

TRIBUNE

CEYLON NEWS REVIEW

Vol. 27 — No. 42

JULY 23 1983

Rs. 4.00

- ★ ENVIRONMENT GAP
- ★ TAX EVASION
- ★ SHERLOCK HOLMES
- ★ TEA SCANDALS
- ★ SMALL HOLDERS
- ★ SPORTSCOPE
- ★ SL CRICKET



TENDER NOTICES

MINISTRY OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT, HOUSING & CONSTRUCTION. DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS

Tenders for the construction of Quarters for Nurses (Gr. IV type Qrs.) at Ayurvedic Hospital, Meegoda will be received by the Chairman, Tender Board, Department of Buildings, Colombo 1, upto 10.00 a.m. on Wednesday 03rd August, 1983.

02. Tender forms could be obtained from District Engineer / Avissawella Engineer before 4.15 p.m. on 29.07.83 by Registered Contractors or "Trial-Letter" holders of Department for Rs. 500,000/- and above on production of a tender deposit receipt for Rs. 250/- issued by Buildings Department, Colombo, or any Kachcheri outside Colombo.

03. Please note that Private Company tenderers should declare the names of the current Directors and shareholders. Public Company tenderers should declare the names of the current Directors.

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

K.C. Samaraweera

Director of Buildings

DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS,
P. O. BOX 504,
COLOMBO 1, 1983.07.14
GUNE/

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

Tenders for construction of type Mortuary at Ayurvedic Hospital, Meegoda will be received by the Chairman, Tender Board, Superintending Engineer's Office, Ratnapura upto 10.00 a.m. on Wednesday 03rd August, 1983.

02. Tender forms could be obtained from District Engineer / Avissawella Chief Construction before 4.15 p.m. on 29.07.83 by registered Contractors or "Trial Letter" holders of Department for Rs. 100,000/- above on production of a tender deposit receipt for Rs. 100/- issued by Buildings Department, Colombo, or any Kachcheri outside Colombo.

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Ceylon News Review
A Journal of Ceylon and
World Affairs

Founded in 1954
Every Saturday

Editor: S.P. Amarasingam
Vol.27 No.42

JULY 23, 1983
43, Dawson Street.
Colombo 2.
Tel: 33172

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LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

THE PICTURE ON THE COVER is not merely to remind ourselves and our readers about Mahaweli and all the tanks and reservoirs that it feeds but also about the environmental problems that confront this country. Elsewhere in this issue we have published an article by Malcolm Jansen, an "Environmental Officer" in the Mahaweli Authority, about a trip down the lower reaches of the river. It makes interesting reading, but the public know very little about what is being done for the protection of the environment on the Mahaweli or elsewhere. We ourselves are generally in the dark about what is going on. We have picked up bits and pieces here and there, and what we have is like the unscrambled pieces of a jig-saw puzzle. We are told that a great deal has been done and that a great deal more has been planned, but unfortunately there is a big communication gap between the Environmental Authorities and the public. We have been asked by zealous officials to read speeches by VIPs, listen to radio talks, view TV telecasts, follow stories in the daily papers and illustrated features in Sunday papers. We are not now on an "operation fault-finding", but we have to point that VIP's speeches in newspapers are truncated and rarely make sense, and stories and features in the daily and Sunday papers do not carry conviction. They ooze with an overdose of complacent self-praise and bureaucratic back-scratching. And seminars and workshops are for an elite who have no contact with people outside their ivory towers. And, it is not everybody who has the time to tune in to radio talks or view telecasts. This the credibility gap that official propaganda has engendered is immense. If the Mahaweli Authority or the Mahaweli Ministry wishes to inform the public of what they have done and what they plan to do, the process of communication has to be rid of the bureaucratic blinkers that now hamper those who seek to keep the people informed. Recently, the country had a welcome "flood" of useful information about Madura Oya. This undoubtedly had a salutary impact on the public, but on the environmental safeguards and the schemes for human settlements there is both a credibility as well as a communication gap. On environment, Mahaweli has to share its responsibilities with a National Authority that overlooks the environment of the whole island. There is also a further complication in that the chieftains of the Forest Department have a cockeyed view of the work they have done to reafforest this denuded Island. They have their own pet theories which they have inflicted upon the country. The Forest Department officials also feel satisfied that the island still has 25% forest cover which compares favourably with the situation in many other countries. But what the Forest Department hides is that though there may be a forest cover of 25% (we have only their word for it), they ignore the fact that what is wrong is the distribution of the forests and the kind of trees in the newly reafforested areas. The high montane areas in the central *massif* called Horton Plains and the watersheds round it continue to be badly denuded. Climatologists have long ago pointed out that about 10,000 acres of tea on the Adam's Peak range should be put back into jungle if the island is to make the rainbearing monsoonal clouds to rise to the appropriate heights to compel condensation. Such reafforestation is also necessary, we have been told, to prevent quick run off, soil erosion, and the consequent silting of rivers and tanks on the plains. Even if the 10,000 acres of tea cannot immediately be put back into forest, there is much that can be done elsewhere. Pinus and Eucalyptus may be excellent fuelwood in 12 to 15 year cycles, but where they have been planted springs and streams have dried up. This is now admitted as a fact. Unless reafforestation is more selectively done with an emphasise on indigenous trees in the watersheds, Sri Lanka will lose much of the rain that falls—as a sacrificial offering to the pinus and ecalyptus.

Inland Revenue

TRIBUNE, not so long ago, had analysed the areas into which the Inland Revenue Department could (and should) move to collect more revenue. Shortly after that we read in the daily papers that the Department had, in fact, conducted raids in Pettah and had nabbed gem dealers, auctioneers and jewellers who had tried to outsmart the Department with fictitious transactions. On the grapevine from Pettah we understand that the raids were far too selective — to the point of being discriminatory. It is said that the Department had selected only a few "cases" and that if the raids had been spread out more, nearly all the sharks in the area could have been caught in the net. Selective raids only put the really big shots on the alert and stampede them to tuck away incriminating papers in hideouts. *It must be mentioned, however, that many old-time registered shopkeepers in Pettah, especially big concerns in Main Street, have complained to us that the Government as well as they themselves were losing sizable revenue due to the lack of foresight on the part of the Municipal Authorities which had encouraged a proliferation of pavement hawkers (and others) even in the middle of Main Street and also in other places.* This had robbed the registered shopkeepers of their regular customers. Furthermore, Revenue Department officials who step into these registered establishments do not seem to bother to look at the non-registered trading outlets on the pavements and in special street stands put up for them by the Municipality. The small time traders make a great deal of profit without any expenditure on overheads. And what is worse is the anonymity about this class of business. Even Inland Revenue officials will not be able to locate the owners of these pavement and street shops which do a roaring business especially during festivals. Do any of them maintain a cash account, leave alone other accounts?

PRIVATE PASSENGER TRANSPORT is another lucrative business today. There are mini vans, medium vans, large vans, passenger coaches and luxury coaches. How many of them issue tickets? Ninety nine percent of them do not. Has Inland Revenue impressed on the Ministry of Transport that it was necessary to insist that these private carriers should issue tickets. Licences and stage carriage permits must be issued only on proof that tickets are issued and that proper accounts are maintained. Kachcheries always insist on BTT clearance and income tax clearance before a liquor licence is renewed. Such a system would certainly help to bring these potential tax payers to Inland Revenue. Those who carry on the business of private passenger or even freight transport should be called upon to furnish income tax and BTT clearance before licences are issued. *There are also a number of other issues which the Minister of Finance should take into serious consideration*

before the next Budget, He has been liberal enough to grant fabulous tax exemptions during the last six years to certain categories and income tax payers. But the present turnover tax of four percent is a punitive tax that adversely affects people who can least afford it. It affects the general businessman as well as consumers. The bulk of the BTT falls on essential consumer items. A trader cannot have a big profit margin on these items. These commodities have to be moved out fast; some of them are perishable items. The rate of profit to the trader on these items would not exceed more than three to four percent. The maximum may be five. But now the trader is called upon to pay turnover tax at four percent. In addition, he is also called upon to pay income tax. An average civic conscious trader cannot comply with this tax and therefore resorts to evasion. If he shows a genuine account then he will not be in trade. One cannot increase the price of most consumer items beyond certain limits. This is because it is necessary to consider the buying capacity of the consumer as well.

