

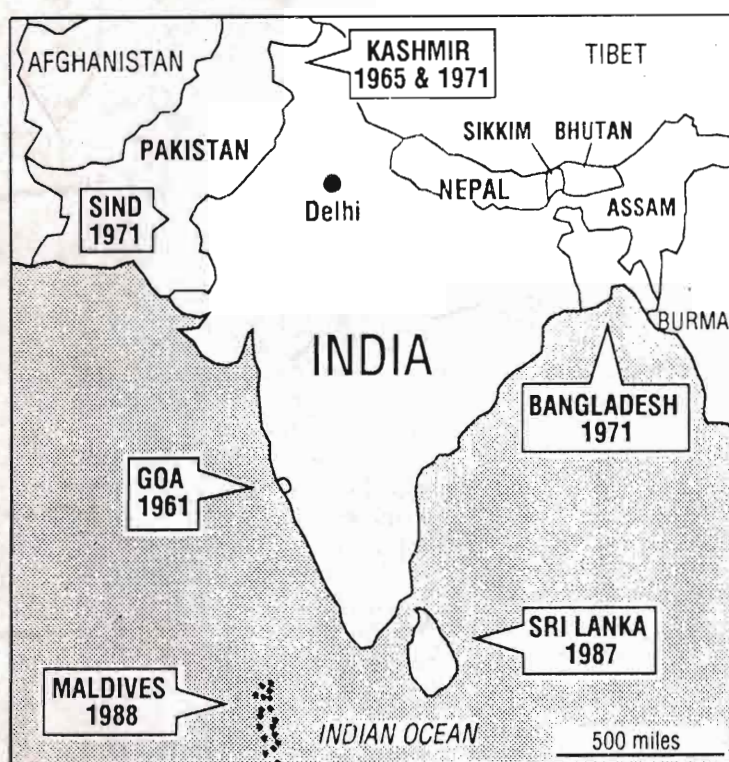
TAMIL VOICE INTERNATIONAL

TVI

Vol. 1 No. 21

15th November, 1988

INDIAN MILITARY INTERVENTION



INDIA FOLLOWS THE RAJ IN IMPOSING POWER ON REGION

Mr. Rajiv Gandhi's mobilisation of an airborne force for intervention in the Maldives after yesterday's coup attempt is another demonstration of the extent to which India has become the regional superpower of South Asia. It has followed a pattern set by the British when they ruled India.

New Delhi maintains the largest army in the region and has used it freely to secure its borders and exert its power over its smaller neighbours during the last 25 years.

Its most dramatic exercise of military power was in 1971 when it intervened in Bangladesh (then Pakistan's eastern wing) to assist the country's struggle for independence from Islamabad. In 12 days of fighting with the Pakistan army it completely overran the territory, while simultaneously containing

an attack in Kashmir and Sind in the west.

This dramatic victory confirmed India's military superiority over Pakistan, which it had previously fought in a drawn war in 1965 in Kashmir and the Rann of Kutch. The two countries have not been to war since, though their border troops have frequently clashed.

Last year India again intervened in the internal affairs of a neighbour when it sent an expeditionary force to restore order in northern Sri Lanka, where the Tamil community is in rebellion against the majority Sinhalese who dominate the country's army and government. The insurrection continues, but the Indian army, at the cost of several hundred casualties, has reduced the violence.

India has also used its military power to quell insurrections by its own minorities, particularly the Nagas and Mizos of Assam, which lies between Bangladesh and Burma. In 1961 it forcibly annexed the west coast enclave of Goa, which had been a Portuguese possession since the 16th Century.

Under diplomatic arrangements inherited from the British, New Delhi effectively controls the foreign policy of the Himalayan kingdom of Nepal, where it recruits 100,000 Gurkha soldiers for its own army.

It has also imposed effective protectorate status on two smaller Himalayan kingdoms, Sikkim and Bhutan.

India's army of 1.2 million men, organised into 34 divisions, far outnumbers that of any of its neighbours. Pakistan, its only competitor for power in the region, has only 450,000 soldiers.

The Indian navy has two aircraft carriers, 29 escorts and 14 submarines, including a nuclear powered attack submarine on loan from Russia.

The air force has 700 combat aircraft and a transport fleet which includes 70 Soviet troop carriers (*Courtesy: The Daily Telegraph, November 4, 1988*)

YOUR VOICE

BOTHA AND CUNNING FOX J.R.

By Sakthy (age 13), London

It is more than an year since the sorry Accord was signed. Is it an Accord for peace or for war? Of course, it is a peace accord to the outside world but a source of discord to the poor, oppressed people of Sri Lanka.

Botha, the President of South Africa, is much better than the *cunning fox*, President J.R.Jayewardene. Botha's ways may look barbarous but he is just being belligerent. He had the great leader, Nelson Mandela, placed in custody but he did not kill or torture him. There was no price put on Mandela's head before his arrest. The great leader of Africa was even taken to hospital when he was ick and given the best of treatment. It would have been easy for Botha to have taken Mandela's life, but he didn't. Actually, Botha is just now trying to set Mandela free.

But the cunning fox, J.R., because of his lust for blood, started the war in Sri Lanka, and to continue it, he signed the worthless Accord. He put a price of Rs.1,000,000 on our fearless leader Prabaharan's head. Is not Botha better than J.R.?

YOUR ARTICLE ON AMIRTHALINGAM

By M.C.Thuraiyan, Ilford

I am a visitor from Sri Lanka spending a few days in London. I happened to read TVI about which I had only heard while in Sri Lanka, but did not have the chance to see it. It appears to be popular in London.

I read an article in one of your recent issues wherein one Thangavelu from Canada had condemned the TULF leader left and right. Firstly, I feel that it is high time that we Tamils, particularly those like Thangavelu, who are securely settled in foreign countries, stop washing dirty linen in public. I don't hold a brief for anyone from the TULF, but in fairness to the Secretary General of the TULF, I must say that he deserves better treatment than the one you attempt to mete out through the columns of TVI. Secondly, it does not augur well for us to antagonise our leaders of the

past. After all they are our creations. Is it not true, as Plato once said, that *people get the leaders they deserve?* We got the leaders we deserved at that time. The *Canadian Chronicler* who had the audacity to speak ill of all those who mattered to the Jaffna Tamils a decade ago, did not have the guts to decry the actions of people like the retired Tamil Chief Justice of Sri Lanka who has, through his continued prostrations and kowtowing, managed to be appointed Governor of the Western Province. The Canadian writer dare not write about Tamil Governors because he perhaps hopes to beg for favours from people holding gubernatorial positions.

MY VOICE

By R.Kadampan, Birmingham

Your magazine becomes more and more repulsive. I was under the impression that your paper is an independent one and that it would present the facts fairly and in a non-partisan spirit. But your recent issues suggest out and out Tiger worship. Though it cannot be gainsaid even by those who are ideologically and otherwise opposed to the "Liberation Tigers", that Tigers alone have stood up for the Tamils yet I don't want TVI to be seen as an organ of the Tigers. Please do give room for the views of those who do not see eye to eye with the Liberation Tigers. The Tigers are not saints; they are humans and are therefore fallible. There are instances where some Tigers have committed heinous and unconscionable crimes. I am sure that you as a journalist would have been apprised of such lamentable situations. Please feel brave and free to condemn such acts then and there so that the high command of the Tigers bring such black sheep of the "Tiger herd" to book. Even as a strong opposition is a *sine qua non* in a Democracy, so is an informed and constructive opposition essential even to a military organisation like the LTTE. The LTTE has enough of "Yes-men"; it needs a few "No-men" also if they are to sustain the struggle longer.

I hope that you will have the courage

and honesty to publish this article without major surgery.

TAMIL WORDS IN ENGLISH VOCABULARY

By C.Kularajan,

Dept.of Agriculture, Peradeniya

I am pleased to note that your journal is now becoming "Tamilish" in nature. For some time it was taking a turn and hue which was unacceptable to me and my ilk. You must concede the fact that though the Tamils are concerned about their future, and even the present, all are not politically interested and politics-conscious. If you think that your readers are all interested in the legalities of Tamil issues, you are sadly mistaken. For one thing we don't understand the hard constitutional law and for another we don't understand the complicated language in which many of the legal concepts are presented in your Journal.

Let me now turn to the main point. Your inclusion of non-political and Tamil-related matters shows that you have begun to feel the pulse of the ordinary man. Please continue to include more and more of Tamil-related matters of day to day interest which will catch the eye of an ordinary Tamil. I should be pleased if you could publish at least a page of material in Tamil itself. Then you will see many subscribing to your Journal.

Please convey my regards to "Lexicographer", who contributed an article on "Tamil words in the English Dictionary", which was followed by another bigger write-up by a longer piece by another researcher. Let me now contribute my mite to the list. Two words appear to have slipped the mind of the researcher. **Coolie** is one such word. Coolie means an unskilled, lowly-paid labourer. It also can mean wage or fruit for any effort. Of course, the Sinhalese use the word 'Coolie' in a derogatory sense for the downtrodden Tamil of the Central Province of Sri Lanka!

The other word is **Pachouli**. This is also spelt *patchouli*. Patchouli appears to be a corruption of the Tamil

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SRI LANKA'S PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION

Exit Junius Jayewardene, enter Ranasinghe Premadasa; that is the order of the day for the UNP. It is significant that Premadasa was 'anointed' by the retiring President and his name was backed by the two chief contenders for the office, in the UNP, Lalith Athulathmudali and Gamini Dissanayake. President Jayewardene has succeeded in getting his party to present a united front to the electorate. Alternatively, the UNP faced a bitter three-way split. Should the UNP's presidential candidate win, Lalith or Gamini will be prime minister.

The anti-UNP opposition has solidified in agreeing to present Mrs. Sirimavo Bandaranaike as their nominee. Anura Bandaranaike will probably be prime minister in the event of a Bandaranaike victory. We raise these vital questions for two purposes: (1) the future of the Indo-Sri Lanka Accord of July 1987; and (2) where do the Tamils stand after next President takes office?

The world must be made to know of the strategy of the principal candidates in regard to the two questions we have raised. What is significant is that both candidates, having held the responsibility of high office, now beckon to the JVP for support. Anura Bandaranaike has gone on record as stating that the JVP will be given office in a SLFP government. Mrs. Bandaranaike has announced that she will abrogate the Accord.

Prime Minister Ranasinghe Premadasa walks on thin ice. He is known to have opposed the Accord. However, he is a party to it being governed by the principles of collective responsibility. The Prime Minister piloted through Parliament one of the more important components of the Accord, the Thirteenth Amendment. Nonetheless, Premadasa now states that he would ask for the withdrawal of the IPKF. The JVP, there is evidence, does not interfere with Premadasa's political meetings.

Given the connections the two contestants have with the JVP, we are concerned about the safety and security of the Tamils. The policies of the JVP on Tamil Eelam are well-known. They, the JVP, are practitioners of violence. The JVP will not permit either Mrs. Bandaranaike or Mr. Premadasa to adopt any policies of reconciliation, though both candidates have declared their intention of pursuing the path of negotiation. **We, therefore, caution the Tamil community to be aware that public statements and private promises will, as in the past, be never honoured.** There might be the hope that the lessons of the civil war have had a sobering effect on the Sinhalese leadership. The evidence is to the contrary. Mrs. Bandaranaike and Mr. Premadasa are engaged in a dangerous game of brinkmanship. **Whoever wins, regardless, the island will have a civil war, bloodier than ever.** We place the blame fairly and squarely on the two presidential contenders. Neither has learned from the experience of high office. Both treat the problem with a nonchalance that verges on the fringes of absurdity, if not the irrational. Their conduct is unworthy of the office they have held. We condemn such irresponsibility.

