there is more reading in the Sunday edition of *The Island* than in the other Sunday papers. This is rubbish. I have compared the material available in the four papers for two week-ends and find that *The Island* comes at the very bottom.... and one expects some punch in a new "independent" paper, but *The Island* has punches only for Ronnie and Premadasa.... For the rest it is all Upali... he now wants to sell himself in his papers.... as he had sold chocolates, and he thinks he can do this by dropping the President's name at every turn.... He is doing himself no good, and is doing the President a great deal of harm...."

TRIBUNE, December 12, 1981

Many readers have been on the telephone to say that whilst this column has made some valid criticisms about *The Island*, it has overlooked others. "What do you think of the front-page spread on Sunday, November 28, 1981 with a banner headline UPALI BARES THE FACTS?.... asked one reader. The answer is simple. Looked at from any angle, it was a pathetic performance. Upali evaded the main thrust of the criticisms levelled against him and tried to get immunity behind a Presidential smokescreen of his own creation. The following extract from the question and answer session is most revealing:

"**QUESTION:** Is it true that your ambition is to become the Finance Minister first and then the President of this country? How do you propose to achieve this ambition?

"**MR. WIJewardene:** I have at no time said that I would be the President of this country. This is a matter entirely in the hands of the people of this country and my name being mentioned as a possible future President has at all times been speculation in the Press. Regarding my being Finance Minister of this country—yes, I do entertain such ideas for two reasons. Firstly, the President has often said that he would like to have me as a member of his Cabinet. From that premise, when I think which Cabinet job I would like to undertake, the answer always is the post of Finance Minister. The reason for this is my economics background and proven financial ability. The second reason is that after being a pure businessman, from 1978, I have been the head of a State Organisation—the GCEC—and consequently I have begun to serve the people directly rather than indirectly via a commercial organisation. Pursuit of profit has yielded pride of place to the service of the people. And to serve people well one has to get into the political arena.

"**QUESTION:** Are you going to relinquish your post in the GCEC soon?"

"**MR. WIJewardene:** One thing is certain—that I will not be the Director-General of the GCEC for the full term of my five-year term which is up to February 1983. This is because I wish to devote my time to grassroots politics particularly in the South of Sri Lanka where I have a large following. The timing of my exit from the GCEC would be entirely dictated by the needs of my political career".

Upali is not doing either himself or the President any good by making statements of this kind. The President has enough stature not to be affected overmuch by this kind of name-dropping, but Upali's total lack of the Buddhist virtue of modesty is not only counter-productive vis-a-vis his political ambitions but has already lost for himself and for his paper a great deal of credibility.

Regarding the rest of the interview, his answers on his "horses" contain a series of transparent inexactitudes. One has only to read statements he has made in the foreign press to realise how differently he talks about his horses abroad. He knows that there is a great deal of sentiment in Sri Lanka against the 'king of sports' and his statement in his paper on his horses is an attempt to resist such hostility in a country which has neither horses of its own nor any stock breeding programme. About the alleged manipulations in two Sri Lanka based companies operating in Malaysia, he did not say one word about the only serious allegation (or charge) made by Ronnie on the floor of the house, namely that the minutes of an important meeting of the Board was tainted with "forgery". **Many observers were disappointed that Upali did not have anything to say on this one point which has been the talking point in commercial and political circles.**

The opening paragraph of this one way interview is a keynote guide to the man who wants to run this country in the same way he runs the Kandos empire and his Stables. "Sri Lanka's millionaire businessman Upali Wijewardene does entertain ideas of being the Finance Minister of this country, he told *The Island* yesterday. Asked whether he also wants to be the President, Mr. Wijewardene said. "That is a matter entirely in the hands of the people....."

Upali is entitled to feel that he should be the Finance Minister and then become the President of Sri Lanka because (a) he has made a success of his personal business ventures and (b) because President Jayewardene is a relation who has said he would like to have him in his Cabinet. The last is according to the Upali gospel. What the President really thinks of Upali nobody knows—only inferences are drawn because of certain immunities Upali has enjoyed so far e.g., from the decision of the Select Committee etc. etc. But it is also a fact that the President did not push him into Kamburupitiya or Kalawana to make him a MP. He could easily have done this if he wanted. Upali's supporters now say that the Panadura seat will fall vacant soon and that he would be nominated to that seat and hey presto! he would be the Finance Minister.

The Upali propaganda machine—through political gossip—has been strong enough to make even the Communist fortnightly *Forward* (December 1, 1981) have a front page piece RONNIE ON THE WAY OUT? "Is Finance Minister Ronnie de Mel, now away in Geneva on yet another begging mission, also on his way out? This is the hot topic of discussion in political circles. Together with the campaign mounted by circles close to President Jayewardene to cut Prime Minister Premadasa down to size, a more concentrated campaign is in progress to get rid of the PM's closest ally, Minister Ronnie, at least from the Ministry of Finance. Big commercial circles

have already called the President's attention to the propriety of Minister de Mel disclosing in Parliament the confidential information in his possession regarding the non-payment of income tax arrears by a company owned by Mr. Upali Wijewardene. "If he can do this to Upali, he can do this to anyone and none of us are safe', they have said. "Business circles on whom the government relies are also up in arms over Minister Ronnie's order (backed up by a court order) to have two well-known businessmen, Upali Wijewardene and Dasa Mudalali, who are his political adversaries, stopped at the airport when leaving the country. President Jayewardene himself is making an issue of this, as he has bitter memories of similar airport incident involving him when Mrs. B. was P. M. The *Daily News* (30/11/81) has announced that the President considered this a matter of personal liberty

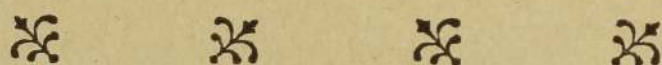
"The intemperate language used by Minister de Mel in Parliament in regard to Mr. Upali Wijewardene is another issue raised. Writing in the *Weekend* (29/11/81), columnist Migara, who often flies kites for President's House, hints that Ronnie de Mel's days as Minister may be drawing to a close. And to top it all, Mr. Upali Wijewardene himself in an interview to *The Island* (29/11/81) states that 'The President has often said that he would like to have me as a member of his Cabinet. From that premise when I think what Cabinet job I would like to undertake, the answer always is the post of Minister of Finance'. 'Political observers, while agreeing that Ronnie is on the way out, think, that the actual surgical operation may be delayed until after the visit of the Saudi Arabian monarch or until the prorogation before Parliament meets next February in its new complex. They also opine that the departure of Ronnie and the appointment of Upali in his place will not only greatly weaken Prime Minister Premadasa's position but may even compel him to submit a second resignation'.

There appears to be a great deal of speculative wishful thinking in this article. For the Communist Party (like any other Opposition Party) any weakening or disintegration in the ranks of the ruling party would be very welcome. Opposition papers have over the last three years many times predicted Cabinet sackings, reshuffles and splits in the UNP—but nothing like this has so far happened. President Jayewardene is not likely to let the UNP be destabilised even to help Upali along. The President's style of Government is different and judging from the comments, anticipatory speculations and predictions in the Opposition press, it is clear that none of them have a clue of how the President will act in any given set of circumstances or what he will do next. For what happened since 1977, it is definite that he will not throw away the old pillars of the UNP (if it were otherwise many would have gone long ago on their performance). He also appears to exercise the greatest care in introducing new blood into the higher echelons of the Party. According to the Opposition press (of the

SLFP, LSSP and CP Ronnie was, to use a Ceylonism, a "gone case", many times during the three years. Even the London *Economist* had predicted last year that he was on his way out. Upali has hinted in press statements in Hong Kong, New York, Sydney, London and elsewhere that he would soon be taking up the portfolio of Finance. He had said this for the first time three years ago. But Ronnie has not gone yet. He is still battling along. If he deserved to be thrown out for his recent "indiscreet" statements in Parliament (he has been guilty of similar indiscretions before) he should have been eased out much earlier. Will he go after the Budget? Will he go after the Saudi King's visit? Will he go after the Parliament moves to Kotte? *Only time can tell. Neither the daily press, (government, "independent" and party), nor the periodical press is able to make any predictions. Even Upali's "Island" is not able to make a guess. This column will not be foolhardy enough to make a guess about ministerial changes now or as long as J. R. Jayewardene is President.*

In the meantime, the daily *Island* is fast losing pep and credibility. And the *Ceylon Daily News* and the *Sun* are picking up in their news reporting and feature stories. The *Ceylon Daily Mirror* is still lagging behind (in spite of a few bright stories once in a while) but the *Sunday Times* has shown remarkable improvement.

VALMIKI



CUBA

A Statement

Havana, November 15: With a total contempt for truth and without the slightest respect, for public opinion in the United States or the world, the Yankee imperialists continue their wild, irresponsible and provocative campaign of lies and threats against Cuba and the peoples of Central America. We have completely unmasked their lies and have repeatedly challenged them to present the proof to substantiate their false accusations. As was to be expected, the imperialists have not been able to respond to the Cuban challenge. During the last few days Yankee officials have continued repeating their lies. On November 5, *The New York Times* published a front-page article written by a journalist who was once a government official, saying that the State Department, the Pentagon and the CIA are currently analysing what steps to take in order to increase imperialist intervention in EL Salvador, along with aggressive actions against Nicaragua and Cuba. The article implies that the US administration has come to the conclusion that the genocidal clique which is killing dozens of Salvadorans every day is on the brink of collapse and that its imperialist masters

TRIBUNE, December 12, 1981

only recourse is to intervene openly in El Salvador to try to preserve the regime. At the same time, we are led to believe that impelled by their own reckless and criminal policies, the imperialists are considering aggressive actions which may include "blockading Nicaragua" and various measures against Cuba, even "a general blockade as part of an act of war and invasion by US and possibly Latin American forces".