ANOTHER INDUSTRY that is unfairly and badly hit is printing. Charges for printing are already very high owing to increased costs and with the addition of turnover tax the trade has been struck a heavy blow. The BTT on newspapers and periodicals, especially the smaller ones, is a heavy blow especially on the reading public. The majority of those who patronise the news media journals magazines etc. come from the middle class with fixed income. With the increase in the price of local as well as imported journals due to higher turnover tax, sales have dropped. *The BTT on newspapers and periodicals is a tax on knowledge and information, and very soon some of them may close down. Hence it is essential to bring down the rate of turnover tax from four percent to at least two percent, better still one percent. Furthermore the mere threat of four percent scares the trader into evasion and he ends up by not paying at all or dodging the payment. The prime motive of tax laws should be to encourage (not discourage) tax payment — and certainly not to induce or promote tax evasion.* One does not know whether the Inland Revenue Department has an Intelligence Unit which regularly monitors the changing trade patterns. The Department should not entirely depend on the Central Bank reports. We are aware that Assessors who question tax payers on expenses and profits do so on reports made by cursory surveys. The Revenue Department should send out its own officers to the field to study the trend of business activities and should conduct more and more field work. In fact, it should have a permanent field staff. Income Tax should be equitable and the Inland Revenue Department should act with equity. This may need an increase in personnel. Government should also restore faith and confidence in its officers who have been called upon to perform an "unpleasant" job. How this is being done in other countries would be analysed in these columns shortly.

Sherlock Holmes

NEW BRAHMINS

A Reader sent Tribune this query: "Is there a lobby trying to restrict the registration of certain categories of persons from being registered as Auditors under the new Companies Act No. 17 of 1982? Do some people want to make the profession of Auditors a monopoly of a few?"

This question was referred to *Sherlock Holmes* (SH). In his reply SH says that the new Companies Act, No. 17 of 1982, was certified on May 20, 1982. The Act was published as a Supplement to Part II of the Government Gazette of May 21, 1982, but to date no Regulations have been framed and gazetted regarding the registration of Auditors. Section 154 (7) of the Companies Act requires the Registrar of Companies to frame regulations indicating the qualifications necessary for the registration of Auditors. No registrations have been made for many months now. Newly qualified Accountants and Auditors have been asked to wait till new Regulations are gazetted. While the Registrar of Companies dilly-dallies, a great deal of speculative gossip has begun to foul the atmosphere. Questions are being asked which reveal that there are serious suspicions that some monkey business is afoot. Will only Accountants qualified in Sri Lanka automatically qualify for registration? Will persons who were earlier entitled to automatic registration like those with A. C. M. A., A. C. C. A. and Inland Revenue Assessors (Retired), have to wait till the Regulations are gazetted?

SH further says that there appears to be a lobby anxious to restrict the number of Auditors by wanting Regulations to compel certain categories of eligible persons to sit and pass a "qualifying examination" conducted by members of the lobby itself? It is also said, for example, that this lobby is moving heaven and earth to prevent retired Inland Revenue Assessors who have many years' experience in examining and checking the accounts, balance sheets etc., prepared by Accountants from being registered as registered auditors. SH asks whether it is necessary for retired Inland Revenue Assessors to sit for a qualifying examination to be held by Accountants on whose work they had sat in judgement for years? There is no doubt that certain brahmins in the local world of Accountants and auditors are anxious to restrict the number of Auditors for their personal benefit to be able to charge higher fees and earn more money making it more difficult for ordinary people to do business or keep proper accounts. SH hopes that the Registrar of Companies will not be carried away by the arm-twisting and pressurising by this elite in the Account-

tancy/Auditor world — determined to keep the profession as small as possible and create a special monopoly. The Registrar of Companies will stir up a hornet's nest if he attempts to appease this lobby however powerful they might seem to be at the moment.

TEA TRADE

Tribune has received over two dozens (24) questions concerning the Tea Export Trade, the Tea Board and about goings on about men and matters in the Tea World. *Tribune* has referred some of these questions, after a preliminary examination, to *Sherlock Holmes*. His report and his replies will be published as soon as we get them. Below we give a few of the questions, asked:

1. What is the outcome of the recent investigations into the activities of a Tea Export Firm (name mentioned but we will not disclose the same for the moment)? Is there a VIP attempt to hush things?
2. What is the Tea Board doing about protecting exporters from the machinations of unscrupulous operators especially in high places?
3. Are wives of Tea Board functionaries entitled to participate in tea export companies?
4. Are commissions being paid to "officials" posted abroad by particular tea exporters to promote their interests as against other Sri Lanka exporters?
5. Are there tea export companies which indulge in invisible exports of money by inflating travelling expenses of directors who go overseas?
6. Have all the officials of the Tea Board declared their assets in conformity with the law of the land?
7. How did an exporter caught red-handed with stolen tea in his warehouse and whose licence was cancelled (this fact was circularised to the entire tea trade) manage to get his licence restored?
8. Looking at the happenings in the Tea Trade can it be said that the Government is serious about stamping out corruption?
9. Is the government aware that a scrutiny of the shareholders of certain Tea Export firms will reveal information that will shock everybody? Can VIPs who are in charge of the Tea Trade have shares in one particular tea export company?
10. Can the expenditure incurred in the trips abroad of the big shots in the official world of the tea trade be justified by the results?

These are less than half the questions about the Tea Trade that have poured into *Tribune* office after we announced that *Sherlock Holmes* was on the prowl again. Names of persons and companies furnished to us have been withheld for the time being.

Look out for Sherlock's answers to there and other questions on the Tea Trade.

The Mahaweli

By Malcolm Jansen

This article first appeared in the Loris (Vol. XVI No. 2, December 1982). With acknowledgements, we publish it in three parts. The Mahaweli Ganga covers a total area of about 4000 square miles. The Accelerated Programme calls for great care in planning so as to ensure the continuity of the ecological balance. The author is Environmental Officer at the Mahaweli Authority.

THE KNUCKLES RANGE of hills rising dramatically above the vast plains of Bintenne provided a picturesque backdrop to the sleepy town of Mahiyangana. A dusty and derelict track led northward from Mahiyangana to Hemberawa and thence way beyond before becoming enveloped in the jungle tide. The village of Hemberawa itself is uninteresting — a cluster of huts and two or three boutiques; an ancient settlement that is gaining a new lease of life in the wake of development activities that have recently engulfed the area. *The main purpose of this expedition was to get first hand information on the ecological condition of the river.* We had already spent six months conducting investigations as part of a comprehensive environmental impact study of the Mahaweli project, and this downstream trip was a means to study those parts of the river that had been inaccessible by land; dense vegetation and swamps often make the approach by land impossible. *The team* comprised Rudy Rudran, a wildlife ecologist who had returned to the country for the TAMS Environment Impact Study; Mike Smith, a fisheries biologist currently at the University of Colombo; Sarath Kotagama, a Lecturer at Colombo University's Zoology Department, P. B. Karunaratne, a former curator at the National Museum and now with the March for Conservation's Sinharaja Project, Rohana Subasinghe, a fisheries biologist; S. M. S. Farook and Lalith Jayawickreme — both zoological field assistants; Peter, an entomologist and Cedric Martensteyn, a naturalist.

Just after noon, with the strong mid-day sun beating down upon our bare bodies, we set off from Hemberawa downstream. Conditions for rowing were very difficult. The wide river and its thinly spread waters required that the canoes be skillfully guided along the deeper channels of the river in an endeavour to avoid being stuck in the sand. The frequent pushing and dragging of the canoes over the sand was nevertheless inevitable. The banks of the river on either side were steep and devoid of any forests. Chena cultivation through the past years had deprived the banks of its majestic gallery forest, which in the past extended through the entire length of the river, but today was confined to limited sections

of the river. The initial sections of the river were not without signs of human activity. The old abandoned cheans — testimony of past human habitation, and here and there newly opened land were soon left behind, as the canoes moved ahead. The mouth of Ulhitiya Oya, a tributary of the Mahaweli soon came into view. Then, for the first time jungle ran down the banks on either side of the river, but in many places especially on the left bank it had been burnt for the cultivation of cash crops.