Sri Lanka is already a crisis-ridden broken-backed state. The outcome of the election bodes danger for the Eelam Tamils. It will also cause a disturbance to the workings of the international community of states. Worse still, the South Asian system will be destabilised. Sri Lanka will become the happy hunting ground of foreign states which are only too anxious to stir the witches' cauldron. Our cautioning note is that leadership must not summon the dark fears, real and imagined, that lurk in the depths of the human sub-conscious. Sadly, we are witnesses to the irresponsible campaigning of contenders who are overly greedy to obtain power.

TAMIL VOICE International

எப்பொருள் யார் யார் வாய்க் கேட்டினும் அப்பொருள்

மெய்ப்பொருள் காண்பதறிவு

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Material sent for publication may be abridged and edited if found necessary.

YOUR VOICE

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word *Pachchilai* which means green-leaf; (of course, all leaves are green as long as they have chlorophyll!). It is significant to note that there is a place called **Pachchilaippalli** near Nagar Kovil in the Northern Province of Sri Lanka. Pachouli is a plant belonging to the mint family and is famous for the perfume obtained from it.

A QUESTION OF SEMANTICS OR IS IT BIAS?

By Siva Muttulingasamy, Croydon

The JVP are going around killing innocent people as they wish and when they do, the media, both local and international, still refer to them as 'Southern subversives' or 'Marxist radicals'. The Tigers also go around killing but their victims are not civilians but members of the much hated army of occupation and they are labelled Tamil 'terrorists'. Is there an international conspiracy to destroy the Tamil race or has the world gone mad? Some top ranking Indian officers have confessed that the Tigers enjoy majority support in the Tamil areas but the Indians still go on bleeding the Tamils to death. What ever happened to majority rule and democracy?

The *Economist* of Oct.21 suggests that since Mr.Prabaharan has been a guerrilla leader for so long he won't be fit enough to lead the Tamil people in peace time. **What would they say about Mao, Castro or Mugabe? Were they not guerrilla leaders, and didn't they rule after their country achieved independence?** The Journal goes on to say that in the Jaffna area in particular there is no support for anyone other than the Tigers, but these international media and politicians continue to punish the Tamils by supporting India which is trying to impose its will on them.

It is very plain to see that the majority of Sinhalese are opposed to this Indian peace accord and as far as the Tamils are concerned Indian intervention has only worsened their plight. So, in the name of peace and humanity, why not divide the island and let the two live as separate nations as they did prior to the com-

ing of the Portuguese at the turn of the 16th century, nearly 500 years ago?

ONE HUNDRED NAMES FOR YOUR DAUGHTER

By S. Sriskandarajah

Rohini's article on 'A name for your daughter' appearing in your issue of 15.10.88 tickled me and I am prompted to react. Firstly, it is very unfortunate that we Tamils should be ashamed of our own personal names. Many of us seem to be shamelessly labouring under a delusion that our names are longish and that they are difficult to pronounce. This complex of inferiority is further aggravated when some of the racist English people, especially those working in the law courts of England, choose to chew our names as if they are outlandish and untouchable.

If you look around and see the personal names in continental Europe, you will simply be flabbergasted. Whereas almost all Tamil personal names are highly phonetical, most of the European personal names are not. A good many of them are jaw-breakers and tongue-twisters. To illustrate my point, I give the following names: **Bjornstjerne, Loewenskoeldska, Zsigmondy, Solsjenitsyn, Kamerlingh-onnes, Flegenhheimer, Szawlowski, Zviwdwick, Schwelb, Drzemczewski, Schachter, Oosterwijk, Dobzhaanskii.** Therefore, it is high time we shrug off this sense of shame that we have long names and to start feeling proud of the names our forebears had given us.

I appreciate that Rohini has taken great pains to provide us a list of 'Tamil' personal names. But what bothers me is that in her list there isn't a single pure Tamil name. Each and every name is a Sanskrit name. In the same breath I hasten to add that I should not be mistaken for a puritan or that I am against Sanskrit. We cannot divorce Sanskrit from our language. The point I am trying to drive home is that many of us don't seem to know the difference between a Tamil name and a Sanskrit name. As long as the name sounds novel we hesitate not to bear it. Instances are not wanting where parents have given names to their children which are ridiculously absurd. 'Musukunthan' is a Sanskrit personal name meaning 'son of a monkey'. I am sure that no parent will give such a name if only he knows its meaning. Therefore, let us have our wits around when we give names to our children. If your children ask you as to why their names are long explain and cite the examples of European, Russian and African names. East Europeans, Russians and Africans don't feel shy that their names are abnormally long and incredibly strange. It is because of this national pride and linguistic love that they are able to make a mark in all walks of life. It is the lack of confidence and the feeling of inferiority that retard the progress of the Asians.

I give below a few personal female names which may not necessarily be pure Tamil names, but at least are short and have the semblance of Tamilness:- *(continued on page 19)*

Habeas Corpus for L.A.W.

*Behind well appointed seats of rhetoric and law
Unacceptable power must find devious means
Through unrelenting assaults with butts and batons
Or through finger nails pulled out of raw flesh,
And if the victim fails to admit guilt.
Tubes are sent through the mouth for boiling water
To scald the stomach and sensitive regions inside
Or nails driven through feet, palms or fingers
Or pinning unheard of places to accentuate the pain,
And if the victim fails to admit guilt
One final fatal battery of assaults, and then a ward
For final rites, and for relatives another death,
Too late for the hundred habeas corpus for them
Or for himself, to find a way back to freedom and life*

Tilak A. Gunawardhana

SHOT THE OTHER DAY, BURIED THIS DAY

The annual commemoration to pay homage to those Tamil martyrs who made the supreme sacrifice for the freedom of their homeland, those wounded and maimed in action and to those civilians who were killed, maimed and wounded by the soldiers of Sinhala chauvinism and Indian expansionism was held on October 16, at Camden Centre, London.

A musical drama "*Shot the other day, Buried this day*" by London Tamil children was enjoyed greatly. The theme was the assassination of Mahatma Gandhi by Nathuram Godse on 30th January, 1948 and the burial of the Gandhian principles of Ahimsa and Non-violence in Tamil Eelam by the IPKF engaged in violent acts of killing, wounding and maiming innocent Tamils, looting and causing wanton destruction to their property and also raping of Tamil girls and women at the behest of the Mahatma's namesake. A dance sequence was also introduced in the scene where Godse invoked the blessings of an evil spirit to create chaos in India.

Another item was "Motherland Ties" in the style of our village drama (Naattukoothu) portraying the future of the Tamils living in all parts of the world and their relationship with the motherland.



The final event of the night was the drama "*Where art thou fleeing?*" staged by Eelakooththan, and directed by A. Tarcisius, a well-known theatre personality. It portrayed the plight of Eelam Tamils since independence, particularly from the time of the communal riots in 1958 to the present day, highlighting the atroc-

ities committed against them by the Sinhala majority. The drama commenced with the characters getting on to the stage in a running motion shouting "we shall flee, we shall flee....to save our lives."



A line from an old poem by Kaniyan Poonkunranaar "*Yaathum ooray, yavarum kerlir*" meaning "Every country is my country, All are my kinsmen" was quoted by one of the characters who also expressed the view that he could take refuge in any country in the world. The futility of the Tamils wanting to get back to their jobs, forgetting the destruction of lives and property caused to them after each pogrom, as a gesture of unity was depicted. In spite of this gesture, the atrocities became more severe each time which finally led to a breaking point, that is, the conviction that this gesture was interpreted as inherent weakness and which would result in eternal servitude and ultimate extermination with the active support of external forces who in spite of their understanding of the problems were not sympathetic to the sufferings of the Tamils. **The inactivity of the UN when several thousands of people were being massacred was very vividly portrayed with the setting up on the stage of a large map of the globe with the words "UN" and a person standing beside it and occasionally murmuring "What is the problem over there?" and stopping the murmur when hearing the utterances of "Buddhang Charanang...." by another character representing the Government of Ceylon.**

It was at this juncture the decision

was taken to stop fleeing and to face the onslaught of the majority and to fight for the lost rights. The climax to the drama was the request from one of the characters in the form of a song. The birds seeking freedom having spotted a hunter with the net, that is India with the food parcels in one hand and arms in the other hand and unheeding the advice of the head bird and having clearly perceived the intentions of the hunter fall into the net laid by the hunter and later struggle to free them. After watching their struggles the head bird goes



down to them and urges them to join him exhorting them thus "Oh fellow birds, awake, and arise to remove the shackles of servitude."

The direction and setting of this drama has been exceptionally good, devoid of the usual accompaniments. A similar style drama, "*Meendum Ramayanam, Meendum Baratham*" was staged by Eelakooththan and directed by A. Tarcisius at a celebration organised in April, 1986.

FLASH !

TWO COLOMBO MINISTERS RESIGN

Dr Nissanka Wijeyeratna, the Justice Minister and Mr Shelton Ranaraja, the Deputy Justice Minister resigned on November 12, protesting at the failure of the Sri Lankan President to stick to an earlier decision to dissolve Parliament.

Thirukkural

By S Sriskandarajah

உள்ளக் களித்தலும் காண மகிழ்தலும்
கள்ளுக்கில் காமத்திற்கு உண்டு.

"Ullak Kaliththalam Kaana Mahizhthalam Kallukku
Il Kaamaththitku Undu" -Transliteration

To please by thought and cheer by sight is peculiar, not to toddy, but to love -
Translation

Like the Kural we discussed in our earlier article, this one is also from Kaamaththuppaal. Like many other Kurals of Thiruvalluvar, this Kural also shows the profundity and pun-ditry of Thiruvalluvar.

This Kural may be taken as a follow-up of the episode portrayed in our earlier article. The love-torn girl and her boy friend had several meetings and the time came for the boy to depart on a mission outside his town and he bade goodbye. Though on earlier occasions, when the time for parting arrived, the girl sulked and grew gloomy, on this occasion the girl remained calm and collected. On seeing this unusual behaviour the foster mother of the girl asked her why she was remaining abnormally unperturbed on this occasion. She expected the girl to react uncomfortably. But the girl sported a smile and gave the above Kural as her reply.

Thiruvalluvar has in his great Thirukkural allocated a full Chapter on the subject of **Taking toddy** which is meant to include taking of all kinds

of liquor. Chapter 93 of the Thirukkural dwells on "Non-consumption of toddy." From the manner he has treated this Chapter it is evident that Thiruvalluvar has done a thorough research on the effects of liquor. He has employed his knowledge of liquor, in Kaamaththuppal, to picturesquely portray the many tender feelings of love and affection.

Now, back to the reply given by the girl to her foster mother. "You have, my mother, concernedly asked me as to why I did not make a hue and cry when my dear lover bade me goodbye. One reason is that we have now got to know each other fully and have developed an understanding. The other reason is that the love and affection that has now grown between us is such that the very thought of him, his actions and noble qualities make me feel jubilant and enthralled all the time. What a wonderful power this feeling of love has. I have heard the addicts of liquor say wonderful things about the euphoric effect of toddy. But that euphoria cannot hold a candle to this wondrous feeling of love. A tippler

never feels elated at the thought of toddy; he does not feel cheered or tickled even on seeing the stuff poured into the drinking vessel. But this divine feeling of love is marvellous and has no parallel. Even when my lover is not by my side when I think of him and his love making, I am transported to a dreamy world of pleasurable titillation. When I see him I am cheered, aroused and feel on top of the world. By reason of this magical power of love that has of late electrified my whole being, I don't nowadays feel the pangs of separation that I used to feel at the initial stages of my contact with my lover. This then is the reason why I took it cool when he came a while ago to take leave of me."