The gravity of this information published in the *New York Times* is clear. But even more grave is what was published in the same newspaper the next day, November 6. On that day the New York daily published an interview with US Secretary of State Haig, the same Mr. Haig who has not tired of spouting lies since he took office, the very same. Mr. Haig who has not been able to respond to Cuba's challenge. And what did Mr. Haig say this time According to *The New York Times*, Mr. Haig "confirmed" the previous day's article. Asked if the article had overdramatized the situation Mr. Haig responded 'hesitatingly,' according to the journalist: "Well, I think, you know, no." After a pause he added that he didn't want to characterize the situation except to say that it wasn't very encouraging when leaks of any kind occurred. It would be hard to find a more blatant or shameless expression of cynicism. Mr. Haig admitted that the November 5 article was true, that at that moment the State Department, the CIA and the Pentagon were preparing new crimes against EL Salvador, Nicaragua and Cuba. He didn't take the trouble to deny it. The only thing that seemed to bother him was that someone had talked about it, that the information had been leaked to the press. Meanwhile, according to an AFP dispatch datelined Washington, the ABC television network reported on the evening of November 5 that according to Yankee military sources the Cuban troops in Nicaragua totalled 3,000 rather than 500 to 600 as previously reported. As if that wasn't enough the same sources affirmed that Vietnam was shipping 1,000 airplanes and helicopters to Nicaragua in pieces. Anyone who says such a thing must be completely crazy. It doesn't surprise us that the Yankee military has the effrontery to repeat the clumsy lie about Cuban troops in Nicaragua and even multiply the figure six times. But we may ask the brainy war-mongers of the empire: have they calculated what 1,000 combat planes and helicopters mean? How many pilots, specialists and technicians are needed to operate them?

To give an approximate idea of how absurd and insane this information is we would like to draw attention to the following data, which conform with international standards for military aviation (1) A thousand planes and helicopters would require a staff of at least 1,500 pilots and approximately 7,000 to 10,000 support personnel; (2) Training such a number of pilots, specialists and technicians would require a tremendous effort and huge invest-

ments. The capitalist countries' largest air force academy which is located in the United States, graduates 800 in each of the three categories of pilots, navigators and technicians every year, in four year courses; (3) An aviation academy provided with all necessary facilities and equipment could train approximately 100 pilots at a time; (4) Training 1,500 pilots would require on the average 15 academies for 100 students each working simultaneously with hundreds of teachers and instructors for a minimum of four years; (5) Gignatic facilities would be required, ten times larger than the Homestead base in Florida, USA, where 100 planes are based in an area of 14.2 square kilometers; (6) Add to this the building of runways and other technical requirements to have an idea of the size of the facilities; (7) According to known data, 1,000 planes and helicopters would give Nicaragua an air force equal to half of the planes in all the Arab countries together (except Egypt); it would be bigger than the combined air forces of France and Canada, twice that of the Federal Republic of Germany and far larger than that of Britain; (8) Transporting 1,000 planes and helicopters from Vietnam to Nicaragua would call for 55 shipments of 15,000 tons each; (9) It is worth recalling here that in order to maintain an air force of half this size, France employs over 100,000 people, as does the FRG, while the British air force has nearly as many; (10) To accomplish this feat it would take a small, poor country like Nicaragua not less than 70 years and tens of thousands of millions of dollars.

Do they really think anybody will believe such a cock-and-bull story? Do they really suppose there is anyone so gullible as to believe that the Yankees have "discovered" this monumental volume of sea traffic from one end of the earth to the other? As the Nicaraguans have stated, this information is an out-and-out lie. They say that there is not a single such plane or helicopter in the country and that there is not a single vessel in transit carrying such items. According to an AFP dispatch, a trustworthy and prestigious member of the Junta of the Nicaraguan Government, Sergio Ramirez, has branded the allegations as "absurd" and "aimed at paving the way for a future military intervention in Nicaragua". Reading the recent statements by the spokesmen of Yankee imperialism one can appreciate, among other things, the great change that has taken place in US society. Traditionally, school children in the United States are taught that George Washington never told a lie. The country's future generations will have to remember that the present Yankee rulers, even though they've probably been to school, never stop lying. They react to the exposure of their lies with even bigger lies. -GRANMA

Govt.



Notices

**The Land Acquisition Act, (Chapter 460) as Amended by the Land Acquisition (Amendment) Act No. 28 of 1964)
Notice Under Section 7.**

Ref. No. 94/3339

It is intended to acquire the Lands/Land described in the Schedule below/the lands described in the Schedule below have been acquired. For further particulars please see the Gazette Extraordinary of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka No. 169/7 of 01.12.1981.

SCHEDULE

SITUATION OF LAND

In the village Polhena in ward in No. 10 Polhena within the Urban Council Limits of Matara DRO's Division of Wellaboda Pattu and Four Gravets, Matara District.

| <i>Name of Land</i> | <i>Lot & Plan No.</i> |
|--|---|
| 1. Gurugewatte Asst. No. 124/3 Polhena Beach Road. | Lot 1 in Preliminary Plan No. 94/1022 |
| 2. Tantirigewatte Asst. No. 126/and 126 A Polhena Beach Road. | Lot 2 in Preliminary Plan No. 94/1022 |
| 3. Basnayakaralagewatte Asst. No. 126 and 119 Polhena beach Road. | Lot 3 in preliminary Plan No. 94/1022 |
| 4. Basnayakaralagewatte Asst. No. 125 and 119 Polhena Beach Road. | Lot 4 in preliminary plan No. 94/1022 |

The Kachcheri,
Matara
27th November, 1981

C. D. Vidanapathirana
Acquiring Officer
Matara District.

TRIBUNE, December 12, 1981

November 22-28

DIARY OF EVENTS IN SRI LANKA
COMPILED FROM DAILY NEWS-
PAPERS PUBLISHED IN COLOMBO

CDN—Ceylon Daily News; *CDM*—Ceylon Daily Mirror; *CO*—Ceylon Observer; *ST*—Sunday Times; *SO*—Sunday Observer; *DM*—Dinamina; *LD*—Lankadipa; *VK*—Virakesari; *ATH*—Aththa; *SM*—Silumina; *SLDP*—Sri Lankadipa; *JD*—Janadina; *SU*—Sun; *DV*—Davasa; *DP*—Dinapathi; *CM*—Chinthamani; *WK*—Weekend; *RR*—Riviresa; *DK*—Dinakara; *EN*—Eelanadu; *IS*—Island; *IDPR*—Information Dept. Press Release

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 22: White collar workers in over 50 mercantile establishments will receive a king-sized X'mas bonanza by way of higher salaries, 4 months back pay, higher cost of living allowances and an annual bonus to add to the hamper. This follows the signing of a new Collective Agreement between the Employers Federation of Ceylon and the Ceylon Mercantile Union—*SO*. President Jayewardene has called on the Public Sector to cut waste, shrug off inefficiency and work conscientiously—*ST*. Members of Parliament will be picked at the next General Election according to their popularity in the electoral districts rather than their standing in the eyes of the party high command; the new election laws are expected to be amended shortly to make provision for this by changing "the list" system. Sri Lanka is gripped in the throes of a major agricultural disaster following the destruction of the Allakelle anicut which regulates the flow of irrigation waters to nearly 50,000 acres of prime paddy land in the Hambantota district. A central traffic authority will shortly be set up to deal with the increasing congestion of Colombo's highways—*WK*. The Prime Minister, Mr. R. Premadasa's tour of four Asian countries in April-May this year has cost the State a sum of two million eighty three thousand and four hundred rupees (Rs. 2,083,400); this was revealed in a reply to a question asked in Parliament recently by Mr. Lakshman Jayakody, the SLFP member for Attanagalla; The eleven entourage of the Prime Minister included his wife, Mrs. Hema Premadasa and daughter Miss D. Premadasa—*IS*

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 23: Policemen armed with breathslayers will be on the streets shortly in an effort to curb drunken driving, Transport and Muslim Affairs Minister M. H. Mohamed said. President J. R. Jayewardene has applied the brakes on travel abroad by ministers, authoritative government sources told the *Daily News* yesterday; this subject, these sources said, came up at a recent meeting of the ministers where the President said that he would like members of his cabinet to trim their trips abroad—*CDN*. The Government will shortly seek aid from the

World Bank to prevent a power crisis in 1984; the President Mr. J. R. Jayawardene who is also the Minister of Power and Energy has taken action to ensure that there will be no breakdown in the supply of power in the country until the Mahaweli plants are commissioned—*CDN*. Several suspects who are alleged to have been involved in the Kilinochchi bank robbery are now being quizzed by the CID. Two top-level delegations will leave Sri Lanka next month to finalize the country's petroleum requirements for 1982; one delegation, led by Ceylon Petroleum Corporation Chairman Daham Wimalasena, will visit Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, while another comprising Vice-Chairman G. S. Marapana and General Manager, M. T. M. Hamza will proceed to Saudi Arabia and Iran. An international specialist has been appointed to supervise the development of each of the eight commercial fruit crops coming under the proposed horticulture development project which will get underway shortly—*SU*. Two leading left-oriented Trade Union combines, the Communist Party-controlled Ceylon Trade Union Federation (CTUF) and the LSSP-controlled Ceylon Federation of Labour have reacted sharply to the collective agreement signed by the Ceylon Mercantile Union with the Employer's Federation. The total paddy production during Maha 1980-81 is estimated at 72,961 million bushels which is 4.8 per cent higher than the production during the previous Maha season, according to the Performance Report of the Plan Implementation Ministry for the first nine months of this year—*IS*.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 24: Sri Lanka will soon have talks with the Indian Government to find a friendly solution to the recurring problem of Indian fishing trawlers intruding into this country's territorial waters and damaging the nets and fishing gear of local fishermen. Air Lanka's Chairman, Capt. Rakhitha Wickremanayake said yesterday that the airline was severely under-capitalised; it has authorised capital of Rs. 500 million and a paid up capital of Rs. 320 million—*CDN*. The state is to seize the illegally acquired assets of narcotics traffickers under legislation to be introduced shortly—laws to this effect are to be included in the proposed Narcotics Control Act which is to be submitted to the Government for approval soon—*SU*. The future of the maverick ex-UNPer from Panadura Dr. Neville Fernando assumes a new dimension when the Parliamentary Select Committee appointed to go into the circumstances of his expulsion begins sittings; the first witness before the Committee will be the General Secretary of the UNP Mr. Harsha Abeywardene who will appear before the committee tomorrow to give reasons for the expulsion of Dr. Fernando. The expenses incurred by the Prime Minister and party on their Asian tour was given as Rs. 2.08 million in the issue of *The Island* of Sunday, November 22; we arrived at the figure of Rs. 2.08 million by adding the cost of air tickets, the foreign exchange subsistence allowance and other expenses; it has