An hour or so later we arrived at the mouth of the Ellekotaliya a backwash stream of the Mahaweli. Our campsite was situated by high ground on the bank of the Mahaweli, south of the Ellekotaliya. The entire area was still thickly forested and seemingly inaccessible. Almost everywhere along the river, majestic Kumbuks protected the banks against erosion; their root systems forming an efficient natural bank protection. At night, the area was very quiet except for the occasional patter of vegetation against the wind and the sound of the rippling river below. The grey langurs which had kept the forest alive with their incessant chatter during the day must have been now asleep in the dense canopy above.

THE FIRST RAYS of sunlight pierced through the dense forest canopy to herald the dawning of yet another day, the second on our memorable trip. We had decided to spend the rest of the day exploring the high forest in the vicinity; this was an unbroken stretch of wild and desolate area on the right bank of the river. Life had stood still for perhaps hundreds of years in this part of the country until the logging operations. This area was part of the least known regions in the country. Visitors to the forest must trek through the hazardous cart track that ran north from Hemberawa or enter by way of the river which was an equally difficult task. *The forest here, and that encountered for the rest of the trip was of the tropical dry mixed evergreen type, where the trees seldom exceeded 20 meters in height. Drypetes sepiaria (wira) with its gnarled and fluted trunk predominated. Palu, satin, milla, halmilla, welang, and divul were frequently observed in the forests. Scattered within the area were rocky outcrops which were sometimes clad in vegetation.*

This area was indeed an unique wildlife refuge where all eight endangered vertebrate species were found. The Red-faced alkoha — one of Sri Lanka's rare and endemic birds is confined to only this section of the river. About 100-150 elephants are also known to roam the area making seasonal migratory movements between the Maduru Oya and the Mahaweli. The toque monkey and the purple-faced langur were numerous not only in this area but along the entire length of the river as well. Rudy told us that although this species was common in the Mahaweli floodplains, its forest habitat was under considerable pressure from recent agricultural activities. The Bengal Monitor had the most

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extensive distribution, being commonly found more or less throughout the dry zone. The restricted distribution of *leopard*, *python* and the *swamp crocodile* reflected a reduction of their former ranges which extended throughout most of the dry zone in the years gone by. In fact there were no dull moments in this area — *deer*, *wildboar*, *sambhur*, *porcupine*, *Layards flycatchers*, even *bear* and a solitary *Broad-billed Roller* were confiding enough to be easily seen.

ON THE LEFT BANK of the river was the Wasgomuwa Strict Natural Reserve which affords sanctuary to its precious and abundant wildlife. We crossed the river late afternoon and skirted the gallery forest for any signs of life. We were fortunate to observe five *Redfaced Malkohas*. They kept fluttering from tree to tree, rarely pausing long enough to enable their bewitched admirers to have a good glimpse. They did not seem to prefer the top-most layer of the forest vegetation and although they have been reported to occur in very small flocks, we had on a previous occasion seen a large group of eight at the same spot. We were down at the river very early the next morning; the mist still lay suspended above the water when we set off. Soon the gallery forest came alive, revealing an abundance of *avifauna*. *White-bellied sea eagles* hovered above the water, *Black-winged stilts* and *kingfishers* stood at the water's edge and a *kestrel* disappeared into the forest; *swifts*, *sandpipers* and numerous other birds moved around. A troop of *langurs* swung noisily among the branches emitting a series of booming cries which rose to a crescendo and then gradually warned—a warning to the already alert deer that were drinking at the river ahead.

The next stretch of the river can be described as being one continuous rapid that extended for a distance of nearly five kilometres downstream. The entire river bed was impregnated with rocks variously carved and chiselled by the action of the turbulent waters. At regular intervals the canoes had to be physically carried over the rocks. The sun was now beating down in all its intensity; the humidity drawing beads of sweat down our bare bodies. The entire area was wild and forlorn; the roar of the rapids dominating everything. Much later we encountered human activity on the right bank. A massive operation to produce high calorific value wood charcoal was under way. Large deep pits on the left bank indicate that prospective gemmers had been in the area. The walls of the open pits had slumped, throwing the banks into a series of eroded projections. The green curtain of the jungle which had adorned the banks soon parted on the left bank to reveal a clearing—now abandoned and overgrown in *Panicum* and *Illuk*. Encroachers had even cut through into the Wasgomuwa Reserve. It would be generations before the jungle tide would creep in and restore the land to its past glory. Dead and burned leaf-less skeletons stand as lone sentinels amidst the sea of grass.

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THE SILENCE was soon ruptured — the forest echoed with the sounds of timber-jacks, tractors and heavy machines. We were approaching the logging camp situated on the right bank at Kalinga, just above the open gaps created in the dense stands. The river now breaks up into a number of smaller channels, in the process, creating several islands. The largest of these is Kalinga. By the island, the river takes a sharp turn to the east before proceeding on its course towards the sea at Trincomalee. On the island of Kalinga are traces of an ancient civilization. A large sand spit at the northern end of the island made an ideal camping site for the night. Across the bank were gigantic mechanical monsters, an ugly shed and huge logs of ebony, satin, milla and kumbuk, which once adorned the forest, now lay pitifully piled one on the other. Five kilometers beyond is the ancient Veddah village of Yakkure, by the beautiful Handapan villu — the first of the villus going downstream in the Mahaveli ganga floodplain, a large grassy plain which turns into a massive marsh in the rainy season. The village itself consists of a cluster of wattle and daub houses, paddy fields and a small tank. The wide spread of the shallow waters of the Handapan villu — 925 hectares in extent — is a haven for wildlife. Just after sunrise and before sunset teeming numbers of birds cluster in and around the villu flocks of teal, gargeny, cormorants, snake birds and egrets provide a myriad of colour against the greyish waters of the villu. At the far end of the villu, the forest creeps up to the water's edge with halemba, kumbuk and Barringtonia standing at the edge of the villu, knee-deep in water. Elsewhere a wide expanse of rich, grassy plains fringe the water's edge.

IN THE BACKGROUND rising dramatically, 530 meters high above the vast plain is the huge granite outcrop of Gunner's Quoin or Dimbulagala. Bears were numerous on the steep wooded slopes of the rock which were clothed in palu, wira and other fruit trees. Ruins and inscriptions were everywhere and at the summit were two crystal clear rock pools. The endemic two-spot barb fish were numerous in the rock pools. The climb to the top commences by the Buddhist hermitage. Exposed, tangled roots of ebony and satin twine over the rocks. This forest is possibly the only remnant of the original dry zone forest and many rare tree species were representative of the forest; Sterculia Villosa found here was not present anywhere else in the dry zone. The hermitage was a centre of learning; now about 250 young monks live and learn the precepts of Buddhism.

The next day's start was late—and we had to cover a good length of river before we arrived at our next camping site. A noticeable feature was the absence of rock outcrops on the river, feature that had plagued our entire journey the previous day. The river was very wide and sandbar followed sandbar on the distance. The sharp bend of the river at

Kalinga must be in some way responsible for this strange phenomenon. *Legend tells that this section of the river between Kalinga and the sea at Trincomalee is of sufficient depth and free of obstacles at all times to be navigable for small vessels.*

The jungle which had lined both banks during the previous day's journey was now replaced by vast open chenas. Tobacco, maize and vegetable farms had replaced the forest. Thatched huts stood at regular intervals on the banks and tall grass rose up the banks from the water's edge. By mid-morning we approached the confluence of the *Amban Ganga* the largest tributary of the Mahaveli. A startled *Blue-eared Kingfisher* took off from its perch — a piece of driftwood. A large herd of buffaloes endeavoured to cross the river only a few yards away. Looming ahead across the river was the giant 250 meter wide bridge over the Mahaveli at *Manampitiya* that links Polonnaruwa with the east. We left the bridge three hours before sunset. The crows that had gathered at the river for the customary afternoon bath shouted good-byes. The banks of the river had been burned in many places to make chena clearing for the cultivation of tobacco. *Turquoise-blue Indian Rollers* fluttered around in the newly burned areas in search of dead insects, and flocks of yellow, green and orange pigeons disappeared across the glade.