EXCLUSIVENESS WILL FAIL

By a Catholic Tamil

In 1985, in the Town Branch YMCA in the city of Rangoon, there was a secretary who was an integrationist. His wife used to put on tilak on her forehead with Kunkumam and sandal paste. She used to put Rangoli or Kolam in front of her house. Other Catholics in the community objected to this practice saying that it was irreligious. She would not agree and continued the practice. The complaint was then made to the husband. The husband, the Secretary of the YMCA, also refused to oblige. He just asked "What is wrong with this practice?" The objecting group said that it was a Hindu custom and as Catholics they should not adopt it. The Secretary refused to budge. He said "Kunkumam, sandal, saanthu... are cosmetics, part of your toiletries. It is much better than lipstick. Rangoli is an art to beautify your portico, and to keep it clean. There are lots of things in Hinduism that we will do well to adopt. Don't say that the Hindus eat with their right hand, so we should eat with our left hand, the Hindu works by day and sleeps by night, so we should work in the night and sleep in the day". Much water has flowed under the bridge since then. Today almost all Catholic girls wear Tilak on their forehead and dress like Hindu girls. Exclusiveness is bound to fail in the long run.

MALDIVES COUP: CONFUSION CONTINUES

The death toll from the attempted coup on November 3 to overthrow the Maldivian government remains uncertain. The coup reportedly began at dawn when about 150 armed mercenaries arrived by boat from Sri Lanka and attacked the Presidential palace. At least 20 people are reported to have been killed in the initial fighting.

The mercenaries, apparently Sri Lankan nationals, are believed to have been recruited in Colombo. They commandeered a freighter to make their get away, taking with them 27 hostages; seven of whom are said to be foreigners. Indian naval forces who captured the ship three days later,

found four of the hostages dead and three missing. Among the wounded who have been taken to Trivandram, is the Maldivian Transport Minister. Indian paratroops and navy vessels were sent to the Maldives in response to a request from the Maldives government. The Maldives, formerly a British Protectorate, achieved independence nearly 25 years ago. Since his election 10 years ago, President Gayoom has been the target of three abortive coups. During one of the attempts in 1980, nine British mercenaries were hired to assassinate him. But the plan collapsed when it was leaked to the news media in Sri Lanka.

ASK RANI IS A NEW FEATURE FOR TVI READERS WHO ARE ENCOURAGED TO SEND QUESTIONS ON ANY PERSONAL MATTER. PLEASE WRITE TO: RANI, TVI, P O BOX 228, WEMBLEY, MIDDLESEX HA9 8SZ. IF YOU NEED A PRIVATE REPLY PLEASE ENCLOSE AN SAE. STRICTEST CONFIDENTIALITY IS ASSURED.

ASK RANI

EAST MEETS WEST

Dear Rani I am a teenager who is finding it difficult to live in this culture. There is a lack of religious and social values, and Tamils I meet do not seem to want to know their language or their roots. My language is important to me, but there are few of my age who share that feeling. Instead of being proud of the Tigers' struggle on our behalf, many are ashamed to say that they are Tamils because of all the killings, and appear to have no sympathy with what is happening in Sri Lanka. I find it difficult to mix at school with students who smoke and drink at 14 or 15. I don't see the point of being here for the sake of a good education when I think it is more important to be happy. If only children would discuss the problems in Sri Lanka with one another then more will become aware of the sufferings of our people. Why can't Tamil parents at least make the effort to send their children to Tamil schools and teach them religious values instead of encouraging them to adopt the habits and manners of people here? SAKTHY,
LONDON

Rani replies: *Your words bring an ache to my heart as I remember the years spent away from my mother in a boarding school because it was "good" for me. Times have not changed much. In retrospect, however, I am grateful for that experience because it taught me many things, including self-reliance. The life-style that you talk of, and the absence of spiritual values, is unfortunately not unique to Britain or to the West. It is of course a matter of personal choice whether one supports the Tigers, other militant groups or do nothing at all. But I agree that the onus is on parents to inculcate in their children values such as whether to smoke, drink or not; respect for other beings, human and animal; and a sense of responsibility towards other people. Clearly adults need to set a much better example than they are at*

present, and perhaps someone like you Sakthy will act as their conscience.

NO CAUSE FOR JEALOUSY

Dear Rani I have been married for nearly 7 years. Although I have no reason to suspect my husband, I am overcome with uncontrollable jealousy whenever I see him talking to another woman at parties and other social occasions. I am sure he has to talk to women at work, but since I am not there it doesn't worry me. When I have told him about it, he says that I am being silly. Am I? MALA,
HARROW

Rani replies: *Frankly, yes. How would you feel if your husband reacted in the same way everytime you talked to a man (I would find it hard to believe that you never do). You say yourself that he has never given you cause to think that he cares for anyone else. If you continue in this manner, he may well think an alternative might be better. Next time you see your husband talking to a woman, why don't you go and join the conversation. I have every reason to expect that you will find it as enjoyable an experience as he does.*

DIABETES AND DIET

Dear Rani I am a diabetic on tablets. Much of the material I have read relates to a Western diet. I have been told that bitter gourd is good for diabetes. Is this correct? KRISHNA,
WIMBLEDON.

Rani replies: *The British Diabetic Association (BDA) recently noted that the traditional Asian diet which is essentially low fat, high fibre and high carbohydrate is closer to BDA recommendations than a Western diet. The BDA suggests a greater use of margarine, and oils such as sunflower, safflower for cooking; the inclusion of dhal as often as possible; and lean cut if you eat meat. Bitter gourd has been traditionally used as a treatment for diabetes as it reduces the rise in blood*



glucose after meals. It is important, however, that you inform your doctor that you are using bitter gourd to help control your diabetes, particularly if you need to go on insulin at any stage.

TAMIL SOLIDARITY

Dear Rani The earnestness to be together, to co-operate and to work unitedly: Is it lacking in every freedom movement of the world, or is it confined to the Tamils alone? Or, is it absent only in the Eastern countries? SUNDARAM,
WEMBLEY.

Rani replies: *"United we stand, divided we fall" is an adage that many a freedom movement throughout history has ignored at its own peril. Factionalism rears its head when partisan, parochial and personal interests are placed above the common interest of liberating the oppressed. It is by no means confined to the East or to the Tamils alone. But freedom movements have succeeded only where unity has been forged for the common purpose; take Zimbabwe, Nicaragua and Bangladesh as three relatively recent examples. For the sake of our suffering sisters and brothers, it is vital that every Tamil wherever they live identifies with the struggle of our people. To those who turn a blind eye, I recall the words of Isabel Allende in 'The House of the Spirits': "This horror that was taking place parallel to the peaceful existence of those who did not want to know, who could afford the illusion of a normal life, and of those who could deny that they were on a raft adrift in a sea of sorrow, ignoring, despite all evidence, that only blocks away from their happy world there were others, these others who live or die on the dark side."*

INDO-SRI LANKA ACCORD AND ETHNIC POLITICAL PARTIES IN TAMIL NADU

By Dr G. Palanithurai,
Annamalai University, India

It is obvious from what is happening in Sri Lanka that the accord has only transferred the responsibility of decimating the Tamil population and destroying the Tamil economy from the Sinhala army to the IPKF. In 1983, when the Sri Lankan army indulged in mass massacre, looting and raping, the Indian government, the media, people in their tens of thousands raised their voices and condemned outright these brutal and inhuman acts and criticised the Sri Lankan Government for its violation of human rights describing it as genocide. Representations were made to various international bodies. Such reactions of the people and political parties contributed in enormous measure in forcing the Central Government of India to take certain positive steps. Ministers from Delhi were sent to Colombo to express in no uncertain terms the feelings and emotions of the people of India over the happenings in Sri Lanka.

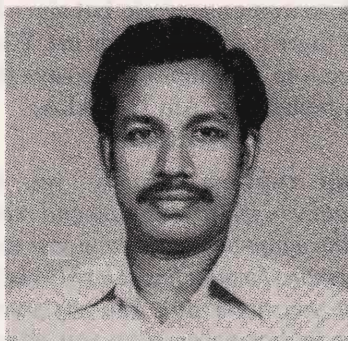
Tamil Nadu base for Eelam Liberation

Until the moment the Central Government entered into an agreement with Sri Lanka in 1987, the political parties in Tamil Nadu reacted sharply to the issues dividing the ethnic groups of Sri Lanka. When two prominent leaders, Chandrashekar and Balasingham, were served with an order of deportation, the other parties, on the initiative of the DMK and Eelam Tamil supporters' organisation mobilised the masses and launched an agitation demanding the immediate withdrawal of the order. The Governments, both the central and the state, had to face the wrath of the public. Even the Congress (I) representatives from Tamil Nadu met the Prime Minister and appealed to him to revoke the order. Ultimately it was revoked. Thus it has been proved beyond doubt that if the political parties mobilised the masses, feeding them with the right kind of information, the governments, whether central or state, would have had to respond to the people's emotions and feelings. For the Tamil Eelam liberation movement, Tamil Nadu acted as a base and the Tamil people closely

followed developments in Sri Lanka.

Madras toed Delhi's line

The post-Accord developments in Tamil Nadu politics revealed a different experience with researchers posing the question as to what extent the ethnic political parties continue their support of and solidarity with the movement and how it is being done. Signing of an agreement by India with Sri Lanka for meeting the aspirations of the Tamils was a historic event from the perspective of the Indian government. It was so crucial that it should have been carefully monitored by the political parties in Tamil Nadu whose reactions could



Dr. G. Palanithurai

have been clearly expressed to the central Government. Unfortunately, even though an ethnic political party was in power in Madras, it toed the line of the Central Government. The other political parties, also organised on ethnic lines, were supposed to mobilise the people to prevent the government from signing the Accord, if the provisions of the accord did not satisfy the basic aspirations of the Tamil people. But the major ethnic political parties in Tamil Nadu, which were expected to protect the interests of their fellow Tamils, kept silent for a period even after Prabaharan declared that the accord did not meet the basic requirements of the Tamils. Only Tamil Nadu Kavaraj Congress and Dravidar Kazhagam jointly organised mass rallies with the support of minor organisations. At this juncture the Central Government gauged the capacity for resistance of the parties in Tamil Nadu.

Impact of M G R's death

One more factor that caused great damage to the Tamil issue was the

demise of M.G. Ramachandran. Until his death the other political parties mobilised the masses in the cause of the Tamils of Sri Lanka in order to embarrass the ruling party. The ruling AIADMK, to save its reputation, exerted pressure on the central government. But after MGR died and the AIADMK government collapsed, the political parties assumed a different stance. The Central Government was inclined thereafter to ignore the genuine feelings of the people of Tamil Nadu. Had the political parties jointly or separately taken concerted action to pressurise the Central Government to implement the accord in the spirit of the understanding reached between the Indian Government and the LTTE, things would have been different in Sri Lanka. But the political parties became fearful of the Central Government. They kept their profile so low that any agitation against the Central Government was not in their programme.

Pre-poll awakening

International Amnesty has revealed that the massacres committed by the IPKF have been more numerous than those committed by the Sri Lankan army. But the political parties of Tamil Nadu have failed to stir the emotions of the people against the misdeeds of the IPKF. The political parties fear that the Central Government may react vehemently to any action they may launch and that would affect their electoral prospects in the forthcoming Tamil Nadu Assembly polls. However, they are not averse to use this issue on the public platform to gain support for their electoral victory. Since the elections are not far away, the political parties have again begun to take up the fate of the Sri Lankan Tamils on all the platforms. In the next few weeks one will see the parties expressing vociferous support for the cause of Tamil Eelam. The people of Tamil Nadu are shrewd enough to judge which parties are genuine and the outcome will be a turning point in the political history of Tamil Eelam. Surely, it must herald a new deal for their sorely oppressed and battered kin across the narrow Straits.