now been pointed out that the subsistence allowance and other expenses are a breakdown of the foreign exchange; the expenses should read as Rs. 1.3 million approximately and not Rs. 2.08 million—*IS*. The Customs yesterday blew the lid off a massive multi-million rupee smuggling racket where members of a religious sect are used as couriers to smuggle imported goods to India—*CO*. Two cases were filed in Court yesterday in connection with the killings of policemen, when Selvarajah Yogachandran alias Kuttimani and Ganeshnathan Jeganathan alias Jegan were produced in Court—*DP*.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 25: The Second Reading of the UNP government's fifth budget was passed in parliament last night by a majority of 115 votes; the government mustered 136 votes to the opposition's 21; the 14 members of the TULF present and the seven SLFPers voted against; the solitary representative of the Communist Party was absent at the voting. The 24,000 acres oil palm project under system B of the Mahaweli area is likely to be re-negotiated with the Guthrie Corporation, the giant plantation multinational which is now controlled by the Malaysian government. Nurses in government service will get higher salaries from January 1, 1982—*CDN*. Prime Minister Mr. R. Premadasa told Parliament yesterday that there was complete unity among all members of the government parliamentary group and this unity has helped the Government achieve unprecedented development in every sphere of activity—*CDN*. The concepts of "environmental conservation and alternative sources of energy" will be taken to schools throughout the country from next year, with the establishment of a network of "project clubs"—*SU*. *The Island* and its sister paper, *Divaina* have been banned from parliament for the rest of this week; this follows a breach of parliamentary privilege raised by the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Sports Mr. Vincent Perera on Monday over reports in the Sunday editions of the two newspapers published on November 22 about the cost of Prime Minister Mr. R. Premadasa's tour of four Asian countries *IS*. About thirty security personnel at the Colombo International Airport have been sacked recently for offences ranging from extortion to smuggling and theft, Airport sources said yesterday—*CO*. The Minister of Finance and Planning, Mr. Ronnie de Mel said in Parliament yesterday that the present economic crisis will not end with this year but that it would continue till 1986—*VK*.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 26: On the recommendation of the Minister of Public Administration and Plantation Industries Major Montague Jayawickrema, Cabinet approved the conversion of the State Rubber Manufacturing Corporation to a public limited liability company. On the recommendation of the Prime Minister as Minister of Local Govern-

ment, Housing and Construction, Cabinet approved an act to amend the Protection of Tenants Special Provisions Act No. 28 of 1970; the Act aims to protect tenants from landlords who resort to cutting off water supplies, electricity and refuse to maintain premises in a proper condition; the act will require the landlord of such premises to restore amenities; if he fails to do so the Common Amenities Board will be empowered to carry out repairs and recover the costs from the landlord. The government is concerned that some MPs, including ministers did not respond to the whip issued to them to be present in Parliament on November 17 when the Emergency was extended for a further month-long period. Over 15,000 homes in especially the rural areas of this country will have electricity through solar energy for domestic lighting and cooking under a scheme initiated by Prime Minister, R. Premadasa, official sources said. A new food stamps issue begins on December 1 when the Food department expects to distribute about seven million of these stamps enabling the poorest sector of the population to defray part of their food and kerosene bills—*CDN*. Police combat units are to be stationed in the 24 police divisions throughout the country; the specially army trained units geared to meet any form of terrorism are presently undergoing a crash programme of training at Diyalawa and Amparai; ten police divisions will have these combat units operating from January 1. The Prime Minister, Mr. R. Premadasa will shortly present a new set of regulations in Parliament under the District Development Councils Law which are designed to give legal rights to DDC members to monitor and oversee governmental activities in their respective districts—*CDN*. Two new police stations are to be set up shortly at Pooneryn and Chettikulam Cabinet yesterday approved the setting up of these two stations on a proposal made by President J. R. Jayewardene who is also Minister of Defence. Bus fares are to go up once again; the Sri Lanka Transport Board is to revise all b.s fares by the end of December, Transport Board sources stated yesterday—*SU*. Sir Garfield Sobers will inaugurate the Sri Lanka Cricket Foundation on Sunday at Hotel Lanka Oberoi with President J. R. Jayewardene as chief guest on the invitation of the President of the Board of Control for Cricket in Sri Lanka, Mr. Gamini Dissanayake. Official Cabinet spokesman, Minister of State Mr. Anandatissa de Alwis briefing pressmen on decisions taken at the Cabinet meeting yesterday said that the draft bill to set up the Rupavahini Corporation, presented by him, was accepted by the Cabinet; the first draft submitted in September this year was referred back to the Attorney-General for minor amendments because certain clauses were found to be inconsistent with the Constitution; the new draft would be gazetted soon; ITN would function under the supervision and control of the Rupavahini Corporation—*IS*. A clash between two factions

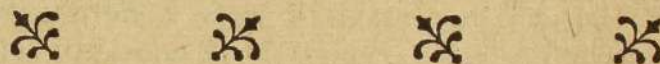
resulted in 21 houses being set on fire and four people seriously wounded on Monday and Tuesday at Kekirawa; the Kekirawa; police have informed police Headquarters that the clashes took place between the high caste and low caste people in the area—*DP*.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 27: President J. R. Jayewardene said yesterday that the government had requested that the salary increase given in the budget to public servants and corporation employees should be given by the private sector and the estate sector as well. New impetus is being given to the building of a Science Centre in Colombo and officials of the National Science Council have inspected a possible site at the old racecourse; Dr. R. P. Jayewardene, Secretary-General of the National Science Council, said yesterday that Rs. 1.2 million tentative estimate has been made for a 80,000 square foot structure; the Buildings Department had agreed to do the designs and the plans without charge—*DN*. President J. R. Jayewardene yesterday said that they hoped to achieve a target of 150,000 houses in the year 1982—*DN*. A multi-million dollar facility on the high seas off the shores of Colombo for crude oil discharge from supertankers will be established; the Ceylon Petroleum Corporation will shortly call for worldwide tender for this 20 million US dollar project, technically termed the "single point buoy mooring facility". Employees of public sector manufacturing corporations will receive the benefits of the budgetary salary increment only in proportion with the profits of each corporation, a top official said yesterday—*SU*. The internecine power struggle in the SLFP is hotting up again following the Secretary of the SLFP (S) serving charge sheets on 13 members of the SLFP (M) which certain charges such as "holding illegal meetings" and "appointing office bearers without proper authority"; yesterday, Deputy President of the SLFP (M) Mr. Anura Bandaranaike returned the "charge sheet" sent to him by Mr. Ratnasiri Wickremanyake, General Secretary of the SLFP (CS) asking him not to waste his (Mr. Bandaranaike's) time. The JVP-oriented factions came out on top at the Student Assembly Elections of the University of Colombo held on Wednesday—*IS*.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 28: A series of decisions to tighten the issue of certificates of competence to drivers will be enforced very shortly, authoritative governmental sources said yesterday these include determination by a doctor of the physical fitness of an applicant for a driving licence and a police certificate that the applicant is conversant with the highway code and good road manners. The landscape of Bataleeya has changed with the construction of 48 modern stalls for cadju sellers under the Prime Ministers model village scheme, Prime R. Premadasa will inaugurate the project tomorrow afternoon—*CDN*.

TRIBUNE, December 12, 1981

While the export market for cashew had collapsed Sri Lankans had to pay as much as Rs. 80 a kilo for this ingredient which is in demand during the period for the Christmas season; the export market for cashew last week dropped with no bidders at the auctions—*CIM*. Two people were injured in a clash between two student factions at the Colombo University yesterday afternoon; according to the university security officers, this clash occurred after supporters of a militant left oriented group stormed a students council meeting. The World Bank has assured an interest free loan of US\$ 36 million Rs. 700 million to meet the costs of harnessing Mahaweli power potential, a news release from the Ministry of Power and Energy said; the project will help augment the city's power supply by an additional 222,000 volts it added. All public sector employees who did not participate in the abortive general strike of July 1980 were to be awarded an incentive salary increment effective from July 1981; this incentive increment is to be paid to all these employees from this month—*SU*. When the 2nd MP for Nuwara-eliya Maskeliya raised a question during adjournment time, the Prime Minister said that he was aware of the people who leaked information to the press about certain Cabinet proceedings and it was to make this known that he made an explanation in regard to his attempt to resign—*VK*.



WORLD NEWS IN BRIEF

November 21-27

AMERICAS

UNITED NATIONS— The UN Security Council deadlocked over the nomination of a Secretary-General has requested the other candidates to forward their claims. But none of the six aspirants for this coveted post was willing to come forward so long as Tanzanian Salim Ahmed Salim remains in the fray. China with 63,354,500 dollars and the Soviet Union with 124,345,119 dollars were the two major defaulters of the UN. These sums payable by these countries were spent on peace-keeping missions for which these countries are opposed on principle. **UNITED STATES:** According to White House officials President Reagan would be interested in a summit discussion with the Soviet President Brezhnev provided there was a possibility of reaching constructive agreements. Alexander Haig feels that Moscow's rejection of Reagan's suggestion on medium range missiles was not the final word on the subject. The US State Department has appealed to Moscow to grant exist visa to Liza Alexeyva a relative of Soviet Human Rights Leader Andrei Sakharov. Alexander Haig said that there was evidence

to show that Soviet MIG planes have arrived in Cuba destined for Nicaragua, *MEX/CO*—The US Senate has ratified the treaty banning nuclear weapons from Latin America. US Secretary of State Alexander Haig handed over the instrument of ratification to the Mexican Foreign Minister Jorge Castaneda.