To Be Continued

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N CEYLON IN 1874 -(2)

Ivan Minayev

By Vladimir Yakovlev

FROM HAMBANTOTA, MINAYEV RETURNED back and went to Colombo, where he put up at the Oriental Hotel, a place where only Europeans lived at that time. Minayev felt disgusted with the atmosphere of racism in the hotel. He wrote: "Not a single coloured person is allowed to enter the hotel, where only Europeans are allowed to stay". In Colombo Minayev got acquainted with British people. Among them were representatives of colonial officers and the prosperous owners of coffee plantations. The status of a prominent scholar won Minayev an invitation to the palace of Ceylon's Governor W. Gregory to dinner. However, such conspicuous attention did not touch the guest. Minayev writes angrily about the unworthy conduct and poor government of the colonizers. "In the city British people live separately from the native population and contact with them either officially or for private matters. There are no other relations between the natives and the British, for the British exclusiveness which is manifest everywhere, has assumed a hyperbolic form in Ceylon, inhabited by peaceable and tolerant people. In Ceylon the British are not only rulers, but also elite people of a higher race, who

have nothing in common with the coloured people. The natives feel this and such attitude of the rulers to their motherland does not stir any sympathy in their hearts, of course."

At the same time Minayev notes with sorrow that a certain section of the population worships everything related to the British culture. "People who were educated in English schools and who were taught European history and geography, neglecting native history and geography, cannot see the true value of their country's past at which they view with the eyes of foreigners". People get Anglicised unconsciously, notes the Russian traveller, and many of them think that patriotism is identical with wearing a sarong. Minayev's critical attitude to Britain's colonial policy in Ceylon runs through his entire description of the country's political and social life. The Russian scholar's democratism and protest against colonial oppression are clearly expressed in his articles and books. Minayev did not stay long in Colombo. He was anxious to see the places where Buddhism emerged in the ancient land of Lanka and where Ceylon's national culture originated — above all the country's former capitals of Anuradhapura and Polonnaruwa. On the way he stopped over in Kurunegala. "It was there that the royal palace was and Buddha's Tooth, the national relic, was kept" wrote the scholar. Later on he visited Kurunegala again on several occasions to inspect the legendary Ridi Vihare, to attend prayer-meetings there. In the jungle encircling the town he discovered and studied some forgotten ruins. During his stay in Kurunegala Minayev continued making entries in his diary describing religious rites the interior of monasteries the life of the monks explaining Buddha's poses. It was a discovery for the whole world of that "living Buddhism" depictions of which were either very scarce or were not to be found in the academic studies of other Buddhologists.

THE ROAD FROM KURUNEGALA TO ANURADHAPURA passed through a wooded country and took several days to cover. There was no drinking water, and the traveller had to spend the night in the bandy. "This part of the country," he wrote, "is neglected and poor. The irrigation systems are dilapidated and the lands deserted. Profit is the only thing that interests the British. The bad state of the colonial administration is admitted even by the British officials themselves." The ruins of Anuradhapura strongly impressed Minayev. He walked amid the ruins of palaces, temples and huge stupas overgrown with thicket. Minayev used Buddhist chronicles to recreate the appearance of the majestic structures built by the ancient architects. In his book about Ceylon the scholar wrote later on about the seven story palace with its golden columns festooned with pearls, and a thousand bed-rooms. He wrote about the Mahastupa the summit of which reached into the sky and about the most beautiful "moonstones".

In the chapters devoted to Anuradhapura Minayev related the history of the ancient capital which was repeatedly overrun by Malabar people. From his book the reader learns about the sacred mission of Mahinda, about the glorious feats of King Gamini and his heir Tissa, about the Bo tree and why the Buddhists hold it sacred. "The huge city which had for 12 centuries been the rich capital of Lanka," wrote Minayev, "has only 700 inhabitants and overgrown with jungle." Minayev concluded the descriptions of his impressions of Anuradhapura with the following words: "To see the dead in a different light, for the past to clear up, and for the life of the gifted tribe and its religion to become understandable and comprehensible, it is necessary to have a walk round the town as it is today, to have a better look at the left-overs of the ancient days which you find at every step, and to see from various images on the huge granite plates, columns and cornices evidence of what these people believed in and when they prayed to, how rich the ancestors of the Sinhalese of today were and the elegance and good taste with which they surrounded their life. . . . When you read the local chronicles and listen to what the people remember from the old days, all these bits and pieces left over from ancient times acquire a fresh meaning. They seem to be conveying a true-to-life, though incomplete, picture of the past. They will help you to read the living story of the intellectual and spiritual life of the ancient people." *It should be stressed that all this was written by a person who was well acquainted with such masterpieces of ancient architecture and art as the stone sculptures of Ellora and the immortal creation of anonymous artists in the Anjanta caves. He stressed the originality and national uniqueness of the art of the islanders. "Nowhere else in the world will you find anything like the monuments of the past on Ceylon either in design or execution," wrote Minayev. At the same time he regretted that no attention was paid to the preservation of all these precious ruins.*

MINAYEV STUDIED THE COUNTRY meticulously, starting with its ancient history. He visited Kandy several times, and stressed in his notes that the Kandyan state which was encircled by the jungle and by mountain ranges, was the last bulwark of the Sinhalese people's independence. The Russian scholar saw Kandy for the first time during the festive days of the August perahera. He recorded several versions of the history of that temple festival paying special emphasis on its national character. "Taking part in the procession", wrote Minayev, "were apart from the Buddhist relic from Dalada Maligawa, also Hinduist deities, i.e., Vishnu, Natha, Kataragama and Pattini." He described the Kandyan ritual dances and the procession of elaborately decorated elephants. In Kandy the Russian Buddhistologist was a frequent guest of the viharas of Asgiriya and Malwatte and met with many monks there. Minayev visited Dalada Maligawa and described all the six gilded silver stupas, and the

Sacred Tooth, the greatest relic of the Buddhists resting on a gold lotus leaf in the smallest of these stupas.

The Russian scholar paid much attention to the contemporary state of the Hinayana branch of Buddhism, which he had hoped to see in Ceylon in its orthodox state. With the scientific objectiveness that was natural for him Minayev discovered deviations from ancient canons and the practice of religious rituals. "Whereas in India," he wrote, "Buddhism was almost completely ousted by Hinduism, in the Buddhist temples in Ceylon you can see images of Buddha next to statues of Hinduistic deities".

Though Minayev had read a lot about the aboriginal inhabitants of the island — the Veddas — he wanted to see for himself how they lived and what gods they worshipped. For this purpose he went to Alutnuwara. In those days the Veddas who were at a primitive stage of development, had their settlements in the jungles near the banks of the Mahaweli Ganga river. The Russian scholar met representatives of that ancient tribe, studied their customs, religious beliefs and especially the demonic cult of the Yakkhas.

More than a hundred years have passed since the Russian scholar travelled to Ceylon and of course, a lot has changed since. The ritual dance in demonic masks has become a form of Lankan national choreography, while the masks now produced on a mass scale by craftsmen, have become a favourite souvenir of foreign tourists. Minayev's unbiased evidence is important for us now to see the progress that has been made. This refers especially to the scholar's account of the colonial regime which acquired a particularly ugly shape on the island, which was isolated from alien eyes, "The British are treating the native population of Ceylon even more disdainfully than they are treating the Indians" wrote Minayev. "A Sinhalese is meek by nature he doesn't even think of breaking away from Britain and that is why the Britisher who feels quite safe permits himself things on the island which he would never do on the mainland, in India." *Minayev's documentary descriptions of Ceylon have a great scientific and educational value. His depictions of Ceylon from the position of a good friend of the gifted but oppressed people were a real discovery, of that country for the outside world. Quite new was the scholar's profoundly correct conclusion that those small but gifted people would enrich world culture with their own works of literature and art.*

MINAYEV'S BIOGRAPHERS write that he possessed truly encyclopedic knowledge and describe him as a completely dedicated scholar. His repeated trips to Ceylon and other countries, the processing of the tremendous amount of material obtained in the historical places of Buddhist culture, and his complete dedication to science left him no time to get married and have a family. Hard work undermined

his health and he died before turning fifty, leaving the second volume of his fundamental work on Buddhism incomplete. Nevertheless, Minayev's scientific heritage is tremendous, and it serves as a living source of knowledge for every Orientalist to this day. By his scientific accomplishments Minayev laid a good foundation for mutual understanding and friendship between the peoples of the Soviet Union and Sri Lanka.