Point of view

WHY CAN'T THE SINHALESE ACCEPT THE OBVIOUS SOLUTION?

By Lt.Col.Anton J.N.Selvadurai

It is high time the Sinhalese realised that the Tamils of Sri Lanka also have a historical right of living an independent existence in the land of their fathers. The Sinhalese don't seem to realise that a Dravidian Megalithic civilisation existed in the Northern half of Sri Lanka. There is evidence of this in Pomparippu in Puttalam, Thirukketheesvaram in Mannar, in Anuradhapura, Trincomalee and in Anaicottai in Jaffna. With the 'Kattumaram' (Catamaran) in existence, one does not have to be an historian to realise that with only 21 miles separating Sri Lanka from Tamil Nadu, the Tamils would have been in Sri Lanka before the arrival of Vijaya, the so-called progenitor of the so-called Aryan Sinhala race.

It seems obvious - as suggested by Dr.Brian Senewiratne and Jehan Perera - that a Federal form of Government is the only political solution in multi-racial Sri Lanka. It is interesting to note that SWRD Bandaranaike also said the same thing, but was thwarted in his efforts with Mr.Chelvanayagam by the powerful Sangha led by J.R.Jayewardene who forced him to abrogate the pact the two had agreed upon. A Federal

Government with many federal states would be more acceptable to the Sinhalese rather than one Tamil Federal State and probably more pragmatic.

Why can't the Sinhalese accept the obvious solution? **Can't they even now realise that the Sangha and the extreme Sinhala Buddhist chauvinists are narrow-minded and parochial and selfish and want to retain their power at all cost?** We still remember the "Poya Holidays" fiasco introduced by the Bandaranaike regime to appease the Sangha, despite the fact that Burma had tried it out and failed miserably. We refuse to learn from the mistakes of others! One must not let EMOTION get the better of REASON.

It is time the Sinhalese got out of the rut of the retrogressive "Mahavamsa" mentality and act realistically and intelligently. They must 'grow up' with the times, and learn from history and current world events and avoid the chronic situation that is now prevailing in Palestine and Northern Ireland. The Sinhalese must show their credibility with suitable ACTIONS and not mere promises, which have been broken again and again.

The first thing to do is to stop COLONISATION of the Eastern Province and negotiate with the Tamils.

The Sinhalese and the Tamils must settle their differences and unite against India who is now our common enemy, cunningly forced into this embarrassing situation by the USA. It is not an impossibility for 'BIG BROTHER' India to think big and claim Sri Lanka on the grounds that it was originally a part of South India before it separated to become an island. It would be not unlike Israel claiming Palestine for reasons of Biblical history.

The geo-political interests of India cannot be overlooked. There should be no problems regarding this if a United Federation of Sri Lanka stands up to India and gets her to withdraw her forces from the island with the guarantee that Indian security in the Indian Ocean will not be compromised.

For a people who are embroiled in an ethnic struggle it also involves individual struggles of self to overcome emotion and wrong-ingrained beliefs and to transcend such odds. We, as a people, must transcend ourselves and come out victorious and happy. As with Japan, Germany and South Korea, we must rise from the ashes and have the alchemist's dream of turning lead into gold. So let's go for gold!

SWAMY FOR EELAM IF IPKF ASKED TO PULL OUT

The Janata party leader, Dr.Subramaniam Swamy, has urged the government to prepare a contingency plan to establish Tamil Eelam in case the IPKF is asked to pull out of Sri Lanka. He made this call in the context of the declared stand on the Indo-Sri Lanka accord of the two presidential candidates in the forthcoming elections in Sri Lanka.

Speaking to newsmen in Madras on October 29, Dr.Swamy said New Delhi should make it clear that if the IPKF was asked to withdraw (which Sri Lankan president could do in accordance with the accord),

India would have no alternative but help carve out an independent Eelam "like we did in the case of Bangladesh." Stating that **creating Tamil Eelam was the "only viable solution"**, the Janata Party leader expressed the view that Tamils in Sri Lanka would be "butchered" if the peace-keeping force withdrew at this stage.

In response to a question, Dr. Swamy observed that the Eelam call did not represent the Janata Party or the National Front stand. "This stand is what every self-respecting Tamil should take", he said. He added that he would dis-

cuss with the DMK president, Mr. Karunanidhi, the possibility of reviving the Eelam agitation. (Courtesy - 'Times of India' - Oct.30, 1988)



POLITICAL SOLUTION TO ETHNIC PROBLEM IN SRI LANKA

(Letter addressed to Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi with copy to President Jayewardene by Rev. Dr. S. J. Emmanuel, Director, and A. Santhiapillai, Secretary, Centre for Better Society, Jaffna)

We of this Centre, concerned about the betterment of Society, are disturbed by and suspicious of the recent happenings here. We feel certain that a very dangerous situation is brewing.

Under baffling secrecy and very tight security an "election" to the North-East Provincial Council was staged here. From the 6th to 10th October, the Kachcheri-Secretariat premises, with a considerable area around it and even the access roads, were totally sealed off to all civilians. The people living around the Secretariat were under house arrest throughout. Critically ill persons were denied transport facilities for medical aid. Even the doors of all houses facing the approach roads had to be kept closed during certain hours of the day. Only the security forces and a selected few protected by them could move in or out. **Thus it was not surprising that nominations of any**

others were not handed in.

It is generally feared that this process will lead to some armed parties being set up against other similar parties. The consequence is clear to us who have already experienced a series of massacres. We have suffered enough death and destruction and cannot bear any further burden. The people long for a political settlement and fair elections. They have undergone colossal losses and sacrifice fighting for lost rights. But it is feared that through such ill-timed and improperly conducted elections some pseudo-settlement which is worse than no settlement is about to be thrust upon us.

We are sure you are genuinely interested in justice and equality prevailing here. We appreciate it and thank you for it. But we are also afraid that you are being forced to deviate from this stand due to pressure from the Sri Lankan Government and

other interests.

The recent release of the two IPKF soldiers captured by the LTTE demonstrates the latter's continued goodwill towards India and their willingness to work with you to arrive at a just solution. It is unjust to state that their alleged intransigent stand is a result of their inability to face the ballot. On the other hand their stubbornness in refusing to accept the recent proposals for an unworkable solution has to be judged against the background of the repeated failure to honour pacts made with the Sri Lankan government during the past three decades.

We, therefore, humbly entreat you in the name of the Tamil society to continue with the negotiations and arrive at a just and fair solution in order to create the proper climate before the normal democratic process is set in motion.

INDIA, ARE YOU REALLY PROUD? Dr K James

To Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi and President Jayewardene the word 'peace' seems to have a very different meaning. They entered into an Accord without genuine intentions of peace, but to outwit and outmanoeuvre each other, and others. The remedy they both prescribed for Sri Lanka's malady has turned out to be an absolute tragedy.

Sri Lanka on the brink of anarchy

All independent political observers agree that Sri Lanka is on the brink of anarchy. New Delhi and Colombo have bungled the peace process by political misjudgement. The sad fact is that even at this late hour there seem to be no signs indicating any understanding or sensitivity to the true feelings of the people in Sri Lanka and it may be that these two men at the helm of affairs have become captives of their own creations and now lack all capacity and imagination to find a dignified and honourable way out. They both appear to be hell bent on prescribing the same old remedies which have disastrously failed.

IPKF promoting internecine war

Indians are arming sundry groups and aiding internecine warfare. Indian army is carrying out extrajudicial killings of young Tamils suspected of Tiger sympathies. Indian commanders like Brig. Manjith Singh show contempt for the laws of the land and its courts. How could they bring normalcy and peace to Sri Lanka? The South Africans and Israelites are learning fast from Rajiv Gandhi's India, about democracy and elections. Their Generals too are learning from the Indians how to control and manage political dissent in occupied lands. An Israeli commented in London that they are not doing anything different or worse in Gaza and West Bank than what the Indian army is doing in Sri Lanka's Tamil areas. "We are maintaining peace" he added. Rajiv Gandhi may be happy to hear that his example and his army's techniques are emulated by others.

Rajiv's peace passeth all understanding

Rajiv Gandhi's India has undoub-

tedly given a very new meaning in the political world to 'peace', 'peace accord', 'peace process' and 'peace-keeping forces'. There have been peace keeping forces of the United Nations and of individual countries maintaining peace and reducing tensions in many parts of the world. There is present even today a contingent of the Turkish army in Cyprus maintaining peace by keeping the warring communities apart. The conduct of the Indian army in Sri Lanka is somewhat unique and unprecedented. One Indian General, like many South African Generals, found an explanation for their behaviour. He said in all honesty that they are not a truly peace-keeping force but an accord implementation force, and they are on a politico-military operation in Sri Lanka. Has he let the cat out of the bag? Will Rajiv Gandhi have the same honesty as some of his Generals to accept that this Agreement he signed with Jayewardene is not a peace accord but a political accord, that was hatched by using the unfortunate Tamils. Rajiv, will you have that honesty?

Contradictions in Rajiv's Sri Lanka policy

The island was never a single polity. The observation of the first British official in June 1799 clearly stated that the possession of the island was divided between two nations, the Sinhalese and the Tamils, and a map showing the division was prepared for the information of the Colonial Office. The Portuguese, the Dutch and the British till 1833 maintained separate administrative organisations for the Sinhala and Tamil territories.

In 1833, the whole island was brought under a single administrative unit. At every stage of constitutional advance, the Tamils demanded safeguards against domination by the Sinhala ethnic majority. Ultimately when a responsible government was restored in 1947, a clause was inserted in the Constitution which denied the Parliament capacity to enact laws discriminatory, in favour of or adverse to any one community. This was agreed to jointly by the British and the Sinhalese. The insertion of that clause was not for the Tamils; it was not the result of any agreement between the Sinhalese and the Tamils. Just like the Gandhi-Jayewardene Accord, it was an accord between the Sinhala majority and the departing British without any understanding being reached with the Tamils.

The Parliament was not a sovereign Parliament. In this context, the enactment of the Sinhala Only Act could be declared ultra vires by an appropriate court. In fact there was already a case before the Privy Council challenging the validity of the Sinhala Only Act. Therefore, it became necessary to protect the Sinhala Only Act by hook or by crook.

A fraudulent intent underlies the creation of the Republic: the Constitution of the Republic of Sri Lanka is not legally valid in the northern and eastern provinces. Thus, the revolting militants were fighting against an unlawful aggressor.

But Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi will not hear anything suggestive of an unlawful entity in respect of Sri Lanka. In respect of Fiji, he draws

attention to the nature of the Fujian Constitution and insists that it should be respected. But he would not hear of the legal infirmities or the fraud underlying the Sri Lankan Constitution. For reasons of geo-political strategy, he wants the fiction of a single polity of Sri Lanka with national sovereignty and territorial integrity embracing the whole island. He can throttle Sri Lanka by making use of the Tamils and their revolt if only he proclaims that Sri Lanka is one sovereign, integrated, political unit. In order to overawe Sinhala Sri Lanka he has got to maintain the fiction of an integrated Sri Lanka within which Tamils are a discontented, subjugated lot.

It is obvious, now, that the relationship must be guaranteed by India; the safety and security of the people of Eelam should be assured by the presence of the Indian armed forces. But unfortunately it does not appear that Rajiv Gandhi's government is sincere about the merger of the two provinces. The two provinces form the homeland of the Tamils, and every Tamil, militant or non-militant, man or woman, child or adult is of one mind in regard to the preservation of the homeland. When President Zail Singh was invited by the chief minister of Jammu Kashmir to settle down in Kashmir after retirement, the former pointed out that under the law of the land he could not own immovable property in Kashmir. Is a more telling proof of the importance of preserving the homeland necessary? In Nagaland only the indigenous people have the vote. The cut-off date for citizenship, implying voting rights, has been the crux of controversy in respect of Assam. All these are restrictions against the inflow of outsiders.