SOUTH ASIA

BANGLADESH: The role of the army in the Governmental machinery appears to develop into a permanent feature as events in Bangladesh illustrate. It is said that the deprivation felt that the armed forces were the chief reason for the killings of Sheik Mujibur Rahman and Gen. Ziaur Rahman. General Ershad said that President Sattar would consider suitable amendments to the constitution to share power with the Army. A 42-member Council of Ministers were sworn in. Prime Minister Shah Azizur Rahman and Deputy Premier Jamaluddin Ahmed retained their posts as they held under last Ziaur Rahman. Indian and Bangladesh officials have begun talks on the demarcation of land boundary between the two countries in terms of the boundary agreement signed in 1974. **INDIA:** Walk-outs by Indian opposition parties in Parliament have now become a permanent feature. Opposition groups walked out having failed to force a debate on the IMF loan (5.8 billion dollars) They were not satisfied with the statement made by Finance Minister R. Venkataraman. India expelled three non-diplomatic employees at the Pakistani Embassy for alleged espionage activities against India. Pakistan retaliated with similar action against Indian officials in Islamabad. The film on Mahatma Gandhi produced by Sir Richards Attenborough will be released next year. It should be remembered that India's National Film Development Corporation contributed about 7 million dollars towards the production of this film. Indian government thanked the South African government for ensuring the safety of the passenger hijacked to Durban by Seychelles rebels. **PAKISTAN**—*Religious* clashes between Sunni and Shai sects of Islam continued in Lahore. In an interview with *Asiaweek* President Zia was willing to sign a new nuclear proliferation treaty two minutes before India did so.

WEST ASIA

BAHRAIN— Saudi Arabia's religious leader Shekh Abdul Aziz Bin Baz denounced the world-wide Muslim practice of celebrating Prophet Mohamed is Birthday as a heretica innovation. The Arabian Press except for the radical group were dismayed over the failure of the Fez Summit. They concluded that the controversy was over Saudi's peace proposals but reiterated that it was only a practical solution. They also criticised the radical Arab leaders who stayed away from the Conference. **SYRIA**—The

contribution made by France, Italy, Britain and the Netherlands to the Sinai peace-keeping force would jeopardise Arab-European relations warned Syria. The ruling Baath Party newspaper *Al Baath* said that the postponement of the Fez Conference should serve Arabs to reassess the Arab-Israeli conflict in a constructive manner. **ISRAEL:** Israelis have begun to suspect the US for its attempts to denigrate the Strategic Co-operation Agreement signed between the two countries. Israeli Premier Menachem Begin said that he was ready to meet the Saudi Arabian King Khalid provided he made clear that his country's peace plan does not include the destruction of Israel. Israel has asked France not to help Iraq to rebuild the Atomic reactor which she destroyed in June last year. US Secretary of State, Alexander Haig would plead with Israel not to veto the participation of Western European forces in Sinai for their statements that PLO also should participate in the peace talks. Israeli Premier Begin had a fall and was operated.

EAST ASIA

JAPAN: Japan will provide 18.7 million dollars of food aid through FAO to African and Afghan refugees. Japan has agreed to provide 1.3 million dollars aid to Nepal to modernise its agriculture. **CHINA:** The Chinese viewed Brezhnev's visit to Bonn as an attempt to sow discord between US and Western European allies. Former US Vice-President Walter Mondale said that China was concerned with US arms sale to Taiwan.

EUROPE

SWITZERLAND: The WHO experts meeting in Geneva have confirmed that some of the modern wonder drugs have become less effective. They have urged doctors to resist prescribing penicillin and other anti-biotics and warned patents against self-medication. Indiscriminate use of the drugs to treat boils and pneumonia has created resistant bacteria. US arms negotiator, Paul Nitze said that he will be responsible and tough in his talks with his Soviet counterpart Youli Kwitzinski when they open talks on limiting medium range nuclear missiles. **WEST GERMANY:** Chancellor Schmidt told Brezhnev that the Soviet Union should remove her missiles from Europe if she does not like American missiles. He also repeated the EEC proposals for a two-stage conference on Afghanistan. In Bonn Soviet President Brezhnev rejected the Zero Option suggested by US President but repeated his earlier offer of a freeze or moratorium on both sides medium range system in Europe. The Soviet government daily *Izvestia* said that West Germany could play the role of a mediator between the Soviet Union and the US on the arms questions. Though Moscow was disappointed over Chancellor Helmut Schmidt's call to accept Reagan's Zero Option yet

was happy that Soviet leaders visit to Bonn has yielded tangible results. Chancellor Schmidt said that US and Soviet leaders may hold summit talks in the latter part of 1982. **UNITED KINGDOM:** A survey on racial relations revealed that the majority of the Whites did not resent non-whites. However the race relations would deteriorate over the next five years. IRA guerillas exploded yet another bomb near the London army barracks to divert the Protestants demonstrations in Northern Ireland. Protestant leader Ian Paisley paraded nearly 20,000 men as a demonstration of strength to protect protestants in Northern Ireland. He claimed his force would act as a "third force" as police and troops cannot provide effective protection against IRA killings. The Soviet Democratic Party with their Liberal electoral allies captured a North-Western English constituency in a mid-term by-election from the ruling conservative party. This was a humiliating defeat for both Conservative and Opposition Labour Party and has given confidence for the SDP to win the next General Elections in Britain. **GREECE**—George Rallis, the conservative leader who lost the last General elections to Andreas Papandreu said that governments which plan to leave the EEC and NATO were fraught with danger. It would not guarantee peace with Turkey but would rather encourage Turkey. **LUXEMBOURG:** Statistics reveal that nearly 10 million people will become jobless in the European Economic Community at the end of the year. The highest unemployment rates in the EEC for October were in Belgium 12.7 and Britain with 11.5 percent. **MOSCOW:** After a very hard and open talks in Bonn Soviet President Brezhnev and his Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko returned to Moscow. The week may be said to have been one of the cooled-off days between Moscow and Washington each party trying to convince the world that they were trying to reduce the tension and avoid any major crisis. **POLAND:** Poland's Roman Catholics leaders warned of a possible civil strife and have agreed to have talks with the government leaders. The ruling communist party said that "strike terror is systematically emasculating the state and annihilating the nation."

AFRICA

MOROCCO: Radical Arab states—Syria, Iraq, Libya and PLO criticised Saudi Arabia's West Asia peace proposals at the Arab Foreign Minister's Conference in Fez. The 12th Arab League Summit Conference came to an abrupt end and was adjourned indefinitely. **EGYPT:** The "Bright-star 82" war games continued in Egypt and both sides appeared to have gained sufficient knowledge to rush to the help of other Arab states if invited. President Hosni Mubarak apparently in a reconciliation move freed 31 politicians and others arrested by the late President Sadat. Those freed included Mohamed Heikal, former Editor of *Al Ahram*. Egypt's population has

reached 44 million this month. Commenting on the abrupt end of Arab Summit held in Fez, Morocco, Egypt said that Arabs are incapable of tackling their problems without Cairo's help. Egypt's main concern now is Israeli's withdrawal from Sinai in next April and it sticks by Camp David accord. **SEYCHELLES:** Mercenaries attempted to topple that government. Government forces have beaten them back and some of the mercenaries hijacked an Indian Airlines Boeing 707 and fled to Durban (South Africa). Hijackers of the Indian planes have been arrested in South Africa. Round the clock curfew was imposed in the Seychelles. **MAURITIUS**—Mauritius Premier Sir Raingoolani said his country had no hand in the abortive attempt made to capture the Seychelles government. **SOUTH AFRICA:** Defence Minister Magnus Malan said that South Africa may launch military attacks on African countries which harboured guerillas. The hijackers of the Indian plane in Seychelles, all white men, were interrogated by Security Officials. The Indian plane resumed its flight to Bombay. **LIBYA:** Libyan leader Col. Gaddafi said that non-aligned countries should join in a collective defence and security system to defend the interests of members from imperialists and puppet racist regimes



CANCUN

North South Dialogue

By R. Sivaganeshan

JUST OVER A MONTH AGO a summit meeting took place in Mexico at Cancun a luxury seaside holiday resort, in the elegance of the Sheraton between the leaders of fourteen developing nations of the South and the leaders of the rich industrialised nations of the North. The purpose of the meeting was to find a way to bridge the ever-widening gap between the rich nations and the poor nations which are getting poor daily. The meeting was the result of the efforts of the UN which had more than a decade ago commissioned the Lester Peerson's Report, which was later followed by the recent Willi Brandt Report to resolve the prevailing economic imbalance between the countries of the world by a process of transfer of wealth from the rich countries to aid the poor countries to develop. The conference at Cancun was not however held under the auspices of the UN but under the co-chairmanship of the President of Mexico and the Prime Minister of Canada. The conference it is understood was held without an agenda or a secretariat, and it lasted for two days. This undoubtedly would have been inadequate for the leaders of twenty two nations to go into any complex questions, such as the ones they met to discuss, or to at least agree upon the important issues

involved, or to evolve broad principles to come to grips with the major problems.

There was therefore no final joint communique as is usual when leaders of nations meet to discuss and part. Conference host President Lopez Portillo of Mexico had suggested that dress could be informal to match the leisurely time-table, so much so that President Reagan appeared with his relaxed American delegation at the conference a quarter of an hour late while the leaders of twenty one nations waited. President Reagan said that he had learnt more about the specific problems of the nations of the South but nevertheless ruled out any moves to create new international institutions to assist the developing nations to overcome their energy problems or stable prices for their commodity or raw material exports. He made it known that further talks on development could be had only if there were no moves to set up new world bodies. The main theme of his argument was that privatisation of investments in the developing countries being the only way that they could be developed. He had full support for this from another monetarist Mrs. Thatcher.

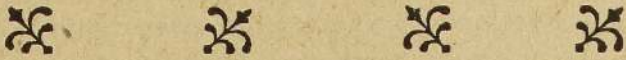
It appears that neither the author of the Report Willi Brandt nor those associated with him, the many ex-prime ministers and ministers were at the meeting. One wonders if they were invited. It would be interesting at this point to observe the effects of the investment of Northern capital in some of the countries of the Third world in the South. During the late sixties and the seventies Northern capital was invested in the newly enriched oil states of the Middle East whose only resource was oil, and that too a depleting resource, mainly because they were not only able to withstand the pressure of the multinational companies through OPEC but also because oil was important to the industrial North. But investment in other parts of the poor South, in the free trade zones like Singapore, Hong Kong, Manila, Colombo, or in states like Brazil and Mexico had a difference. It was mainly to take advantage of the cheap labour for labour intensive processes of Northern industries, like in electronic microprocessors, footwear, toys, clothing, sportsgear etc. These countries were attractive for investment particularly if there existed conditions such as tax concessions, freedom from customs controls and finally educated but unorganised labour, or if labour was prevented from organising in those free trade zones.