— Concluded.

FILM FOCUS

Reviews

HASTHI VIYARUWA (Sinhalese): A praiseworthy creation of Director H. D. Premaratna, this film suffered somewhat by the lack of colour photography so suited to jungle locations, and their stark beauty. The story was one off the beaten track and kept close to Western standards. A Warden (Robin Fernando) clouded mentally by the tragic killing of his young wife (Anoja Weerasinghe) by an elephant, carries his vengeance for the pachydrums, as part of his duties in a sanctuary. Intruding poachers and a village beauty (Sabitha Perera) distract the Warden who is now in conflict between revenge and what he is paid for—to save the ivory tuskers. Although the story is wafer thin, in sequence and photography the audience interest is heightened from start to finish. It is films such as this that attract foreign film makers to our climes to give their efforts shades of realism—yet the local response for this production has not been very encouraging, which is a pity. Robin and Sabitha were very convincing in their roles, with Freddy Silva providing the laughs. Shed your post colonial prejudices and safari to this film, which certainly does not disappoint.

THE FAN (English): Even at the trailer stage, this Paramount Production held out a grim warning that although the film story ran very close to the events that led to the assassination of Beatle John Lennon by a fan, this novel had been conceived in the mind of the author Bob Randall a few years earlier and that the coincidence was purely incidental. This announcement was titled perhaps towards the box office, for the climax did fan out in a different direction at curtains. The story was spun ruthlessly around a youthful FAN (Micheal Bien) who grew up by the day with a crush to adore a slim but aging actress Sally Ross (Lauren Bacall) and moving away from hearth and home to become a psychotic, with an all consuming desire to touch the heart and hem of his goddess's garments, the tips of her fingers and beyond in charismatic adoration and also brutally destroy all those who stood in his way. His sweating rage had to be seen to be believed. To many moviegoers of a couple of decades ago, the convincing portrayal of Lauren Bacall — wife of late Humphrey Bogart — did not come as a surprise. The husky voice that won her many fans once was not hushed, and so was

her captivating figure that remained vital statistically speaking. With Bien too proving a find for the future, your columnist was left again aghast at the lack of patronage for this fine film, that could not retain a hold over more than a week.

James N. Benedict



The Land Acquisition Act (Cap. 460) As Amended by The Land Acquisition Amendment Act No. 28 of 1964.

Notice Under Section 7

Ref No. 3/63/495

03/J 81. WS. 258

It is intended to acquire the land/lands described in the Schedule below. For further particulars please see Gazette Extraordinary of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka No. 252/13 of 7. 7. 83

SCHEDULE

Name of Village etc.: Leeniwehera village in Ihala Wisideke Korale, Ridigama D.R.O's Division Kurunegala District

Name of Land : Holongolla Estate

Plan and Lot No. : Lot No. 320 in Supplement No. 14 in F.V.P. 1150

A. George

District Land Officer,
Kurunegala District.

The Kachcheri, Kurunegala
04. 07. 1983

July 4 - 10

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

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

MONDAY, JULY 4: The government has decided to appoint a parliamentary select committee to examine the working of the country's 1978 Constitution as well as the various election laws, authoritative official sources said yesterday. Political circles are speculating on the possibility of cabinet changes at the end of this month. A United Nations Economic Conference ended with modest results early yesterday after the United States dissociated itself from a final statement on world economic problems. US Secretary of State George Shultz will peer across the border into war-torn Afghanistan when he breaks his talks with Pakistan leaders for a quick trip to the Khyber Pass—*DN*. The burning of the Yal Devi and a series of incidents in the north on Saturday, the Defence Ministry has learnt, had been planned to coincide with anti-Sri Lanka protests in neighbouring Tamilnadu organised by opposition political parties there. An increase in the export duty on all varieties of tea by Rs. 1 per kilo and an increase in the export cess by 25 cents per kilo were effected from midnight last night. Illukpitiyamudiyansele Peter Paul Perera is now the MP for Kaduwela; his nomination to the Kaduwela seat was gazetted on Saturday by Elections Commissioner, Chandrananda de Silva—*SU*. The Ministry of Trade and Shipping will not accede to a request by certain European countries for a reasonable amount of outbound cargo from the Port of Colombo to be allocated to European shipping vessels. The Yal Devi service will not be resumed until carriages are found to replace those which were burnt down by terrorists last week, Transport Minister Mr. M. H. Mohamed said when he opened a new railway station at Koggala on Saturday—*IS*.

TUESDAY, JULY 5: The Central Bank yesterday depreciated the Sri Lanka rupee against the major international currencies in a move that had been expected by knowledgeable financial circles for some time. SLFP stalwart Hector Kobbekaduwa yesterday quit his party positions accusing "certain interested parties" of attempting to take the party towards the right. US Secretary of State George Shultz flies to Saudi Arabia today at the start of a four-nation

Middle East trip to discuss how to get all foreign forces to withdraw from Lebanon. Vietnam is prepared to keep its troops in Cambodia "until hell freezes over if that's necessary" to party a perceived threat from China, Australian Foreign Minister Bill Hayden said yesterday—*DN*. The Sri Lanka Transport Board is carrying a list of sundry debtors amounting to the gigantic sum of one billion rupees; of this amount Rs. 564,152,000 is the current liability of the nine Regional Transport Boards—*DM*. Airlanka plans to begin a service to Taipei, Taiwan from September 1, one month earlier than China Airlines and Taiwan's Civil Aeronautics Administration proposed, according to a report from a leading international news agency. The tea trade reacted with catatonia yesterday over government's decision to raise the export duty by Rs. 1.00 and the cess on tea exports by 25 cents per kilogram—*SU*. Political sources were yesterday speculating the appointment of "an outsider" to the vacant post of Director General of the Greater Colombo Economic Commission. Although provision exists in the Regulations made by the President under Section 5 of the Public Security Ordinance for the imposition of a press censorship, as well as of other measures for the control of publications, such a censorship has not been imposed. Moves are afoot for the abolition of the Post of Deputy Leader of the SLFP, which has been rendered vacant by the resignation of Mr. T. B. Illangaratne—*IS*. There is speculation that the prices of oil will go up as a result of the recent devaluation of the Sri Lanka rupee—*DP*.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 6: The Sri Lanka Central Transport Board is in deep crisis; the projected loss for this year is Rs. 596 million; CTB chairman Victor Rupasinghe told a press conference yesterday. Mr. Vijaya Kumaranatunga an assistant secretary of the SLFP, will quit his party post today but retain his party membership, he said last night. The health of Soviet President Yury Andropov and sharp differences over medium-range missiles have quickly dominated an official visit to Moscow by West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl. US Secretary of State George Shultz flies from Saudi Arabia to Beirut and Damascus today for talks on a complete foreign troop withdrawal from Lebanon—*DN*. The Government Parliamentary group which met today at the Presidential Secretariat presided over by President J. R. Jayewardene unanimously endorsed the appointment of a parliamentary select committee on Franchise and elections—*CDM*. Attorney General Siva Pasupati has forwarded to the Chief Justice Neville Samarakoon a comprehensive report on Lakshman Fernando alias Kalu Lucky, the one-time insurgent convict who claimed he was solely responsible for organising the demonstration opposite the residences of three senior Supreme Court judges. The administration of the Inland Revenue Department in respect of tax collection is to be reorganised and revamped by the Ministry of

Finance and Planning. SLFP leader Sirimavo Bandaranaike has summoned an emergency session of the Sri Lanka Freedom Party's Central Committee for today—*SU*. A price hike of public sector bus fares is likely in view of Monday's depreciation of the rupee; Secretary, Ministry of Transport Board and Chairman, SLCTB Victor Rupasinghe hinted at this possibility yesterday when addressing a news conference; "if the Ceylon Petroleum Corporation increases its fuel prices, we may have to decide whether to increase fares or not," he said. There is rethinking in government circles about the problem of Sri Lankan nationals seeking asylum in western countries on grounds of being politically oppressed in their country—*IS*. SLFP insiders are convinced that a conspiracy to oust the mother and son — Mrs. Sirima Bandaranaike and Mr. Anura Bandaranaike is developing; today's meeting of what is left of the Central Committee may even result in more resignations, according to these sources—*EO*. The report of the I. G. P in connection with the burning of the Yal Devi was yesterday submitted to the Ministry of Defence—*DP*.