However, in the northern and eastern provinces the homeland is violated by mass colonisation schemes carried out by the state under which Sinhalese selected on the basis of their criminal record and those selected by politicians for their racist and chauvinistic outlook are settled in the midst of Tamil villages with the obvious object of annihilating the Tamils. The aim is to alter the demographic pattern as well as to make it impossible

for the Tamils to live in their homes.

India does not agree to a referendum in Kashmir on the grounds that traditional territories are not to change hands on the basis of plebiscite which would be influenced by extraneous forces. But on the question of merger of the eastern province, the accord signed by Rajiv Gandhi, of his own volition, makes the decision to be determined by future colonisation of the territory by Sinhalese of dubious extraction, for the special purpose of colonising the traditional homeland of the Tamils.

According to an editorial of *The Hindu*: The attitude of the Sri Lankan government towards the devolution package supposed to be settled with India has been distinctly unhelpful; the substance of the package is known to be not up to India's expectations and falls considerably short of what even the Tamil moderates, the TULF, leaders want. President Jayewardene had said over the radio that Sinhala armed forces would be there to protect the Sinhala colonists and that the Indian forces would not go there. If the Indian Peace Keeping Force is responsible for the safety of the people of all communities and Sinhala armed forces are to withdraw to the barracks, as stated in the Accord, the instruction to the Sinhala armed forces to protect the Sinhalese, breaks the back bone of the Accord.

Rajiv Gandhi has done a number of things in this connection which indicate that as a mediator he has gone out of the way to help Jayewardene and his government. The Galle Face Green Accord which, in the final analysis, is only an accord between two individuals, notwithstanding the high political positions they hold, has created more violence and discord than it sought to remedy. In the north and the east, the Indian Peace Keeping Force is waging a ruthless war against the Tamils. What they are fighting for is still a mystery.

(Extracts from *SRI LANKA: THE CONFLICT WITHIN* by Somasundaram Vanniasingham published by *Lancer International, New Delhi*. Price Rs 200)

NEW DELHI TO CHALLENGE TAMIL TIGERS

(Violent rivalry between militant groups - some backed by India - in the run up to next month's elections makes a political solution in Sri Lanka even more difficult. - Bruce Palling reporting from Jaffna)

A painting of a camouflaged dove with an olive branch signposts the heavily sandbagged Indian 'civil affairs cell' on the edge of the wasteland surrounding the Jaffna fort. Next to it is the fortified headquarters of the Eelam People's Revolutionary Liberation Front (EPRLF), the main Tamil ally of the Indian Peace Keeping Force (IPKF) in the Jaffna peninsula. Behind an iron gate, apprehensive youths clutch sten guns and pistols issued to them by RAW, the Indian intelligence agency. The Indian guards outside shrug when asked if this is the EPRLF's office, but once a visitor enters the house they barge in unannounced and demand to see his identity papers.

The Tamil Tigers have threatened to kill anyone who stands in next month's provincial council elections. The Tigers believe that last year's Indo-Sri Lankan accord is aimed at thwarting their goal of creating "Eelam" or a separate Tamil homeland. **In recent months the Indian government has sanctioned the covert return of some militant groups and leaders to Jaffna in an attempt to challenge the Tigers' supremacy. The EPRLF is the only militant group to defy the Tamil Tigers and put up candidates for the elections. They face the task of ruling one million Tamils, most of whom still support the Tigers.**

The EPRLF has been accused by the Tigers and many others of organising hit squads to eliminate known Tiger supporters. Kandiah Premachandran, 33, designated leader of the Jaffna district council, denies this, saying, "So far we have not killed anybody. There have been a few killings here and there, but nobody knows who is behind them. Not a single EPRLF chap has been killed since nominations closed last week." However, less than 100 yards from my hotel, an EPRLF supporter was gunned down by the Tigers. He unwittingly entered a printing press with close links to the Tigers to have a printing block made, and compounded his mistake by paying for it in Indian currency.

Mr. Premachandran said that the EPRLF enjoyed at least majority

support in the peninsula, saying that those who said otherwise were puppets of the LTTE. "The LTTE's struggle with the Indians is useless. They are not fighting for people's rights but just for money and power", he said. **All the Jaffna residents I spoke to claimed that the EPRLF had no support in the peninsula. One leading Tamil said, "The talk of the town is that the EPRLF have been brought here by the IPKF. Politics is a dirty game here, and we don't really know what's going on, but there is no support here at all for the EPRLF."**

Its main power base has been Batticaloa, in eastern Sri Lanka, since the Tigers eliminated 70 of its supporters in 1986. Next to the Indian guard-post at Palaly airport there is another heavily protected EPRLF camp.

The only important militant group that operates unarmed with the sanction of the Indians is the Eelam Revolutionary Organisation of Students (EROS). It is suspected of abducting and murdering a refugee official who refused to co-operate with them earlier in the year. Shankar Rajee, one of its leaders who was recently flown into the peninsula by the Indians, said, "The military conflict here is strictly between the Indians and Tigers. Once this is resolved, India should negotiate with all of the other groups too." EROS is opposed to the holding of provincial elections, he said, because under the frequent curfews and ban on public meetings "we are not too sure about how the Tamil people feel." However, he added that "one of the thoughts going around the various groups is that if Eelam is not on the cards, why bring India into it? We can negotiate directly with Colombo for a bi-zonal, bi-lingual federal republic." One senior Indian army officer was optimistic: "People here are very adept at survival, and they will soon appreciate even a small return to normal life" he said.

Opposite the EPRLF office in Jaffna is the Ashok Hotel, which was badly damaged during last year's campaign against the Tigers. "We have to bring the LTTE into the mainstream before

we can have peace", a hotel spokesman said. "Most of the people are very partial to them, but now they are afraid to open their mouths, and it is getting worse. People want to be free, but they are not against India. If they go, it will become like Lebanon, and all the groups will have guns and their own pieces of territory." (By courtesy 'The Independent' - Oct. 26, 1988)

SAD MEMORIES OF HOSPITAL MASSACRE

Dr. Ramni Seermaaran

Almost an year has passed but memories cannot be erased from the minds of those of us who were eyewitnesses to the tragic incidents and who personally experienced the misery of those two days of massacre at the Jaffna General (Teaching) Hospital, on 21 and 22 October, 1987, by the IPKF.

The dead included Dr. A. Sivapathasundaram, MRCP, a Consultant Paediatrician; Dr. M. Ganesharatnam, S.H.O.; Dr. Parimelalakar; Mrs. Vadi-velu, Matron; Nurses Arasi and Seetha; Overseers Selvarajah and Selladurai; Ambulance Driver Tharmalingam and 17 minor employees. Dr. S. Raviraj, Dr. S. Nadarajah, Dr. S. Subakumar, Dr. A. Sripathy, Dr. R. Seermaaran and the rest of the hospital employees identified the dead bodies one by one and salvaged their personal properties such as stethoscopes, spectacles, wrist-watches, jewellery like rings and earrings, keys, purses, and labelled them individually to be handed over to their respective families.

All the bodies were moved to the backyard of the hospital, adjoining the mortuary. With the help of two barrels of petrol ('gifted' by the IPKF) and planks and timber collected from the damaged buildings, they were cremated in the presence of the IPKF officers, the rest of the grieving hospital staff and patients who were lucky enough to escape the massacre.

Eelam Tamil community will remember for ever these martyrs who had done enormous service, and finally sacrificed their lives, for the hospital and the people.

FORTNIGHTLY FORUM

"What has the IPKF ultimately achieved in Sri Lanka? Practically nothing. Soldiers who would have heroically laid down their lives for their motherland met an untimely end for the sake of another country," wrote a 'Sunday' correspondent last month. He went on to say that his brother was one such soldier whose death added to the long list of elite officers who have lost their lives. **"If this is the outcome of a peace mission" he asks, "one wonders what a real war would be like?"**

IPKF HEAVY CASUALTIES

The Indian army viewed the Sri Lankan operation as a perfect training ground for troops with minimal fighting experience. Over a year after the IPKF launched its first offensive against the LTTE though, more than 500 Indian soldiers have died and 1500 been wounded. IPKF forces have grown from 6000 to more than 60,000 strong; yet it has failed to disarm or neutralise its one-time allies, the LTTE (Figures, according to Indian officials). In spite of the number of casualties, many younger officers still harbour sympathy for the rebel cause, according to the 'Independent', and find it difficult to motivate their men. There are other mitigating factors. Commanders on the ground report the worst jungle conditions they have ever encountered, with undergrowth so thick that it can take a soldier a whole day to hack 200 yards forward. Lack of water is another serious problem. Troops have to survive on one-and-a-half litres a day, instead of the four or five they need. Some are suffering the effects of dehydration, and sniffer dogs brought in to detect mines are dying from the same symptoms.

STALEMATE, NOT 'CHECKMATE'

More importantly, they point to the Tigers' strong command structure, their familiarity with the terrain, and the ability to hide their weapons and merge with the local population when the heat is on. Arms supplies are still being smuggled in with ease from Tamil Nadu and Singapore, and contributions continue to come in from Tamil expatriates all over the world.

In short, the message from the jungles is that the IPKF operations code-named 'Checkmate' have instead reached a stalemate, and peace is not in sight.

'NO HOPE FOR US TO WIN'

Nonetheless, according to a Sinhala correspondent to the 'Arab News', the Accord "is a stroke of political genius by President Jayewardene" although anathema to "many misguided Sinhala Lankans, which (*sic*) sadly form the majority." He hopes that all the Sinhala Lankans who support the abrogation of the peace treaty "will also agree to send their sons to the war front and get ready for a long struggle which will strangle the country, and at the end of it Eelam would be achieved, as there is no hope for us to win." He ends with "a word of gratitude to the many Indian soldiers who have laid down their lives to neutralise an unscrupulous and vicious enemy."

JVP's SPECTACULAR CAMPAIGN

Meanwhile in the south of the island, the Sri Lankan authorities removed the 18-hour curfew in Colombo and several suburban towns. The curfew which followed a bomb attack on a city office of the UNP left eight party members dead and 42 injured. The Government blamed Sinhalese "subversives", its code word for the JVP. Week after week, the JVP's "patriotic war" against the government has brought life in Colombo and many towns across the island to a virtual standstill. In the past year, nearly 500 UNP stalwarts, Marxist supporters of the Accord, policemen, soldiers and state officials have been killed. Twelve thousand schools and seven University campuses - centres of prolonged unrest - remain closed after police shot three students dead. Mrs. Bandaranaike has rejected the UNP charge that her party is secretly helping the JVP's spectacular campaign of terror, sabotage and destabilisation.

UNP MANIFESTO'S CONTRADICTIONS

"We will seek a friendship treaty with India on the lines of the Indo-Soviet Friendship Treaty", thus states the

UNP manifesto released at the end of last month. The manifesto expresses the desire to build on the "achievements" of the Accord through dialogue and reciprocity, and calls for the phased withdrawal of the IPKF. This is qualified though by the statement that the withdrawal should only be after normality is attained in the North and the East. The manifesto waxes eloquent on the Accord through which: "...we succeeded in strengthening our good relations with India, its basis is the geopolitics of the region. It put our relations with her on a new and firm footing. Its sincerity is unquestionable." The sentiments are in marked contrast to those of Prime Minister and Presidential candidate Premadasa. It seems that the ruling party has yet again not got its act together.

SEYCHELLES CELEBRATES NAVARATHIRI

Tamils living outside their homelands organise themselves to preserve and foster the tradition, cultural patterns and their way of life for the benefit of the next generation. The Seychelles Hindu Kovil Sangam had a well organised KALAI VILZHA for the Navarathiri where dances and ballets were presented in Tamil. The highlight was a ballet "VALLI THIRUMANAM." The photo shows a scene from the ballet.