THE RESULT OF THIS was that there was no development in the regions of the country which exist behind the free trade zones, as the foreign investors did not reinvest the profits earned, but invested such profits elsewhere. So privatisation or Reaganomics' in other words the theory that the pursuit of profit and narrow self-interest motivates economic activity towards development rings hollow, especially

more so when the Northern states put up protectionist barriers against Third World commodity imports and when only their financial institutions offer aid only for private investment, and their concerns which invest in the South, influence the organisation of production and consumption patterns in the countries where they invest, by high powered advertisement campaigns in the media, which is again controlled by interests with a common ideology as their mentors, to persuade people to buy products of Northern technological advance like motor cars, TV, video, cameras etc. etc. which are only within the reach of the elite. This elite in return is often in control of the state apparatus in those countries and help to maintain governments friendly to the multinationals, while those in the rung next in line and who cannot afford these items feel that their life is in vain without being able to keep up appearances and struggle on feeling insecure, bitter and frustrated, and the remaining majority who live day to day not knowing from where the next meal would come from exist in wretchedness.

If the great majority remain poor cheap labour can be had to exploit, at low cost, but the difficulty starts when there arises a conflict between expanding the market and retaining the reserves of cheap labour, since an unequal society can bridge it only for a time. There are issues according to the Brandt Report "Where a large part of a population in a Northern country would benefit from a particular policy change which could help the South while another part would lose. It is when the interests of those who fear to lose dominate Northern policy that the conflict expresses itself as one between North and South". The part who has the fear to lose is the smaller part, the multinationals and the privileged class who dominate Northern policy, who exploit both the people of the North as well as the people of the South. A system based on capital concentrated in the few, lives on and breeds inequalities and the conflicts and contradictions get polarised and become difficult to resolve. There are matters of mutual interests for the people of the North and the South, the first and foremost of which is survival, by ending the arms race. After all the danger of nuclear war is common to all people. The rich industrialised countries whose power is embodied in the state, multinational corporations and the military industrial complex within which the financial institutions like the World Bank and IMF flourish cannot realistically help the developing countries unless there is a fundamental change in that power in those countries. What the countries of the South need is not aid for consumerism, but the type of aid that could cause the kind of development people need in agriculture, health, housing, education etc., and stable prices for commodity exports along with an energy programme to agree on oil prices, and important of all, non-interference in their internal affairs through subversive foreign agencies and similar

setups. The world has suffered two destructive wars. How long will it be before abject poverty and repression explode to send shock waves of destruction through the globe, by nuclear holocaust, quite unlike the earthquake which shook Cancun on the day after the end of the Northern monologue?



NEW ADMINISTRATIVE SYSTEM

At Village Level

By R. Kahawita

THE ANCIENT AND HISTORIC SYSTEM of the Village Administration and its development is being replaced by a new system "Gramadoya Mandalayas". This is to replace the historic Gang-Sabha or Village Panchayat of the Aryans. It was a system that grew with the settlers and underwent changes with the expansion of the community. It is like a tree that puts out new roots and shoots as the needs of the tree expanded. It was an "organism" capable of growth and changes as environment changed. It is natural and there was no grafting or artificiality about the Gang-Sabha or the Panchayat. The community as a whole made decisions and acted to suit them. It had its own values cultural social and economic in keeping with the genius and aspirations of the village society. It was their's and they were responsible for the outcome of their decisions. They themselves selected and elected their leaders and officials to implement the Sabha's decisions.

In Sri Lanka the colonial administration recognized these institutions and where necessary improved the system to fall in line with the concept of a rural community on similar lines may be akin to their village democracy out of which grew their Parliamentary Democracy. Even today what is beautiful in England is the village organisation which has been enlogized by poets and writers alike. The ballads about their village life form even today the gem of their literature. And every effort is being made to preserve her old world "roots of her culture". There are several official societies boards and voluntary organisations to preserve the social groups and institutions that gave birth to their culture. The growth of our own culture was no different when the Britisher took over. Therefore he respected and admired it and helped in its natural development. When she rescinded her charge she handed over a very viable system of local government—in Municipal Corporations Urban District Councils Town Councils and Village Councils. It is here the Colonial government experimented with Universal suffrage before it was extended to the general elections of a legislature. *After we took*

command we also continued in the same style. After all our roots are in the village may he be politician administrator technocrat or menial, came from the village. In an emergency or pending catastrophe the exodus is to the villages "Havens of safety and peace".

WITH OUR FREEDOM AND POLITICAL EMANCIPATION politics and political parties crept into village life. This was inevitable, because bulk of our voting population was in the villages. Naturally the politicians followed suit to win the sympathy of the village folk for their "political theories", which they understood very little. So the hook and line thrown to them were a metaphorical heaven and also the earth. Every one came with good intentions offering to improve the quality of the villager, and of course their own till we have reduced the 80% of the population that still cling to their ancestral habitats to poverty and misery. The process of destruction was accelerated by the abolishing of village level institutions, leaving a vast void in the root area of our culture. In doing this, we had not thought of an alternative. According to official reasoning for a change at village level is that "The present day village is overpoliticalised and over-patronized, resulting in strife and discord on the one hand and on the other the village leaders and institutions acting as agents of politicians have become too dependent on the politicians for the survival of the village". What they have discovered now was inevitable, as explained in the preceding paragraph. *From ancient times, village communities had developed the concept of democracy in choosing their leaders and advisers. They understood the basic principle of community living—"The members of the community must be with the leaders".* So they sought their support. Those who discented moved out and formed other communities. They exercised the principles of democracy to decide on the immediate needs of the community and improve the quality of their life and develop the environment which they had decided to establish; a social, economic, and cultural order, according to their needs. Unless we carry the people with us, nothing can succeed. We have not yet understood this fundamental rule. The mistake we have made is, in abolishing village level Institutions, and we have offered them alternatives without their support or consent.

IN THE 'NEW APPROACH TO RURAL PLANNING' the very Institutions of the other day set up at vilage level through political patronage are going to supply the primary members to the 'Gramadoya Mandalayas'. Three such voluntary organisations approved by Government in power (that is the party in control) is sufficient to form the Gramadoya Mandalayas. How many of the voting population in a village has lent support to these organisations does not seem to have bothered the schemers. In one blow

TRIBUNE, December 12, 1981

15

we have removed the democratic growth at the grass roots and replaced it with a bunch of leaders of voluntary organisations and a host of village level officials who are mere tools in the hands of the Politicians. The bread and butter of these officials depend solely on the politicians. We see it happening today. The so-called "approved voluntary organisations" are expected to be free from political patronage or party politics. In theory, it seems sound, but in practice it is as impossible as to expect a mosquito not to draw its blood sustenance in a nudist colony. What are these voluntary societies? Societies concerned with the welfare of the community. Rural Development Societies, Community Centres, Mahila Samithi, School Development Societies, religious societies etc. One could keep on adding to this list. However, 35 societies are supposed to have been approved which can send the Chairman of such a society as a member to the Gramadaya Mandalaya. It is not difficult to organise such societies. The other day some one was suggesting a voluntary organisation to prevent wife-beating. Whatever it may be, where is the democratic character of these associations to canvass the support of the village community?

It is true the Constitution guarantees the citizens, the freedom to form associations, but can such associations speak for a whole village where what they want is a change in their living conditions and environment (embracing the earlier communities.) A few may be interested in organizing themselves for religious observances, but we cannot assume that an entire village want to participate in it. Can these organisations carry the entire village population with them? This is where patronage, political or official, will get entrenched in the village. We feel that a scheme of nature will dry up the roots of democracy which were nurtured by the village communities over the centuries, till it became a way of life. The beauty of village life, was their loyalty to the community. From the scanty information we have now will that process be ensured in the new innovation? The new organisation is also described as "a novel experiment in administration" by the bureaucracy who have thought out the scheme on their own. Village is not the place to experiment with novel ideas. They have experimented over the centuries and arrived at an institution fashioned by them and steeped traditions of their fore-fathers to give us a cultural heritage which we must treasure improve and strengthen to continue that heritage.

We cannot re-educate a villager nor change his way of life. It may perhaps be possible in a society without any kind of heritage. It may be done in new towns and cities which are organisations of the other day compared to centuries of evolutionary process that culminated in a village society. It was the beginning and the primary human social organisation

that gave birth to kingdoms towns and cities. The beginning of social and cultural progress was in the village and it shall be so for centuries to come. Therefore it is not the place for novel experience in administration. It should be the source of inspiration to guide the modelling of other institutions in settlements. Before we devised the experiment did we consult the village folk to find out their reactions to the novel experiment and whether they liked it or not? Whether the proposals met with their aspirations or not? Is it something we are going to shove down their throats—take it or leave it—and create a revolutionary group like in Iran? Success of any scheme at village level depends entirely on how the village folk react to it. Unless they are with us any scheme at village level is doomed to fail. A single voluntary organisation may succeed but a whole village is not in it. Our objective should be to carry the whole village with us. **Unless they participate from the beginning to work out the framework of an institution where the whole village population is involved, we will not achieve our objectives in the experiment, novel or otherwise**



TULF

Sir,

I am very pleased that the TULF has called off the boycott of Parliament and has agreed to co-operate with the government in wiping out terrorism in the North and elsewhere, promoting peace and evolving solutions to problems faced by the Tamil people. As I have said in my earlier letters this is the greatest opportunity that the Tamil leaders ever had to bring about a suitable solution to this problem. They must have the fullest confidence and trust in the President Mr. J. R. Jayewardene and leave it to him to bring about a suitable solution that is acceptable to both parties but they must extend their fullest co-operation to him. They should forget "Eelam", sit round a table with the President and solve this problem once and for all so that the Sinhalese, Tamils and the other races could live like brothers and sisters as in the days that the British ruled Sri Lanka. I have no doubt that if this problem is solved, the majority of Tamils living overseas will return to Sri Lanka, and work for the country. A house built on solid rock will stand but one built on sand could collapse at any moment.

18, Ridgewood Street,
Underwood,
QLD 4119, Australia.