THURSDAY, JULY 7: The Sri Lanka Government yesterday rejected a series of human rights violation allegations preferred against it by Amnesty International, affirming its commitment to fully protect the human rights of all persons here and to root out terrorism. The SLFP Central Committee, meeting at Mrs. Bandaranaike's Rosmead Place home, yesterday decided to accept the resignations of Messrs T. B. Illangaratne, Hector Kobbekaduwa, V. W. Kularatne and Vijaya Kumaranatunga who have quit their party posts. The underlying causes of inner-city riots in Britain two years ago still persist and improvements in race relations have been painfully slow, according to a government-appointed body set up to eliminate colour bars. China yesterday blamed the "arrogant and rigid" attitude of some developed countries for the failure of the recent session of the UNCTAD in Belgrade to achieve "appropriate" results—*DN*. Sri Lankans guzzled over six million gallons of all varieties of arrack during 1980 spending nearly Rs. 986 million in the process; this amount of liquor reaching the bellies of Sri Lankans does not include the local and foreign beers, the whiskies, brandies gins vodkas and a host of other spirits that have been available in the country during the past few years—*CDM*. The Government yesterday denied Amnesty International allegations that individuals arrested under the Prevention of Terrorism Act have been tortured; "Both the law and the procedures adopted for detention are designed to ensure that a person arrested is not tortured," an official statement said yesterday. Life appeared to be fast returning to normal in Trincomalee with bus and coach services operating in full strength and hotels shops and eating houses opening up for business as usual yesterday—*SU*. The United States will provide Sri Lanka with a guarantee to raise loans from

leading institutions in the US for housing up to a maximum of 100 million US dollars over a four to five year period states Prime Minister R. Premadasa in a report to President J. R. Jayewardene—*EO*. Mr. Vijaya Kumaranatunga in his letter of resignation from the post of Assistant Secretary of the SLFP and Member of the Central Committee states that the situation that has arisen within the SLFP no longer enables him to keep his self-respect and continue to hold such office. Terrorists armed with fire arms and knives dressed in army uniforms rushed into the Kankesanthurai cement factory early yesterday morning and removed a large quantity of explosives at gun point. Jaffna Police said yesterday—*IS*. The Minister of Transport Mr. M. H. Mohamed told Mr. A. Amirthalingam Leader of the Opposition that necessary action will be taken to restore the railway service between Colombo and Kankesanthurai which had been suspended—*VK*.

FRIDAY, JULY 8: Draft legislation is now being prepared to set up a Securities Council that will ensure the proper functioning of the country's corporate sector within the context of the liberalised economy. There has been no rain in the catchment areas of Labugama and Kalatuwawa and the water levels have dropped to dangerously low levels, the Ministry of Local Government, Housing and Construction said yesterday. Indonesian journalists in Banda Aceh, northern Sumatra have been threatened with death in anonymous telephone calls if they dare expose regularities at the family planning coordinating office there, press reports said; the threats followed widely reported forays by prosecutors across the country into suspected centres of official corruption, under the direction of the Attorney General's office—*DN*. Sri Lankans must brave themselves to face the inevitability of an all round upward trend of prices by 16 percent following the recent devaluation of the rupee. Tourist arrivals to Sri Lanka during the first five months of this year has increased by 11.8 percent over the same period in last year —*DM*. The Water Supply and Drainage Board warned yesterday that the reservoirs had hit crisis level and called for conservation by consumers to avert a crisis; the Board said Labugama and Kalatuwawa reservoirs in particular which fed the entire Colombo districts, Dehiwela-Mount Lavinia, Kotte, Kolonnawa, Bataramulla, Talangama and Kotikawatta had reached crisis levels. Tamil Eelam Liberation Front (TELF) President Dr. Dharmalingam and Secretary Kovai Mahesan have been moved into the Welikade prison—*SU*. Opposition Leader Mr. A. Amirthalingam who met President Jayewardene yesterday asked for the release of the Tamil Eelam Liberation Front officials, Dr. S. A. Dharmalingam and Mr. Kovai Mahesan in addition to Tamil speaking policemen of all grades up to the ASP Grade to be posted to Trincomalee. Over 350,000 families in fifteen drought-affected areas are undergoing severe privation without food and water while the

State bureaucracy has got to make a move to grant them relief—*IS*. The Tamil United Liberation Front (TULF) will decide on 24th July whether they would continue to be members of Parliament when the life of the present Parliament is extended—*EO*.

SATURDAY, JULY 9: The average Sri Lankan seems to be fast shedding his irresponsible attitude to matters financial; he will soon be one of the thriftiest in the world judging from the current rate of savings deposits being paid in at the counters of the National Savings Bank. Twelve MPs — eight from the government and four from the opposition — have been nominated to serve on the select committee on franchise and elections approved by Parliament on Wednesday. The UNP is investigating complaints against partymen who worked against it at the recent by-elections and local government elections. Delegates of 35 nations have reached agreement on a draft final document and are expected today to discuss a date for a closing ceremony or the conference on security and cooperation in Europe diplomats said. Former Chadian President Goukouni Weddeye's radio last night claimed the capture of three more towns by his rebel forces and Mr. Weddeye himself said that "no force can stop us"—*DN*. Inward remittances from the massive Sri Lankan presence in the Middle East will be axed by an eight percent Outward Remittance Tax (ORT); the ORT will be implemented in most Middle East countries which are themselves in financial trouble. There is a resolution before the Central Committee of the Sri Lanka Freedom Party to sack T. B. Illangaratne, Hector Kobbekaduwa, V. W. Kularatne and Vijaya Kumaranatunga from the party—*CDM*. The train service to Kankasanturai, scheduled to resume yesterday was cancelled at the last moment; the services were suspended last week after the Yal Devi was set ablaze by terrorists; the train due to leave Colombo Fort at 11.50 a.m. was cancelled on the advice of the security authorities, it is learnt. While relief for the drought victims in the North Central Province is caught up in a tangled web of bureaucracy, a large number of men in these areas are being forced to accept sterilisation in order to raise money. Prime Minister R. Premadasa yesterday assured Parliament that genuine gem traders and businessmen who wished to come here from abroad to buy gems were issued visas; there had been no slump in the gem trade, he said, in reply to a question raised by Lakshman Jayakody, Attangaalla MP at adjournment time—*SU*. Although security reports indicate that Kachcheris in the north are likely targets of terrorists in their bid to paralyse the civil administrations there, the Services are unable to give these establishments adequate protection as a result of government policy. Senior Parliamentarian of the TULF, Chavackachcheri MP V. N. Navaratnam, is to absent himself from Parliament for a continuous period of three months without

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leave thereby rendering his seat vacant informed sources said yesterday—*IS*.

SUNDAY, JULY 10: The Government will watch the impact of the depreciation of the Sri Lanka rupee against the US dollar for some time; some economists think that it would only need minor relief measures while others believe it would be more, according to ministerial sources. The Navy Chief Rear Admiral Asoka de Silva in a statement said yesterday that the curfew in Trincomalee has been further relaxed following an improvement in the situation there—*SO*. The Government may set up a Development Authority to take over the local authority administration of Sri Jayawardenepura—the new capital of Sri Lanka. The situation in Trincomalee District remains quiet; the period of the curfew has been reduced; it will be effective from 8 p.m. to 4 a.m. daily from today—*ST*. The Supreme Court is expected to meet next week to examine the Sixth Amendment to the Constitution — one that will make provisions requiring all future MPs to swear on oath that they will not ask for a separate state; it is reliably learnt that the government has already approved the draft amendment and decided that it should be classified urgent in the public interest; it likely to be introduced in parliament on July 21, debated and passed immediately thereafter—*WK*. Loans granted to certain individuals by some branches of the Bank of Ceylon and the People's Bank in the Northern and Eastern provinces are being scrutinised by Police. A series of moves for the separation of traders in the Trincomalee bazaar area on a nationality basis have been vehemently opposed by Navy Commander, Rear Admiral Asoka de Silva, Coordinating Authority for the Trincomalee district and by the Police. Charges are to be farmed against the Tamil Eelam Liberation Front President, Dr. S. A. Dharmalingam and Mr. Kovai Mahesan Secretary, *The Island* reliably understands; it is understood that this decision was taken on Friday at a top level meeting—*IS*.