From left to right: Priyadharshini Sockalingam, Thulasi Sivapatham, Sivanangai Sivasupramaniam, Sivapavani Ambihavarani.

GANDHI TAKES LINE FROM BOTHA

By Sundari

The crucial question in the South African black township elections held on October 26 was not which candidate was best equipped to deal with the township problems, but whether black South Africans should be voting in an apartheid election at all. Despite the anti-apartheid movement's implacable opposition to participation in Pretoria's polls, President P.W.Botha was determined to produce a breed of compliant black officials. In this quest, the government, as long ago as February, banned all organisations that might have effectively resisted the elections. Dozens of those who called for a boycott were jailed over recent weeks. Pretoria then bombarded the townships with propaganda urging residents to vote. Yet evidence shows that Pretoria's endeavours have been in vain. In many townships across the country, the elections were uncontested; out of 297 wards in the East and West Rand regions of the Transvaal, for instance, 123 were uncontested. In some Eastern Cape municipalities not a single candidate stood for election.

How different are the Delhi-masterminded North-Eastern Provincial Council elections in Sri Lanka from the township elections in South Africa?

According to 'India Abroad', "having failed to win its war against the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam which entered the second year on October 10, India is left with no strategy in Sri Lanka." Nevertheless, **India in its determination to claim that the political component of the Accord has been delivered, has sanctioned the covert return of some militant groups to Jaffna for the purposes of the elections. EPRLF leaders were ferried from Madras to Jaffna, and together with the other two groups, TELO and ENDLF, also known as the 'Three Stars', 'won' all 36 seats in the north, uncontested.**

In the eastern province, there will be a triangular fight for 35 seats between these parties, the ruling UNP and the Sri Lanka Muslim Congress on November 19. (The United Socialist Alliance reversed its earlier decision to contest the elections, the main reason being that it does not want to put up candidates against the EPRLF with which it has political links). When the Muslim Congress finally agreed to contest the elections

the night before nominations closed, party representatives were flown by Indian Air Force helicopters to Amparai, Trincomalee and Batticaloa to submit lists of candidates to the Returning Officers.

The uncontested elections in the north have guaranteed the EPRLF a dominant role; the elections in the east acquire significance only insofar as the electoral exercise is given a

degree of credibility that it would otherwise have lacked. Black councillors in South Africa have no legitimacy because of the refusal of authentic black leaders to participate in President Botha's schemes. **In the eyes of the Tamil people, Delhi's vassals now in control of shadow councils, too, have no legitimacy in the absence of the LTTE.**

The Political Significance of Muslims of Sri Lanka

R Sambanthan

The Muslim community of Sri Lanka is Tamil speaking and therefore the Muslim population in Sri Lanka is part and parcel of the Tamil population. The redeeming feature of the Muslim community of Sri Lanka is that wherever they may live in Sri Lanka they adopt Tamil as their mother tongue and they speak Tamil. When the Sinhala Only Act was passed not only the Tamil population but the Muslims were also severely affected. Various discriminatory measures were legislated against the minorities by the Sri Lankan Government. But the Muslims did not protest as vehemently as the Tamils. Their method was to seek concessions and accommodation with the ruling party. As a result of the bitter struggles of the Tamils the Indo-Sri Lankan accord declares Tamil as an additional official language which will equally benefit the Muslims.

Mr Chelvanayagam when he founded the Federal Party went out of his way to woo the Muslims but the Muslims once having won the election through the Federal Party invariably crossed over to the ruling party unable to resist the temptation of office and power. **According to the census the demographic composition of the Eastern Province was as follows:**

Year	Tamils	Muslims	Sinhalese
1827	74.5%	24.7%	0.53%
1881	59.11%	33.7%	4.66%
1921	53.04%	39.06%	4.05%
1946	48.7%	39.06%	9.87%

After the land colonisation programmes were carried out with the support of the Government, the Government deliberately increased the settlement of Sinhalese in the Eastern Province. **In 1981 the Tamils constituted 42% and the Muslim 32% and the Sinhalese 25%. It is easily seen that there is a sudden spurt of Sinhala population. He pointed out that between 1947 and 1981 the natural increase of the Sin-**

hala population in the whole country was 238% but in the Eastern Province alone the increase of the Sinhala population was 883%. In a very exhaustive exposition of land allocation, he pointed out that administrative measures were adopted to demarcate vast tracts of land in the Eastern Province for Sinhala colonisation by converting them into Sinhala A.G.A. Divisions. So the Muslims realised the Government's intention of taking away the political majority of the Tamil people from the Eastern Province. Trincomalee being the most strategic natural harbour became the bone of contention between the Sinhala and the Tamil people. Since in a unitary state the majority Sinhalese will perpetually be in power and they will weaken the Tamils and eventually erode their political power, it was necessary to arrest the trend by either demanding a separate state or a federal constitution. Muslim population is not unaware of the inexorable logic of the Tamil speaking people and they stand together to realise our democratic aspirations. The TULF in its discussion with the Muslim leaders has promised more than their fair share in administration, in portfolios both in the Northern Province and the Eastern Province. The Muslims fear that when the Northern Province and the Eastern Province are united their political proportion will be reduced from about 33% to 17%. The Tamil leaders have allayed their fears that they will be given separate status so as to enjoy a decisive say in matters affecting them. Mr Sambanthan hoped that such special considerations will be made for the plantation Tamils in the Sinhala provinces. (excerpt from a recent speech "The Political significance of Muslims of Sri Lanka in the emergent political trends in the country" by Mr R Sambanthan, former M.P for Trincomalee)

EELAM NEWS

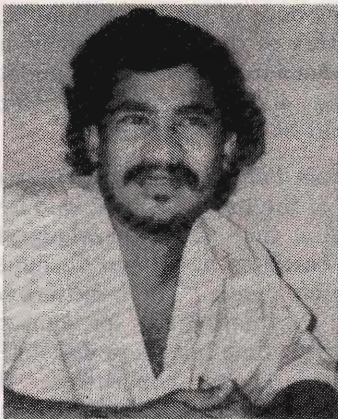
LTTE CONFRONT INDIAN SOLDIERS AT MANKULAM

In a recent confrontation with a batch of 200 Indian soldiers walking from Mankulam to Kanakarayan Kulam 8 members of the IPKF were killed by the LTTE cadre, and two badly injured. They captured several weapons and a fair quantity of ammunition.

FURTHER ATROCITIES BY EPRLF WITH IPKF SUPPORT

Reports reaching us from Oct.20 state that atrocities committed on civilians by the EPRLF cadre with the open support of the IPKF have increased of late. All shops belonging to suspected LTTE supporters have been closed and sealed by the IPKF. Several suspected supporters of LTTE have been killed and several innocent people have been assaulted mercilessly.

ANOTHER LTTE LEADER SHOT DEAD



Mr Francis

Francis, who was in charge of the political wing of Batticaloa-Ampari districts, has been killed by the IPKF. He was betrayed by members of the anti-LTTE groups, encircled by the Indian soldiers and shot dead in cold blood. Francis was a Science graduate of the Moratuwa campus of the Ceylon University.

46 ARRESTED; 14 KILLED

It is reported that the IPKF arrested on 20th October 46 Tamil civilians in the North and East. In separate incidents in the Jaffna peninsula, one Indian soldier and 14 Tamils, alleged to be Tamil Tigers are reported killed.

IPKF RAMPAGE AT WEDDING CEREMONY

In Mannar, Indian soldiers are reported to have entered a house on October 20 where a wedding ceremony was in progress. When people started fleeing, the soldiers opened fire. A 50-year-old man and a 6-year-old girl were injured. Six Tamil civilians have been arrested.

TAMIL TIGERS KILL IPKF SOLDIERS

In Vavuniya, Tamil Tigers are reported to have ambushed and killed five Indian soldiers, who were engaged in mine clearing operations along the railway track. In another incident, 9 Indian soldiers are reported killed when their lorry hit a landmine, at Valaichenai in Batticaloa. Indian sources consider this loss of 14 men in one day as one of the worst setbacks since their offensive started in October 1987.

LOCAL JOURNALS BANNED

The distribution of the Tamil journals *Uthayan*, *Murasoli* and *Veerakesari* in the North and East has been banned by the EPRLF, according to reliable reports.

DETAINEES KILLED

It is reported that 5 Muslims and 1 Tamil, who had been arrested recently in the Eastern Province and detained by the Sri Lankan security forces, have been killed by them.

ELECTION OFFICIALS IRRESPONSIBLE ?

The Indian High Commissioner in Sri Lanka is reported to have released a statement to the effect that the IPKF is ready to help in conducting the P.C. elections in the North and East, and that the Sri Lankan officials are being irresponsible in refusing to carry out their duties. He is also said to have declared that if the P.C. elections are not held, then an Interim Council will be formed comprising those groups that support the Accord, to administer the North and East.

IPKF RETALIATES AGAINST INNOCENTS

Following the landmine attack on an Indian convoy at Kaluvanchikkudy, the IPKF is reported to have gone on

a rampage damaging shops and houses there in reprisal attacks.

THUGS GIVEN DUE TREATMENT

When an armed Sinhalese called Ranjit and a Sinhala soldier went to a Tamil village in Trincomalee and attempted to rob a house there, the villagers are said to have set upon them and killed Ranjit and wounded the soldier.

SEARCH OPERATIONS INTENSIFIED

According to reports from Jaffna, search operations by the IPKF have been intensified in the North, by day and by night. Following arbitrary arrests of youths by the IPKF, young boys and girls are compelled to go into hiding. Only elderly women are said to be seen on the streets, to attend to their day to day duties.

RELUCTANT UNP AND MUSLIM NOMINEES INDUCED TO ENTER THE FRAY

It is reported that UNP members and the Muslims had been reluctant to contest the North and East P.C. elections, and that it is the Indian Government that induced them to submit their nominations.

SIX INDIAN SOLDIERS KILLED

Six soldiers are reported to have been killed by the Tigers in an encounter with the IPKF at Eluthumadduval in Jaffna; some others have been injured.

DR.THANAPALASINGHAM KILLED

Dr.Thanapalasingham of Vavuniya Hospital is reported to have been shot and killed, allegedly by the EPRLF, while on duty at the hospital.

CAPT.RAMESH MASSACRED BY EPRLF

At Muthur Capt.Ramesh of the LTTE is reported to have been beaten up and killed by the EPRLF members, supported by the IPKF.

STATISTICS FOR TWO MONTHS

According to LTTE sources, in encounters with the IPKF during the

continued on page 16

period Sept.1 to Oct.31, 1988, altogether 146 Indian soldiers have been killed, 47 injured, and several weapons captured from the IPKF. Against this, 41 Tamil Tigers and 47 Tamil civilians lost their lives. In a confrontation with Sri Lankan forces, during the same period, 8 policemen and 5 soldiers were killed and some weapons captured by the Tamil Tigers.

SRI LANKAN NAVY LOSSES

At Karainagar, in the North, in an attack by the Tigers on Sri Lankan navy boats, two boats are reported to have been destroyed.

NOW EPRLF ON THE RAMPAGE

Latest reports indicate that members of EPRLF have started, with the help of the IPKF, to harass citizens of Jaffna peninsula. Armed gangs break into houses and rob inmates of their jewellery, money and valuables in addition to harassing them cruelly.

YOGA & COMPANY

A pro-IPKF militant group headed by Yoga (a TELO member who escaped from Welikade jail in 1983, and later freed during the Batticaloa jail-break) has been operating from the base of 'Palaly Iyer's' house and committing atrocities on the residents of Palaly, Myliddy, Valalai and Atchuvvely areas. This is done with the connivance of the Indian soldiers. Two brothers of Dr. Pathmalosani of Urani hospital have been killed by this group.