Jack Van Sanden

TRIBUNE, December 12, 1981

In Australia

NEW OWNER HOPES TO WIN ASCOT GOLDCUP

Upali Wijewardene likes to see his horses race. So he has come 6,500 km. from Sri Lanka to see My Sir Avon, the thoroughbred he bought sight unseen for \$145,000, race at Rosehill, Sydney, today. And afterwards, the Sri Lankan businessman flies to London to watch another of his stable race there. If Mr. Wijewardene has his way, My Sir Avon will soon race at Ascot too. Mr. Wijewardene has a burning ambition to win the famed Ascot Gold Cup and, as the founder and head of a firm with a turnover of 50 million a year, he can indulge that dream. He brought the former New Zealand galloper on a visit to Australia a fortnight ago when he attended seminars in Melbourne and Sydney. The winner of two high-class races in New Zealand a year ago, My Sir Avon arrived in Australia in December but the sale negotiations which brought him here broke down. The upshot was that My Sir Avon's racing career remained in limbo for eight months, with at least four more prospective buyers shunning him in the meantime, until Mr. Wijewardene's arrival.

Mr. Wijewardene asked officials at the seminar to introduce him to a leading trainer who might help him achieve his Ascot Gold Cup ambition. As he says: "So I was put in touch with Bart Cummings and it just happened that he had been looking after this particular horse, so I bought it. His record shows he is a proven horse and, when you consider people are paying \$ 100,000 and more for untried yearlings, I thought he was a little under-priced". Mr. Wijewardene is a relative, but quite successful, newcomer to thoroughbreds. He has eight in training in England, as well as three mares at stud there.

He has the best connections—his cousin is the President of Sri Lanka, Mr. Junius R. Jayewardene. At the 1983 elections he expects to stand as a candidate for his cousin's party and is considered the odds' on favourite to take the portfolio as Minister of Finance a stepping stone, many believe, to taking over as president. Mr. Jayewardene is 75. Flying from Sri Lanka to Sydney purely to watch his newly acquired thoroughbred race under his colours is nothing new to Mr. Wijewardene. Not long ago in the United States, he ended a business appointment in Chicago, boarded a plane for London for a race meeting and returned immediately afterwards.

Tony Arnold in an Australian daily newspaper.

TRIBUNE, December 12, 1981

In Sri Lanka

UPALI BARES THE FACTS

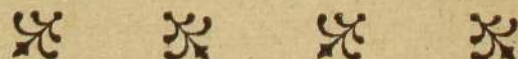
Question: You are said to own 15 horses which are running in England, Singapore and Australia. From where did you get the foreign exchange to buy the horses?

Mr. Wijewardene: I do not own any horses overseas. In some parts of the world, some horses run in my name for public relations purposes and in other parts due to the regulations of various turf clubs which require that the horses run in the names of natural persons. All these horses are owned by blood stock companies. Similar arrangements are made all over the world and many companies own horses but run them under the names of third persons. For example, the most renowned horse owner in the world, Robert Sangster, does not own most of the horses run under his name. In several instances, he is simply the manager of the owning company. A further example is that horses owned by the National Stud of England run under the name of Her Majesty the Queen as owner though she does not own the horses. Consequently, I am not a beneficiary of the earnings of the horses nor do I have to bear the cost of purchase of or maintenance of those horses.

Question: You won a prestigious race at Royal Ascot recently. What were the benefits you derived from it?

Mr. Wijewardene: I had the satisfaction of seeing a horse that I chose as an untried yearling develop into a top class animal. This is tremendous job satisfaction. Furthermore, I had the pleasure of leading in the winner at the prestigious Royal Ascot meeting attended by Her Majesty the Queen and the Royal Family and I was featured on BBC television that day all of which would benefit the organisations which I head, including the Greater Colombo Economic Commission (GCEC) and Sri Lanka.

Interviewed by Dalton de Silva in The Island, Sunday edition, November 28, 1981.



Some Impressions

By T. W. Rajaratnam

Former Judge of the Supreme Court

DURING THE LAST YEARS of the British regime in Sri Lanka, to Ceylon, as the is and was called then, two young men returned from the University of Cambridge. One of them was Pieter Keuneman who was a President of the Cambridge Union and the other was P. Kandiah a distinguished Indo-Aryan scholar. They spoke to the students of the Colombo University about Lenin, about the Great October Revolution and about the Soviet Union. Some of us were deeply impressed and became interested in the Soviet system. We were also exposed to the counter propoganda against the Soviet Union. My view, however, remained balanced in favour of the Socialist system. It is in this context that I got the opportunity last month to be a member of a delegation which visited the Soviet Union. It was led by Shelton Ranarajah the Deputy Minister of Justice.

I shall now speak about my personal experiences and impressions of the Soviet Union and her people. My first experience was that I had come into a New World from the third world—into a New World belonging to the people. The development in the Soviet Union after the ravages of the last war was most impressive. It was a development meaningful to the people. There was a development with the participation of the people and that development was for the people. It was not a development for the contractor and for the comprador bourgeoisie. It had been a meaningful, planned, purposeful development for the betterment of the people.

A few kilometres from the Moscow Airport, on our way to the city, we saw the place where the Fascist troops were stopped. We realised how near the Soviet people were to total destruction. It is a grim fact of history that the Soviet people lost 20 million of their citizens and another 25 million were rendered homeless. Their lands were ravaged and their cities were destroyed. They were saved by their courage and humanism. The Soviet victory was the victory for all the anti fascist forces in the East. The problems of the Soviet Union were not over after victory. The rehabilitation and the development of the people and the country had to be in

the context of the Cold War. It is in this context again that the achievements and performances of the Soviet Union and its political system must be assessed. The development we saw was a miracle wrought by human hands and human efforts. The quality of development in the Soviet Union is a tribute to the Soviet system. I found the people of the Soviet Union committed to peace. They have realised the sufferings in war and they knew they have everything to lose and nothing to gain. There is no one in the Soviet Union who can do business out of a war—and therefore there is no one to gain but every one stands to lose in a war.

There are two powers in the world—the power of money and the power of the people. The power of the people is broad based and the power of money is in the hands of a few. In the history of mankind, we see an eternal conflict between these two powers. The power of the people in the Soviet Union has to be ever vigilant against threats from the power of money. It is the philosophy only of the Soviet people that there can be no conflicts among the peoples of the world who necessarily have to be lovers of peace. It is in this situation that the Soviet Union spends much of its time and money for their defence. If the Soviet Union is left alone without threats of war, it would certainly spend all this time and money in the development of her own people and the people of the developing world.

There is no problem of unemployment in the Soviet Union. There is however a problem due to lack of manpower. Therefore all encouragement is given and incentives provided for mothers. The maternity benefits extend to one year's full pay leave and shorter working hours thereafter with grants and other benefits to help mothers to look after their children. The children belong perhaps to the only privileged class. The Soviet system lavishly spends to keep them happy and healthy. The schools are efficiently run and the best opportunities are given to develop their talents. Education is free. Medicines are free. House rents, travelling, electricity and cooking gas are very cheap. With 5 kopecks which is 1/20 of a rouble one can travel anywhere in Moscow by the underground Metro. In the Soviet Union the rising cost of living has not had an impact on essential items. There has been a remarkable stability in the prices of essentials. Household articles like gas stoves, clocks, washing machines, refrigerators and pressure cookers are cheap as they are considered necessary for a housewife. On the other hand luxuries are very expensive. The wage structure is interesting. A miner is the highest paid worker. A collective farmer is also a high income earner with all his fringe benefits. He can own a modest extent of land quite apart from his work in the collective farm. He can cultivate

it and sell his produce at even a higher price. We found that in a collective farm in Turkmenia (Central Asia) which we visited every family had a car for its use. Cars are a luxury in the cities where there is public transport. The underground stations are fabulous with all the sculpture and art therein. Doctors and Engineers are not high income earners. Workers earn more and they can if they work more earn more. The emphasis is on the output of work and production. There are holiday homes and holidays abroad for deserving workers. The Trade Unions keep a record of the performance of workers and supervise and maintain discipline among the workers, while voicing their grievances against the state managers of the work sites or factories.

We found that there was a very sensible arrangement whereby if a parent pays 10—14 roubles, his child besides getting his two free meals will be provided also with a free dinner and will be looked after in school till 7 p.m. After the studies in class, the child is taught dancing, art, music encouraged to play with the other children. Parents find it convenient to keep the children at school till 7 p.m. Every collective farm has its own school, cultural centre and library, easy access to a University. One cannot but notice the great interest the people of the Soviet Union have for books. Thousands of people from all walks of life visit the Lenin Library which is one of the greatest libraries in the world. There are many libraries in the Soviet Union. In the Moslem Republic of Turkmenia, we visited the library in the capital city of Ashgabat. We were impressed by the architecture and lay out of the library. We found engraved on the wall, if I remember right, the bust of Prometheus, Plato, Homer and Socrates. Here too there are many hundreds who come daily to read and borrow books. We were told that the readers have a sense of responsibility and the libraries could not recollect a single case where a reader had badly used a book. It is only on rare occasions a reader defaults in returning a book in time. The Moscow people are seen reading books while travelling in the Metro. The people love books. The people have all the opportunities to enjoy music, art and culture. All this is within reach of the people and the tickets to shows are cheap. We always saw a crowd of workers enjoying a ballet, a circus or a hockey match on ice. There is no place of entertainment beyond the means of a worker. In these circumstances, and from what I saw, I do not think I will be wrong to say that the people of the Soviet Union as a people have the greatest appreciation for art, music and culture. Certainly in the Soviet Union culture is not the preserve of the elite. By reason of the wage structure and the way of life there is no snobbery and I found man respecting man and a respect for the dignity of labour and the dignity of man.

I have no doubt that it is due to the Soviet political system and philosophy, that the Soviet Union has

TIBUNE, December 12, 1981

achieved so much in the field of science, medical research, music and literature. The country has produced so many scientists, artists, writers, musicians and sportsmen of world repute. Everyone is free to practice his own religion and no one can interfere with this freedom but the State does not make use of religion nor does religion make use of the State. Everyone has a right to be a believer or a non-believer.

Laws in the Soviet Union are not complicated. They are not beyond the understanding of the people. All judges including the judges of the Supreme Court are elected. Justice in that way is administered by the people. Judges in the Supreme Court are trained lawyers. In the other courts, one trained judge sits with 2 citizens—all elected and they have an equal vote so that the two citizens can outvote the trained judges. Minor offenders are given every chance to rehabilitate themselves. Serious criminal offences and political offences carry heavy penalties.