U. N. NEGOTIATIONS ON

Afghanistan

Islamabad: Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan hopes that the mechanism for ascertaining the Afghan refugees views on their return home in safety and honour would be devised within the next two to three months. Talking to newsmen at

Islamabad Airport on his return from Geneva, the Foreign Minister said it was not true that the U.N. sponsored indirect talks on Afghanistan have reached an impasse. "We continue to make steady progress towards a political settlement." Suhabzada Yaqub said talks to discuss substantive issues in a meaningful way would continue and the U. N. special emissary on Afghanistan, Mr. Diego Cordovez, would undertake a shuttle to the region in the near future to carry forward the negotiating process. He said the date for the next round of indirect talks could not be given as these have to be agreed upon by the concerned parties. "Mr. Cordovez is expected to complete his visits to the region in about two months or so and certainly before the next session of the U. N. General Assembly. The Foreign Minister disclosed that Mr. Cordovez will also be taking to Washington and Moscow a text of declaration of guarantees prepared at the resumed Geneva talks.

ASKED ABOUT A STATEMENT by a U.S. official that America knew nothing about what kind of guarantees were to be given, Sahabzada Yaqub said a declaration has been prepared and Mr. Cordovez would discuss it in Washington and Moscow. He however added that it was still a negotiating text which would be finalised after due consultations by Mr. Cordovez. He said that the two guarantors, the United States and the Soviet Union, have so far been indentified whereas the exact number and names of the other guarantors have yet to be decided. Pakistan, on its part, has proposed the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council and it remained to be seen what the other side suggests. Earlier, reading out a statement, the Foreign Minister said that steady progress towards a political settlement had been achieved at the resumed Geneva talks. This was evident from the fact that substantive issues continue to be discussed in a meaningful way through indirect talks, he added. Subhabzada Yaqub said it has been reaffirmed at Geneva that the settlement will be an integrated package. *It will be complete only when all the four elements have been agreed upon. These include troop withdrawal, reciprocal commitments on non-intervention and non-interference, international guarantees and return of the refugees.* He said it has also been clearly understood that the settlement cannot be finalised until the refugees have been consulted on the conditions for their return and these have been found satisfactory to them. "We attach the highest importance to this fact."

THE FOREIGN MINISTER said at the resumed Geneva Session "we moved forward in narrowing down the issues and clarifying doubts on a number of important points. For our part, we shall continue in all seriousness and sincerity to try and resolve these issues through the negotiations. Sahabzada Yaqub Khan reiterated that Pakistan considered a specific time frame for the withdrawal of foreign troops from Afghanistan as centre to the settlement.

He said withdrawals are essential for enabling the Afghan refugees to return home in safety and honour and to restore the independent and non-aligned status of Afghanistan so that the Afghan people can determine their own future. Given the complexities of the problem "if we are to find a solid and lasting solution we must ensure that the foundations on which this solution is based are solid and firm. He cautioned against seeking a fragile and hasty settlement and said "We should not look for quick and spectacular results". Patience and perseverance should be the watch word in moving forward put purposefully forward an honourable and lasting settlement. Sahanzada Yaqub said Pakistan kept Iran fully informed of the progress in the Geneva negotiations. Foreign Secretary Niaz A. Naik met in Geneva the Iranian Permanent Representative thrice for this purpose Mr. Cordovez also kept the Iranian representative informed according to the understanding that exists. "We shall of course continue our bilateral consultations with Iran on this subject." He said Pakistan now expects Mr. Cordovez to undertake a shuttle to the region in the near future for carrying forward the negotiating process and Pakistan would continue to lend support and co-operation to his efforts. He referred to the pre-Geneva in-depth discussions held by him with the permanent members of the Security Council and with Saudi Arabia, the current chairman of OIC and described his visits to the capitals of these countries as most fruitful resulting in continuing support for the U. N. process and for Pakistan's endeavours to seek a peaceful political settlement based on the well known principles endorsed by the international community. He said the resumed discussions in Geneva were held in this spirit.

—APP / Pakistan Times

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INDIA AGREES TO SUMMIT OF South Asian Seven

By G. K. Reddy

New Delhi. After some initial hesitation India has agreed to that idea of a summit of South Asia Seven after the Foreign Minister's have prepared the ground for it to make the meeting worthwhile as in illustrious example of regional self-help within the ambit of South-South cooperation. The Foreign Secretaries of the seven countries — India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Nepal, Bhutan, Sri Lanka and the Maldives — will be meeting in Delhi on July 28 and 29 to prepare for the Foreign Ministers meeting on August 1 and 2 when a South Asia declaration is to be issued setting the tone and spelling out the scope for this regional cooperation. The present intention is to agree in principle to the idea of a

summit next year, but have at least one more meeting of the Foreign Ministers to complete the preparatory work that has been going on for the last two years at different levels with the Foreign Secretaries coordinating the recommendations of working groups on different subjects.

THE FOREIGN SECRETARIES have so far met four times — in Colombo, Kathmandu, Islamabad and Dhaka — after the late President Zia-ur-Rahman of Bangladesh mooted this idea of South Asian cooperation. The working groups set up by them have been dealing with issues like agriculture, rural development, health, transport, telecommunications, planning, education, sports and culture. But institutional arrangements, like how to finance the agreed projects, whether the group should have a permanent secretariat, whether it should also aim at a progressive reduction of tariffs and removal of trade barriers, have yet to be considered by the Foreign Secretaries before carrying forward the exercise to the next stage. The dialogue has been gathering momentum as it is carried forward from one meeting of the Foreign Secretaries to another, but some basic decisions of a political nature have yet to be taken to give the necessary depth and dimension to the effort. *A policy decision has to be taken perhaps at the Foreign Ministers level, whether the proposed regional cooperation should serve as an umbrella for intensifying bilateral cooperation within its broad framework or it should be concentrated only in areas where there is enough scope for multilateral cooperation without duplicating what is sought to be done in the bilateral sphere.*

All these issues are receiving due attention during the preparatory work that is being done for the Foreign Secretaries meeting before the Foreign Ministers meet to elevate the level of these exchanges. The heads of Government can be brought into the picture only after all these details have been settled to the general satisfaction of the seven participating nations. — *Hindu*.

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"NEWSWEEK" POLL ON

U. S. Military Presence Abroad

New York: A majority in five of six countries believe the United States military presence around the world makes war more likely, according to a poll by Gallup International. The Poll, published in *Newsweek* magazine yesterday (11/7/83) asked 500 people in each country — Britain France, West Germany, Japan, Brazil and Mexico — about their attitude towards American people, culture and government. A majority of those responding in every country

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except West Germany believed the U. S. military presence abroad increased the chances of war rather than peace. The figures were Mexico — 74 percent against 18 Brazil — 62 against 19, Japan — 52 against 27, France — 46 against 32, and Britain — 43 against 39. In West Germany, — 39 percent believed the U. S. military presence furthered peace against 25 per cent. The rest in each case were undecided or gave no answer.

Majorities in all countries acknowledged that the U. S. had a wide influence in pop music, films and television. The figures were Mexico — 83 percent, France — 67, Brazil — 66 Britain — 62 West Germany — 59 and Japan — 55. Meanwhile in Washington, about 6,000 antiwar demonstrators, yesterday marched from the Vietnam Veterans' Memorial to Lafayette Park opposite the White House to protest against President Reagan's policies in Central America. They rallied first at the Memorial, and then carrying peace signs such as no Vietnam war in Central America, marched a mile (1.6 km) to Lafayette Park for a second rally. Police had already cordoned off the White House with cars and police lines. Reagan was out of town at his California ranch near Santa Barbara for that weekend. — *Reuter*.