IPKF ARMY TRUCK DESTROYED; 15 KILLED

It is reported that on October 14, an IPKF army truck was completely destroyed and 15 soldiers died on the spot when hit by a landmine on the Mandur-Vellaveli road in Batticaloa district. 3 men were injured. Indian troops stormed the villages of Vellaveli, Poratheevu, Madugamam and brutally assaulted hundreds of innocent civilians. Several people were seriously injured and were prevented by the IPKF from being treated at the government hospital. The injured included aged, women, and children.

INDIA'S "FALKLANDS"

(From our sleuth in Colombo)

A plot that was planned and executed to perfection. The setting was the Indian Ocean islands of The Maldives. The actors are recruits from among Tamil militants trained and armed over the years by India in its war of attrition against Sri Lanka, to bring Colombo within its orbit of influence. The hero is Rajiv Gandhi. The invisible hands are those of the Research and Analysis Wing, the notorious secret service organisation of India.

The planning and execution was so swift that even the British Foreign Office "was overtaken by events" for any positive reaction. A neat, nevertheless nefarious, plot was hatched not in Singapore but in Colombo by Indians to give a taste of what will he hailed as a lesson in "South Asian Regional Co-operation." The Tamil Tigers are convenient scapegoats.

The Islands of The Maldives are situated in the Indian Ocean south west of Sri Lanka. It has a small population of under 200,000. Being predominantly Muslim, whilst maintaining cordial relations with Sri Lanka and India, it has natural affinities with the Middle-East and Pakistan.

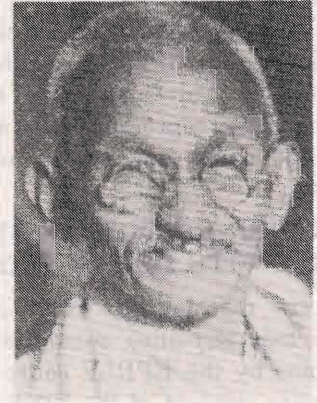
Rajiv Gandhi's India having miserably failed in Sri Lanka both politically and militarily was desperately in need of a 'Falklands'. As the presidential elections in Sri Lanka are drawing close and the two leading candidates have taken up a public position to throw the IPKF out, and elections in Tamil Nadu not far away, he needed a coup of this kind to shore up his flagging popularity.

Thus the plot was hatched and the scene was set. From Sri Lanka to the Maldives. RAW must be congratulated this time for swift execution and clever public relations. If one is to go by the latest information from the South Asian capitals the attempted overthrow of the Maldivian government by the mercenaries has been foiled and the Indians are in control. Prime Minister Rajiv says that the Indian army will stay put until "*normalcy and peace return.*" The

world has heard this before!

Sri Lanka Yesterday, Maldives Today, Is it Mauritius tomorrow?

MAHATMA GANDHI RETURNS TO BAR



Mahatma Gandhi

Mahatma Gandhi was posthumously readmitted to the Bar of England and Wales on November 7, the hundredth anniversary of the day he was admitted as a student barrister to the Inner Temple and more than 60 years since his disbarment after being sentenced to six years' imprisonment.

In an unprecedented move the governing body of the Inner Temple, the Masters of the Bench, unanimously voted at a recent meeting attended by nearly 40 benchers that Gandhi should be readmitted.

Captain Patrick Sheehan, sub-treasurer of the Inner Temple, said it was the first time to his knowledge that any barrister had been readmitted after his death. "The benchers have been considering this for some considerable time but there was nothing particularly to concentrate their minds", he said. "Once we were approached with a view to taking part in the Nehru centenary celebrations, they clearly saw this an opportune moment to readdress the issue of Gandhi."

Gandhi, born in 1869, arrived in England when he was nearly 19 and was admitted as a student member of the Inner Temple on November 6, 1888. He was called to the Bar by the Inner Temple in Trinity Term 1891.

In March 1922 he was tried on three charges of sedition under the Indian Penal Code. He pleaded guilty and was sentenced to two years' imprisonment on each charge. On November 10, 1922, a parliament of the Inner Temple ordered him to be disbarred and he was never readmitted, nor did he apply for readmission.

SRI LANKA NEWS

Army camp raided

Gunmen in Sri Lanka have attacked an army training camp about 30 miles north of Colombo and have escaped with a large quantity of weapons and ammunition. Four members of the security forces and a civilian driver were killed in the attack. Four of the gunmen were also killed. They were said to be members of the extremist Sinhalese group, the JVP. The gunmen got away with 450 guns and thousands of rounds of ammunition, the largest haul of weapons stolen from the army since the JVP began its campaign of violence more than a year ago.

Brutal punishment

The attack on mourners in the southern town, Beliatta, was a brutal example of the punishment often meted out by the JVP to the population, which ranges from heads being shaved for minor misdemeanours to decapitation for more serious offences. According to security sources the head was cut off the body because the man who died was a known criminal. The mourners were shot dead allegedly because they were defying instructions that he should not be given a proper funeral.

In a statement the JVP claimed responsibility for the raid on the army training camp 30 miles north of Colombo in which 9 people were killed and 450 guns were stolen along with 60,000 rounds of ammunition. The JVP said the attack was chiefly to avenge the killing of a senior politbureau member of the JVP ten days ago. The JVP itself has issued a statement accusing a government minister of ordering the killing and calling for a general strike. The government has responded by enforcing a six hour curfew for most parts of the island from 10 o'clock and this could be extended. (From BBC World Service broadcasts)

PADUKKA POLICE STATION ATTACKED

It is reported that in Padukka about a score of men poured out of a van and unleashed a hail of bullets at the Police Station. The attackers, police believe, were members of the JVP. In this incident 2 police constables and 2

sentries died and a home guard was critically wounded. As a reserve PC had locked the door to the armoury, the attackers were unable to seize any weapons except a shot gun and a rifle.

WORKERS AND STUDENTS DEMONSTRATE

Thousands of Government workers, students and others are reported to have participated in massive anti-government demonstrations and strikes on October 19. Their demands were for a Rs.500 wage rise, abrogation of the Indo-Sri Lanka Accord, cancellation of the merger of the N & E Provinces, withdrawal of the IPKF, resignation of the government and holding of the General and Presidential elections. One demonstrator was killed and two others injured at Hingurakgoda when police opened fire on them.

UNP SUPPORTERS KILLED

It is reported that 7 UNP supporters, including the chauffeur of UNP Chairman, Ranjan Wijeratne, and an Attorney-at-Law, had been killed by the JVP in one day.

ONE WEEK'S CEASEFIRE IN WAR AGAINST SUBVERSIVES

In the wake of political murders and mounting campaign of strikes in the South, the Sri Lankan Government announced a week's ceasefire in the anti-subversive war, and have promised to release all detained. The JVP treated this suspension of hostilities with contempt by shooting and killing a leading member of the executive committee of the UNP, Mr. Tudor Keerthiratne, a Colombo lawyer. His wife is said to be in a critical condition.

USA PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE

The United Socialist Alliance is reported to have announced that Ossie Abeygunasekera, General Secretary of the Sri Lanka Mahajana Peramuna (SLMP), will be nominated as its candidate for the Presidential Election on December 19.

10 PROPOSALS FOR PEACE PLAN

The leaders of the 8-party United Opposition Front, sponsoring the SLFP leader Mrs. Sirimavo Ban-

daranaiké as their Presidential candidate, are said to have met President Jayewardene, on October 21, with ten proposals for restoring peace and normalcy in Sri Lanka. The President has fixed the date for the Presidential election as December 19, 1988; and November 10 for handing in nominations for that election.

BOMBS AT SLFP MEETING

Two bombs are said to have exploded at the venue of a meeting in Badulla at which the SLFP leader and presidential candidate Mrs. Sirimavo Bandaranaike was due to speak. No casualties have been reported.

VOTING TO BE MADE COMPULSORY ?

The Sri Lankan government is reported to be toying with the idea of introducing legislation compelling all eligible voters to cast their votes at elections as in Australia. The voter is to be given the choice of his polling booth. This idea is prompted by the fear that the JVP may try to disrupt the presidential elections.

FROM THE REGIONS

Madawachchiya: About 5,000 demonstrators are reported to have staged an anti-government demonstration. The police dispersed the crowd with tear gas and baton charges. **Matale:** A gang of armed youth have robbed a business man of his jewellery worth about Rs.600,000 and cash about Rs.600,000. **Ratnapura:** The dead bodies of three students alleged to have been arrested and taken away by the police at Ratnapura are reported to have been discovered at Wellawaya. **Colombo:** The police are said to have shot and killed four persons who, it is alleged, had broken the curfew in Galkissa in south Colombo. **Matara:** A gang of armed youths is reported to have entered the Peoples Bank and robbed jewellery and cash to the value of over one-and-a-half million rupees and also 5 guns.

SERUWILA MP RESIGNS

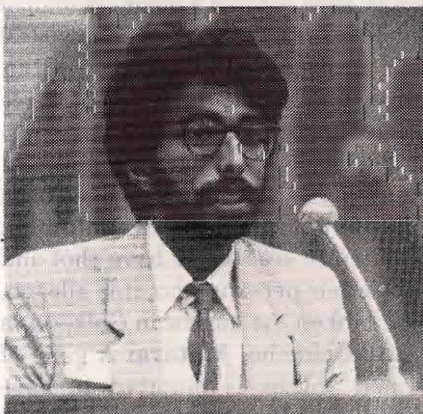
It is reported that Mr. Leelaratne, MP for Seruwila in the Eastern Province, has resigned his seat in Parliament as a protest at the failure of the authorities to restore law and order in the North and East.

— People and Events —

TAMIL HEADS FREEZE

Dr. Raj Thamotheram has recently been appointed **National Director of the Nuclear Weapons Freeze Campaign**. Born in Colombo, he came to England in 1961 along with his parents Mr & Mrs C.J.T. Thamotheram and qualified as a doctor in 1984 from Bristol University. Interviewed by our Science Correspondent, he said that it was through medicine that he first became involved in the nuclear weapons debate. "I couldn't understand why my consultant - who was so respectable - was involved with such an odd issue." A few months later, he and some other medical students were organising the launch of the Bristol-based campaign.

What lies at the core of the campaign? "The destructiveness of nuclear weapons makes war between the super-powers meaningless - but we still go on planning as if it were possible. We need a radically new way of thinking - and that is not easy!" He hopes that by combining visionary goals (like reversing the arms race) with pragmatic steps (like stopping the underground nuclear tests that still take place), the Freeze campaign will reach all those who value peace and security and yet haven't become involved.



Dr Raj Thamotheram

Can this happen? He points to a patron list which includes MPs from all major parties (including David Steel, Denis Healey and Sir Richard Body), dignitaries like Countess Mountbatten of Burma and personalities like Michael Parkinson, David Puttnam and Anna Ford. "We are aiming to be a bridge between progressive experts

and the public", he says, explaining how they managed to get one of the inventors of the nuclear bomb, Sir Rudolf Peierlis, to sign a letter calling for a treaty to stop nuclear testing.

Welcoming recent improvements in East-West relations, including the INF Treaty, he drew attention to the continuing technological momentum of the arms race and the continuing spread of nuclear weapons to less stable regions as evidence that the problem has not gone away.

Asked why Tamils should pay attention to the issue, he replied "A lot of Tamil family life is about preparing a better and more secure future for our children. The nuclear arms race daily threatens that future. We can all do something about it - provided we act together. And if we don't get involved, why should governments give it any more notice either?" Pointing out how super-power conflict readily spills over into areas like Sri Lanka, he added "We need to get the nuclear powers co-operating to solve global political, social and ecological crises - not competing to aggravate them!"