The Soviet Union is a multi-national state where more than a hundred languages are spoken. There is unity in the country due to a common allegiance to a political and social system which sustains and maintains a political and social system which maintains the people in equality and justice. There is no exploitation of man by man. There is respect for the culture and languages of all the people and their use and development is encouraged and promoted. The allegiance to the political system and the devotion to Lenin were widely evident among the people. Every day there were hundreds of people without any compulsion standing in long queues to pay their respects to the founding father.

I must refer to that beautiful city of Ashgabat. (the city of love) which is the capital city of Turkmenia. The old city was completely destroyed by an earthquake in 1948. Today it is a beautiful well planned city proving again the indomitability of the human spirit. We were also greatly impressed by the Kara Kum Canal which runs across the desert irrigating over half a million hectares of land in Turkmenia where people considered water to be more precious than diamonds.

It is not a case of all work and no play for the workers of the Soviet Union. Besides the circus, the theatres, the cultural centres and other places of entertainment and sport, people from all walks of life dance vigorously to music in the hotels where they may go occasionally for dinner and relaxation. There is equality not only between man and man but between man and woman. There is no inferiority or superiority of the sexes and they move with equal confidence.

The Soviet Union has its problems. No one claims it to be a paradise where human perfection has been attained. But the Soviet system and philosophy will overcome these problems. Anyone is free to criticise the inefficiency or corruption in the public services and an explanation must be given by the officials concerned.

The Soviet Union has signed the two International covenants viz. the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. Sri Lanka has also signed these two covenants. The United States has not signed either. The most Important Human Rights are the "right to work", and "the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well being of himself and of his family, including food, clothing, housing and medical care and necessary social services and the right to security in the event of unemployment, sickness, disability, widowhood, old age or other lack of livelihood in circumstances beyond his control." Those human rights are not only guaranteed but granted as a matter of fact in the Soviet Union. Another human right is that "motherhood and childhood are entitled to special care and assistance." This right is also not only guaranteed but granted in actual practice in the Soviet Union. The social system in the Soviet Union in the history and circumstances of the people could have been made possible only by a political system and philosophy as practised in the Soviet Union. One can understand therefore that freedom of speech has its limitations. It cannot extend to a criticism or attack on a system or philosophy which has meant so much to the people maintaining and sustaining them. They cannot be allowed to weaken the branch of which they are perched and they will not. Even in the Western countries, freedom of speech is limited by the laws of Defamation, Sedition and Treason. In the Soviet Union too, likewise the freedom of speech is limited. It does not extend to an attack on the state, its system and its philosophy, which alone affords security, nourishment and sustenance to the people.

Humanism is the philosophy of the Soviet system and people. The under-lying philosophy is love for one's fellow beings and a concern for their happiness. There is respect for the dignity of work and the dignity of man. This is the message from the Soviet Union, its system and philosophy. If love for man and concern for man is the quintessence of all religions, then that quintessence of all religions is practised in the Soviet Union. I went to the Soviet Union as friend. I have returned to my country as a lover of the Soviet Union and the people.



Land Acquisition Act (Chapter 460) as Amended by the Land Acquisition (Amendment) Act No. 28 of 1964

Notice Under Section 7.

Ref. No./ 3173

It is intended to acquire the Lands/Land described in the Schedule below/the lands described in the Schedule below have been acquired. For further particulars please see the Gazette Extraordinary of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, No. 169/7 of 01.12.1981.

SCHEDULE

Situation of Land: Malagoda Village
Wellaboda Pattu
West and Four Gravets
Matara District.

Name of Land :- Tuppahimudaligewatte

Lot & Plan No. :- Lot 1 in Preliminary Plan No. 030/1011

The Kachcheri,
Matara.
27th November 1981.

C. D. Vidanapathirana
Acquiring officer
Matara District.

My No. LA/4303

The Land Acquisition Act, (Chapter 460) as amended by the Land Acquisition (Amendment) Act No. 28 of 1964 Notice Under Section 7.

It is intended to acquire the land described in the schedule below. For further particulars please see the Gazette of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, No. 171 (Part iii) of 11.12.1981.

SCHEDULE

Name of Land: :- Manchalaiwatta

Name of Village: :- Kandalei

Plan No. & Lot No. :- P. P. Pu: 2086

D. R. O's Division; :- Kalpitiya

H. M. Herath
District Land Officer
for Government Agent and
Acquiring Officer, Puttalam
District.

The Kachcheri,
Puttalam.
1981.11

General Elections

Beirut, November 21: The Communists were the big losers in the elections last week for Syria's new parliament known as the People's Council. Members of the ruling Baath Party had controlled the previous parliaments, the new elections provided them with total hold on the Unicameral House's 195 seats. All of them were won by the Baathists and their allies in three smaller Nasserite and socialist factions. The Communists did not win a single seat, and have thus lost the six they held in the previous People's Council. The Communist defeat gave rise to questions as to the future of the Baathist-Communist cooperation at a time Soviet-Syrian relations had taken a qualitative step forward with the conclusion of a 20-year treaty of friendship and cooperation between the two countries. The Syrian Communist Party has for almost fifty years of existence been loyal to Moscow. Its Secretary-General for 70 years, Khaled Bakdash, never wavered in this loyalty. According to a statement by the Minister of Interior, General Nassreddin Naser, all the seats were won by candidates of the "National Progressive Front", namely: (1) The Baath Socialist Party, whose Secretary-General is President Hafez Assad, (2) The Socialist Unionist led by Fayez Ismail, (3) The Arab Socialist Party headed by Abdel Ghani Kannout, and (4) The Arab Socialist Party of Yousef Jaidani.

The Communist Party, though a member of the Front, had decided, not to have its candidates run on the Front's tickets but instead ran on their own tickets. Altogether, there were 31 communist candidates, of whom 21 belonged to the Communist Party under Bakdash, including himself and Mrs. Bakdash, and 10 belonging to a breakaway faction. Reports from Damascus said the Baathists won 111 seats, or 60 per cent of the total. Under the Syrian Constitution, 51 of the seats were assigned to workers and farmers, and the rest to other sectors of the population. The number of females in the new house doubled—from 6 to 12. President Assad, in his address at the new Parliament's opening session on November 16, insisted that Syrian women must attain a bigger measure of emancipation and liberation. In his speech, President Assad, laid special emphasis on the need to develop and expand the National Progressive Front, which he heads. He did not give details saying that other groups and personalities should be added to it.

The front came into being in March 1972, from an alliance between the Baath Party, the three socialist groups and the Communist Party. A charter left control of the Front in the hands of the Baathists, and Assad continued to head the 18—member leader-

TRIBUNE, December 12, 1981

ship of the grouping. Over the years, several calls were heard for reforming the Front. In 1979, however, the Baath Party rejected calls for revising the charter. The Government newspaper, *Ath Thawra*, then criticised those of "ill intentions" who, it said, were seeking to lessen Baathist control inside the front. "The Baath Party is leader", the newspaper insisted but did not identify the "ill intentioned" elements. Why the Communists had decided to run separately in the elections this time was not explained, but there was Communist discontent with the domestic and economic policies of the Baath Party. The Communists made it clear though they were not quitting the National Front. They also repeated their backing of President Assad's foreign policy, particularly the strong relationship that has been established with the Soviet Union.

The Lebanese publication, *An Nahar Arab And International*, suggested this week that as a result of the Communist criticism, the Baathists decided to exclude the Communists from the Front's election tickets. However, both sides, it added, did not want to exaggerate the matter, dismissing the Communist attitude as a "mistake". According to the same publication, the Central Committee of the Syrian Communist Party had issued a statement criticising the Government's administrative, economic and social policy, but not its foreign stance. The statement, furthermore, called for wider liberties for the masses, including the freedom of expression, it said. *An Nahar Arab and International*, in a dispatch from Damascus, quoted a Syrian official source as denying that the Communist stand was linked to the Syrian Soviet relations. "It is, however, hard to separate the attitude of the Syrian Communist Party from the Soviet stand", The publication said. The Syrian Communist Party is one of the largest in the Arab world. It is in effect the only Communist Party that is represented in the Government in any Arab state. *MER-IPS—Lankapuvath.*



FREE TRADE ZONES

Limited Employment

By Chakravarthi Raghavan

Geneva, November 2: Free Trade Zones cannot significantly reduce Third World countries high unemployment levels, and contribute little by way of indirect employment potential according to a recent study published by the International Labour Organisation (ILO). An increasing number of countries in the Third World are currently trying to attract export

oriented transnational investment by establishing free trade zones (FTZs) or similar enterprises such as Export Processing Zones, Investment Promotion Zones and Inbond Industries. In 1979, there were more than 80 FTZs or similar sites and 40 more were planned. Incentives to the transnational corporations include low wages in the countries concerned for labour-intensive manufacturing production process. For the investment receiving Third World countries, a major factor beyond export earnings, is the exceptional potential that such labour-intensive production seems to offer for rapid job creation. The 110 study suggests, however, that measuring rapid job creation from an initially small base may give a misleading impression of the importance of FTZ's employment potential in the context of the host country as a whole.

There are fairly definite limits to the continued expansion of production and employment, furthermore, as economic evolve, and labour and other costs rise, governments may more towards promoting capital and skill intensive manufacturers, and in part away from the labour intensive processing activities which now characterise FTZs. There is also a related trend for TMCs to concentrate their labour intensive FTZ activities in the less developed of the Third world countries. "It would also be deceptive," the 110 study says "to assume that the rapid rate of employment growth in the TNC-based activities found in FTZs can significantly reduce the high national unemployment levels existing in many of the Third World countries concerned". The case of Singapore, oft-quoted by promoters of FTZs is a notable exception to this general conclusion, the 110 study says. FTZ employment is also much affected by fluctuations in global economic activity, as is all trade related activity. Furthermore, while FTZs contribute to the development of a modern industrial labour force, it is still unclear how far they contribute to a significant upgrading of skills, since the assembly operations that characterise FTZ type manufacturing are on the whole not skill intensive.

Most production workers in these operations perform relatively low skilled, repetitive and monotonous jobs, often less complex and skill demanding than those of smaller-scale local enterprises whose tasks are less specialised. Labour intensive and export oriented FTZs and similar enterprises have, however, opened up considerable job opportunities for women, particularly young women, hitherto outside the scope of paid employment, the study notes. The indirect employment effects of manufacturing in FTZs and other similar sites are relatively small because of the TNCs generally weak sourcing and distribution links with local economies, though there may be some exceptions to this, the study concludes.—*IPS Lankapuwath.*

**AVAILABLE
LIMITED STOCKS**

TRIBUNE

BOUND VOLUMES

FROM 1973

First come basis

*For prices and particulars
contact*

MANAGER
Tribune Publications
43, Dawson Street
Colombo 2
Tele. 33172

TENDER NOTICE

MAHAWELI AUTHORITY OF SRI LANKA

APPLICATIONS are invited from citizens of Sri Lanka for the following posts vacant in the Head Office.

POST OF LEGAL OFFICER

- Qualifications & Experience** : Attorney-at-law with at least 5 years practice at the Bar.
- Salary Scale** : Rs.1750/- (6 x Rs. 50)Rs. 2050/- per month plus approved Government allowances.

Applications indicating age, qualifications, experience and other relevant particulars should be forwarded under registered cover to reach the undersigned on or before 15th December, 1981. The post applied for should be clearly indicated on the top left hand corner of the envelope.

Applications from persons in the State Sector will be considered only if the Head of the Department/Corporation certifies that the candidate can be released if selected.

**SECRETARY-GENERAL,
MAHAWELI AUTHORITY OF SRI LANKA.**

500. T. B. Jayah Mawatha,
Colombo 10.

**MINISTRY OF LOCAL GOVT.,
HOUSING AND CONSTRUCTION.
DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS.**

Tenders for construction of Ramp Block (Block No.43) Galle New Hospital Project-Karapitiya will be received by the Chairman, Tender Board, Department of Buildings, Colombo 1, up to 10.00 A.M. on Wednesday 23. 12. 1981

02. Tender Forms could be obtained from Chief Construction Engineer, Karapitiya before 4. 15 P.M on 21. 12. 1981 by registered contractors or "Trial Letter" holders of Department for Rs.400,000/- and above on production of a tender deposit receipt for Rs. 250/- issued by Buildings Departments, Colombo or any Kachcheri outside Colombo.

03. Any further particulars could be obtained from the above Engineer.

K. C. Samaraweera
Director of Buildings.

Department of Buildings,
P.O BOX 504,
Colombo 1.
09. 12. 1981

More Onions ?

IS IT NOT TRUE that Red onions and Bombay onions have become a major talking point in the city and elsewhere? That when this column is being written the price of red onions has touched the Rs. 15/16 mark per lb. or 454 gms. in Colombo? That a kilo would thus be around Rs. 34 to Rs. 35? That the imported Bombay onion which the CWE threatened to sell the public through the Co-ops at Rs. 13/50 a kilo and which were really sold at Rs. 25 to Rs. 30 a kilo by traders has now disappeared from view? That for an "emergency" certain traders in Pettah and Colpetty (presumably those with excellent connections with officials in the CWE and other government trading agencies) pull them out from under the counter for Rs. 40 a kilo? That expatriates, tourist hoteliers, smugglers and gem and narcotic dealers keep this prolific black market going? That the reference to the onion racket including the government's import policy in this column last week, has brought a whole heap of letters from our readers? That most of them contain wholesale condemnation of a government which has neither ensured adequate production or even sufficient imports to keep the prices within the reasonable limits? That whatever figures are trotted out about "increased production" there is not the slightest doubt that the present calamity would not have arisen if farmers had produced more? That *Tribune* has drawn attention to this matter ever since this government came to power in 1977? That it is a fact that many farmers have stopped producing onions (and other subsidiary food-stuffs) because of the losses they have suffered caused by the policies of this government—and not by "natural disasters"?

THAT SUNSHINE official "statistics" about increased production mean nothing when shortages and high prices afflict the consumer? That Opposition Parties have begun to wake up to the potential of the onion fiasco to stir up popular opposition? That the latest issue of the CPSL's English fortnightly *Forward* (December 1, 1981) has kicked off with a letter from a reader S. Vanniasingham in Kopay (Jaffna) that reads: 'What is the good of the *Daily News* and other government-owned newspapers complaining about the shortage and high prices of red onions when this is a direct outcome of government policy. The UNP Government has done everything it can to help the food importers and make this difficult for those who produce onions. I gave up trying to grow onions because the UNP Government did not make it worth the while. I had to pay about Rs. 1,000 for a cwt. of seed onions. My yield from this was 4 cwts. But as the Government gives the biggest attention to importing red onions, I could only get Rs. 250 a cwt. When the time for marketing came. This gave me a return of Rs. 1,000 or in other

words, what I had originally paid for my seed onions. But I had also to find extra money to pay for unsubsidised fertilizer, higher prices for my pump oil, higher labour rates and 'ex gratia' payments' to a host of minor officials. So I was chronically out of pocket and gave up, as so many others whom I know have done. Whatever the faults of the previous government, it did try to help the local farmer. It is true that onion prices went up temporarily when that government imposed an import ban, but they settled down later. Now prices are soaring even though there is no ban." That letter needs no comment except to say—*Amen*?

THAT IN THIS CONNECTION a front page story by J. de S. Kellapotha in the *Ceylon Daily News* on November 26, 1981 entitled RED ONIONS ON THE WAY (a sunny headline) makes interesting reading: "Red onions which are now scarce will once again be available in small quantities from tomorrow through the network of Marketing Department's 56 retail outlets in Colombo and the suburbs. The Commissioner for Development of Marketing, Mr. N. Vamadeva said he has made arrangements with his Assistant Commissioner in Jaffna to send a lorry load of red onions to Colombo daily for distribution to the public. The first lorry is expected in Colombo today"? *That since that day many "tomorrows" have come and gone, but no red onions have come from Jaffna? That it is not because of the disruption of lorry traffic owing to heavy rains and floods, but the fact is that stocks are low even in Jaffna?* That the report went on: "The few onions available in the market are now fetching a very high price. In Wellawatte red onions are sold at Rs. 26 to 28 a kilo while in Panadura the price peaks at Rs. 30 a kilo. Mr. Vamadeva said that due to the shortfall in production even in Jaffna the prices were high. The Marketing Department is buying red onions in Jaffna at Rs. 22 a kilo which will be retailed to the public at Rs. 23.50 a kilo"? *That Mr. Vamadeva was not asked (a) why growers should sell onions to hlm at Rs. 22 a kilo when they could get more from traders, (b) why production had fallen in Jaffna? That he did not even refer to the fact that production had fallen in other onion growing districts?*

THAT THE REPORT offered the customary pooja to Acting Minister Amarasiri for "instructing the Department to sell the onion at Rs. 23.50 a kilo without pointing out that no onions were available even at that price? That the *CDM* report concluded that: "A slight improvement in red onion supplies from Jaffna is expected early next year". That is only wishful thinking? That there can be no real improvement because farmers have either gone out of production completely or have switched to other crops? That even with the present high prices they are afraid to plant onions lest the government imports onions when the harvest comes in—as it has happened regularly in the past?

MAHAWELI AUTHORITY OF SRI LANKA

POSTS OF ACCOUNTS ASSISTANT

APPLICATIONS are invited from citizens of Sri Lanka for Posts of Accounts Assistants in the Mahaweli Authority. Vacancies are in the Head Office.

QUALIFICATIONS & EXPERIENCE :

- a) Associate of the Institute of Book-keepers with 3 years experience as a Book-keeper:
OR
- b) Part I of ICMA with 3 years experience in Accounts/Audit;
OR
- c) Part I of ACCA with 3 years experience in Accounts/Audit;
OR
- d) G. C. E. (O.L) in six subjects with credits in English, Sinhala and Mathematics or Arithmetic or Commercial Arithmetic or Accountancy with 5 years experience as a Book-keeper or 10 years as an Accounts Clerk.

AGE;

Not less than 21 years.

SALARY SCALE :

Rs. 650/- (10 x Rs. 30/-) Rs. 950/- per month plus all other Government approved allowances.

Applications indicating age, qualifications, experience and other relevant particulars should be forwarded under registered cover to reach the undersigned on or before 18th December, 1981. The Post applied for should be clearly indicated on the top left hand corner of the envelope.

Applications from persons in the State Sector will be considered only if the Head of the Department/Corporation certifies that the candidate can be released if selected.

SECRETARY - GENERAL,
500, T. B. Jayah Mawatha,
Colombo 10.

PERIODICALS FROM THE USSR

A Gift of a Three Year
Wall Calendar to Each Subscriber.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES 1982 — 1983 — 1984

| | 1 Year Rs. Cts. | 2 years Rs. Cts. | 3 Years Rs. Cts. |
|----------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| SOVIET UNION | 25.00 | 40.00 | 50.00 |
| SOVIET WOMAN | 22.00 | 35.00 | 45.00 |
| SOVIET FILM | 25.00 | 40.00 | 50.00 |
| SOVIET LITERATURE | 38.00 | 60.00 | 76.00 |
| SPUTNIK | 65.00 | 100.00 | 130.00 |
| SOVIET MILITARY REVIEW | 25.00 | 40.00 | 50.00 |
| SPORT IN THE USSR | 25.00 | 40.00 | 50.00 |
| INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS | 30.00 | 50.00 | 60.00 |
| FOREIGN TRADE | 165.00 | 250.00 | 330.00 |
| NEW TIMES | 30.00 | 50.00 | 60.00 |
| MOSCOW NEWS | 30.00 | 50.00 | 60.00 |
| MOSCOW INFORMATION | 30.00 | 50.00 | 60.00 |
| SOCIAL SCIENCES | 40.00 | 65.00 | 80.00 |
| SCIENCE IN THE USSR | 50.00 | 80.00 | 100.00 |
| CULTURE AND LIFE | 25.00 | 40.00 | 50.00 |
| MUSLIMS OF THE SOVIET EAST | 25.00 | 40.00 | 50.00 |

PEOPLE'S PUBLISHING HOUSE LTD.,

124, KUMARAN RATNAM ROAD,

COLOMBO 2.

Phone : 36111