Was it worthwhile giving up medicine? "I think of it more as taking up a large preventative health project!"

New Zealand celebrates Eelam Martyrs Day

Tamils in New Zealand commemorated October 10th as Eelam Martyrs' Day. Hundreds of Tamils gathered in Wellington to pay homage and respect to their heroes and the innocent civilians killed by the Indian and Sri Lankan Armed forces.

It was an event full of emotions. Horrors of the Indian cruelty to innocent peace loving people were beyond the imagination of most of the people gathered. It was reiterated at the meeting that the Indian Government is making futile attempts to suppress the liberation struggle of the Tamils. Every drop of blood shed by our people has now been sown all over Tamil Eelam. People massacred by the Indian and Sri Lankan Forces have become the fertilizer to our Eelam soil that is destined to generate thousands of dedicated Tigers.

The tears and sacrifice made by our people will not go in vain. Every Tamil in this world will ensure that justice is done to our people.

Tamils in New Zealand expressed their solidarity with the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam and extended their support for the struggle against the unjust and unholy war declared by India at the instance of the Sri Lankan government.

The Commemorative occasion was organised by the World Tamils Coordinating Committee (New Zealand).

Matrimonial

(In response to requests from our readers we are now offering a MATRIMONIAL SERVICE. Please write to TVI, P O Box 228, Wembley, Middlesex. HA9 8SZ.)

□ **Aunt** seeks suitable bride for Jaffna Hindu nephew, age 33, British Citizen, professionally qualified, working in reputable London firm. Mars in 7th house. Send chart with details. Box MS 1 c/o TVI.

□ **Jaffna Hindu** parents, now settled in UK, seek marriage partner in the 32 to 38 age group for daughter, British citizen, well qualified and in good permanent employment in London. Please write to Box MS.2, c/o TVI

□ **Brother** seeks suitable groom age 33 - 40, Jaffna Hindu Malaysian citizen, for doctor Malaysian born and resident there. Please write Box MS3, c/o TVI.

Truly Sri Lankan Mercenaries !

According to a statement by Mr Dixit, the Indian High Commissioner in Colombo, Sinhalese, Muslim and Tamil mercenaries have participated in the unsuccessful coup in the Maldives.

One Hundred Names For Your Daughter

Continued from page 4

Arasi	அரசி	Queen	Senthamari	செந்தாமரை	Red lotus
Avvai	அவ்வை	Educated woman	Selvam	செல்வம்	Wealth
Azhaki	அழகி	Beautiful lady	Selli	செல்லி	Woman
Alli	அல்லி	Lilly	Selvi	செல்வி	Wealthy woman
Arivai	அரிவை	Girl	Seethai	சீதை	Rama's wife
Alari	அலரி	A flower	Thirisadai	திரிசடை	Vibheeshana's daughter
Arapai	அரம்பை	Heavenly woman	Thaarai	தாரை	Prodigy of chastity
Ankani	அங்கனி	Beautiful-eyed	Thilagam	திலகம்	Poddu
Annai	அன்னை	Mother	Thaiyal	தையல்	Woman
Aththai	ஆத்தை	Leader woman	Thaamarai	தாமரை	Lotus
Amalai	அமலை	Pure	Thaarani	தாரணி	Garlanded woman
Arunthathi	அருந்ததி	Vasiddar's wife	Thevanthi	தேவந்தி	Silappathikaram character
Aay	ஆய்	Mother	Nanthini	நந்தினி	Daughter
Aachchi	ஆச்சி	Mother	Neela	நீலா	Moon
Aayilai	ஆயிழை	Adorned one	Naamagal	நாமகள்	Goddess Saraswathy
Aarani	ஆரணி	Paarvathi	Nalli	நல்லி	Good-natured woman
Aananthi	ஆனந்தி	Umai; Paarvathi	Nallaal	நல்லாள்	Virtuous woman
Aanantjai	ஆனந்தை	Umai, Siva's consort	Poomani	பூமணி	Woman
Isaignaani	இசைஞானி	Music-talented	Poomagal	பூமகள்	Earth goddess
Inthu	இந்து	Moon	Paadini	பாடினி	Songstress
Inthirai	இந்திரை	Thirumagal	Paththini	பத்தினி	Chaste woman
Irathi	இரதி	Manmathan's wife	Paavai	பாவை	Doll; pupil (eye)
Ilaiyaval	இளையவள்	Thirumagal	Paamagal	பாமகள்	Saraswathy
Ezhili	எழிலி	Beautiful one	Paravai	பரவை	A Saint's wife
Uttarai	உத்தரை	Abhimanyu's wife	Mayili	மயிலி	Peacock-like
Aiyyai	ஐயை	Astute woman	Maathavi	மாதவி	Silappathikaram character
Kamalam	கமலம்	Lotus	Mahizh	மகிழ்	Happy one
Kaarikai	காரிகை	Woman	Mehalai	மேகலை	An ornament
Kaarani	காரணி	Umai	Malari	மலரி	Goddess Lakshmi
Kaanthi	காந்தி	Light, beauty	Mandothari	மண்டோதரி	Raavana's virtuous wife
Kamali	கமலி	Thirumagal	Malaraal	மலராள்	Goddess Lakshmi
Kamalai	கமலை	Thirumagal	Mullai	முல்லை	A white flower
Kamalini	கமலினி	Thirumagal	Manimekalai	மணிமேகலை	Maathavi's daughter
Kannaki	கண்ணகி	Kovalan's wife	Maathini	மாதினி	A Saint's Mother
Kanni	கண்ணி	Beautiful-eyed	Maathu	மாது	Woman
Kanali	கனலி	Sun	Valli	வல்லி	Creeper
Kaaviri	காவிரி	South Indian river	Vally	வள்ளி	Mother of creation
Karunkuzhal	கருங்குழல்	Brunette	Vadivu	வடிவு	Beautiful woman
Kayal Vizhi	கயல்விழி	Beautiful-eyed	Vasanthi	வசந்தி	Manmathan's wife
Kayatkanni	கயற்கண்ணி	Kayal fish-eyed	Valaiyaapathi	வளையாபதி	Tamil ornament
Katpakam	கற்பகம்	Wishing tree	Vanchi	வஞ்சி	A climber; woman
Kuyili	குயிலி	Cuckoo, Koel	Vaarni	வாணி	Goddess Saraswathy
Kunthavai	குந்தவை	Historical character	Vaami	வாமி	Goddess Paarvathi
Kurinchi	குறிஞ்சி	A flower	Vimalai	விமலை	Goddess
Kuuvilai	குவளை	A flower	Verni	வேணி	A river
Kuzhali	குழலி	Long-tressed girl	Vaitheki	வைதேகி	Seethai
Kili	கிளி	Parrot	Vaasuki	வாசுகி	Thiruvalluvar's wife
Killai	கிள்ளை	Parrot	Valarmathy	வளர்மதி	Waxing moon
Saambavi	சாம்பவி	Lord Siva's consort	Yoham	யோகம்	Luck
Sevvanthi	செவ்வந்தி	A flower	Yarlina	யாழினி	Musical

LATE NEWS

LTTE DENIES INVOLVEMENT

The Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam has denied categorically that it was in anyway involved in the attempted coup in the Maldives. The press release expressed disappointment that some sections of the international media have attempted to implicate their organisation in the crisis.

INDIAN ARMY KILLS PROMINENT TAMIL CITIZENS

The political committee of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam in a statement issued from its headquarters in Jaffna has accused the Indian forces of master-minding the executions of several prominent citizens in Tamil areas through armed quisling, the Eelam People's Revolutionary Liberation Front (EPRLF). "Citizen committee members, trade union leaders, prominent businessmen, and family members of the LTTE have been killed in cold blood by armed thugs of the EPRLF in collusion with the Indian army", the press statement said. "All those who were senselessly slaughtered have committed no crimes other than raising their voices against the inadequacies of the Accord and the atrocities of the Indian troops. The collusion of the Indian army with the EPRLF to carry-out these executions clearly indicates that the Government of India is behind these acts of mass murder and terrorism", the LTTE's statement added.

"Frustrated by the inability to tame the Tigers militarily and angered by the mounting popular support for LTTE's campaign, the Government of India has resorted to the tactics of terror by physically liquidating sympathisers and supporters of our liberation movement. These criminal acts constitute a serious violation of human rights. These are unpardonable crimes against humanity", the LTTE's political committee observed.

"Mr Sivanandasundaram - the leader of the Tamil Eelam People's Front,

Father Chandra Fernando - chairman of the Batticaloa citizens committee, Mr Ahamed Lebbe - a prominent Muslim leader, Mr Sivarajah - chairman of the Chunnakam traders association, Mr Rajasangari - chairman of the Thenmarachi citizens committee, Mr Vaithilingam Paramanathan - chairman of the Myliddy citizens committee and several other prominent civilians have been murdered by the death squads of the north with the support of the Indian troops", the statement said.

TOURISTS PLAN TO FLY OUT OF SRI LANKA

Plans were being made to fly 100 British tourists out of Sri Lanka on November 9, and it could be some time before any more visit the island. Tourists had been moved north after extremists threatened to attack hotels in the south. With hotels on strike indefinitely, tour companies have decided to bring clients home and send no more to Sri Lanka for the present. A spokeswoman for the Kuoni Holiday Company said, "We have 45 people in Sri Lanka and are making arrangements to fly them out of Colombo. We had another 20 due to go there this weekend, and are trying to find them alternative holidays." The Foreign Office has advised travellers not to visit Sri Lanka. A spokesman said, "A strike by hotel staff coupled with petrol shortages is making life difficult for visitors. This applies to businessmen as much as tourists."

RIOTS IN COLOMBO

Prisoners from Welikada security prison and two other island's prisons escaped from their cells and demonstrated demanding dissolution of Parliament in response to a call by the JVP. At least ten prisoners were killed and thirty injured when security forces opened fire on the rioters. Several buildings are reported damaged. JVP had called for an indefinite island wide strike of workers demanding the dissolution of Parliament and the Sinhalese have answered its call. As a result, bus and rail transport has come to a halt; electricity supply has been disrupted; several government offices and banks remained closed.

President Jayewardene and Srimavo Bandaranaike discussed the current situation in the country on November 5. A ten point proposal placed by the opposition alliance was taken up. It is learnt that JR has agreed for the dissolution of the Parliament, provided JVP leader Rohana Wijeweera agrees to join the interim cabinet of the caretaker government.

SHOOT AT SIGHT ORDERS

According to BBC news broadcast of November 10, which is the appointed date for the submission of nominations for Prsidential election, 15 of the thousands of people who participated in the island-wide anti-governmental demonstrations organised by the JVP have been shot dead while hundreds have been wounded and maimed.

KITH AND KIN OF TIGERS MASSACRED

According to latest reports, more than forty blood relatives and supporters of the LTTE cadres have been hounded by the IPKF with the help of EPRLF in Valvettiturai, Kambermalai and Thondamanaru. It is further learnt that their whereabouts are not known and that their fate is feared to be that of more than hundred LTTE cadres who had been, a month ago, flown to Palali and Trincomalee together with Kittu.

DEATH PENALTY

It is now a capital offence to force people to stay away from work, according to a law promulgated in Sri Lanka on November 12. Sri Lankan President has enacted this Draconian law in an attempt to prevent J.V.P. organised strikes which have crippled the country in recent weeks. The new Emergency regulations have empowered the security forces to take possession of the bodies of the persons killed by the security forces and to bury or cremate them without inquest.

Observers say that the new regulations are designed to allow the Government to remove quickly the evidence of shootings on the streets and to control information on numbers killed or wounded.

According to the new Emergency laws it is now a capital offence to distribute leaflets critical of the Colombo Government.