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BRITAIN

Web Of U.S. Bases

By A. Maslenikov

London: American military bases pockmark the entire territory of Britain. These bases, far from guaranteeing the country's security, make it even more open to a retaliatory strike and call in question Britain's national sovereignty. This is the conclusion formed by the *Morning Star* which has published official data on the number and sites of American military installations in the British Isles. According to these data, there are now 64 large US bases situated in various parts of the country. On these installations are deployed over 25 000 American servicemen, and their numbers are to increase still further next year. "Britain", notes the *Morning Star*, "has been turned into an American-occupied country"

The *Morning Star* information on the location and nature of American military bases shows that its statement is not an exaggeration. There is virtually no sphere left in which the White House and the Pentagon do not have strategic control over their "closest ally's" military activities. In the north-west of England near the town of Warrington there is "the world's biggest" American depot of materiel ammunition and equipment situated over an area of 15 hectares. The bases at, Alconbury Bentwaters

Woodbridge, Fairford, Lakenheath, Mildenhall and Upper Heyford keep on a constant alert nuclear bombers with US air force insignia. At two more bases — at Greenham Common and Molesworth — day and night work is under way to prepare sites for American Cruise missiles. In the area of Holy Loch Scotland beneath the water surface are lurking American nuclear submarines with Poseidon missiles on board. All this cobweb of nuclear death is kept together by a unified network of communication stations and posts which are engaged in 24 — hour electronic reconnaissance against the USSR and the other socialist countries.

And even that is not all. Actually, as the *Observer* newspaper reported, that the Defence Department's official data were considerably understating the scale of American penetration. The paper has calculated that at present there are in the British Isles over 150 military bases and other installations serving the Pentagon needs. Among these units, which the British Defence Department "forgot" to mention, are such as an electronic reconnaissance centre at Oachangar and many others. For years, the *Morning Star* says in its editorial comment, Great Britain has been assigned the role of an aircraft carrier marked for destruction in the name of "NATO's common aims". Now it is being converted into a missile launch pad. And again there is readiness to sacrifice it. So of what survival of the country can one speak in a future conflict ? — *Pravda*



INDIA

Special Attention Paid to Tea Small Holders

Traditionally overshadowed by the big plantation owners, the small tea grower in India has had little chance to prosper. But now, a multi dimensional programme teaches the small land holder in the Nilgiris and other tea growing

districts modern methods to maximise their yields and generate more profit.

FOR MANY INDIANS, a planter is still stereotype as an alien who rides on horseback wears western cloths, speaks a foreign tongue and revels in his exclusiveness. Very often a planter's colonial background added perhaps to a secret desire amongst some of his clan to continue to imitate their European predecessors in their life styles accounts for prejudice prevalent in society against this class. Unfortunately, the prejudice is so strong that the emergence of a new class of small planters, who are very much Indian and who are no different from the ordinary Indian farmer requiring compassion and support for economic emancipation is lost sight of. Unlike in general agriculture small growers are not as widespread in plantation crops which for economic reasons, have developed into large scale enterprises geared for export markets. It is only in the last three decades that there has been a marked increase in their number and area. Among the plantation crops, tea has the lowest concentration of small growers with a cultivated area of three per cent of the total acreage in the country and contributing 1.5 per cent of the national crop. Barring the Kangra Valley in the north, 95 per cent of the small growers of tea are in the Nilgiris district in Tamil Nadu (60 per cent) and in the Kottayam and Idukki districts of Kerala (35 per cent).

RECORDED STATISTICS do not reveal the actual spread of small growers since many of them do not register themselves with the Tea Board as statutorily required. Under the Tea Act, those owning up to 8.09 hectares or 20 acres are classified as small growers and this definition precludes the intermediary group which is dependent on outside sources for processing its green leaf. For instance, there are only about 6,400 small tea growers registered in the Nilgiris whereas their number according to a survey conducted by the United Planters' Association of South India is around 20,000 in the Nilgiris alone. The tea growers of Nilgiris produce the best quality for export.

But the small planters like their counterparts in general agriculture suffer due to their unorganised form of cultivation and consequent low productivity. While the estate sector in tea yields nearly 2,000 kg per hectare on an average in Tamil Nadu, and 1,500 kg per hectare in Kerala, the small growers' yields range between 800 and 700 kgs. per hectare in Tamil Nadu and 500 to 600 kgs. per hectare in Kerala.

The reason is not far to seek. Though the small growers cultivate tea as a monocrop the practice of inter-planting tea with vegetables for home consumption is a common feature in most of the plantation areas both in Tamil Nadu and Kerala. With

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the result, the average effective area under tea in small growers' estates in Tamil Nadu is about, a hectare and just half of it in Kerala against the average 2.04 hectares held by small producers in general agriculture. The tea bush population in small holdings is about fifty per cent of the actual potential and their deplorably low yield is attributed to improper and untimely application of fertilizers and non-adoption of chemical control of pests. The handweeding resorted to by the small planters leads to erosion of top soil in tea gardens. Practices of plucking and pruning also differ widely from the organised plantations resulting in a deterioration of quality and a poor harvest.

UPASI, which was once considered a preserve of the big planter, took up the cause of small growers in collaboration with Tea Board in 1970 and launched a training programme for small Tea growers, to bridge wide technological gap which accounted for poor quality and low yields. The Tea Board recognized that while advisory and extension services did bring about a marked impact on the development of the small growers, these by themselves could not go far. They suffered from the limitations of verbal messages to permeate deeply into the established practices. In view of this, the Tea Board developed a four-pronged programme in 1979 offering financial assistance of Rs. 1 lakh each per year to enable UPASI to implement it. The programme envisages training of small growers, laying of demonstration plots, raising of nurseries and crop diversification.

Under the scheme so far 2,200 small growers, both men and women, have been trained in tea planting on a scientific basis in the last four years. They have also been provided with high yielding varieties of planting material from well-maintained nurseries. Classes in Coonoor at the headquarters UPASI are held in Tamil in separate batches for women, men and teachers. Experts in tea planting undertake the difficult task of initiating the conservative tea grower to take to modern methods of cultivation. While assisting the trainees to improve their gardens, the experts pay periodical visits to their wards' gardens to advise them on the practices to be adopted. "This has already started yielding encouraging results", Mr. B. Sivaram, secretary, UPASI said referring to the impact created by the scheme among small growers.

In the village of Kattery where a large number of small growers have undergone training in tea cultivation many have started planting their fields with the clonal variety of tea. Mr. M. Meganathan, a school teacher who has raised the clonal variety on his seven acre estate said that his training and its results in terms of reclaiming his lands were an exhilarating experience. Whether it was Mr. Basaviah or Mr. L. Madappa, or Mrs. Subbalakshmi, their

opinion about the efficacy of the training was unanimous. They only wished that UPASI and the Tea Board had launched this scheme much earlier so that by now they would have become more prosperous.

THE SMALL PLANTERS want the government not to discriminate between the members and non-members of tea cooperatives in the matter of distribution of inputs and pesticides on a subsidised basis. The training in scientific management of plantations has also created an awareness among the small growers about the need for maintaining the ecology of the place and preserving the forests. The small growers meet periodically in their villages to discuss problems of common concern. There was animated discussion on the forest policy of the Government at a meeting of small growers recently in Kattery village. Many of the participants blamed the Government for acquiescing to large scale felling of trees by clandestine traders while preventing the planters from utilising their fuel reserves.

Under the *seeing-is-believing* scheme, the Tea Board has helped laying of demonstration plots in farmers' holdings where the entire improvement operations are carried out in the presence of the scientists working under the scheme. The striking characteristic of the scheme is the message to the small growers that an improvement in yield even in these neglected fields could be brought about not necessarily with high yielding planting materials, but by adoptive scientific practices,

The most important aspect of the programme is crop diversification. Geological surveys and environmental studies conducted in the Nilgiris have shown that large scale cultivation of annual vegetable crops resulted in soil erosion, negation of soil conservation and in upsetting the ecological balance. There is a potential risk of soil slips, land slides, flash floods loss of nutrition in the soil and large scale silting in the irrigation and hydro electric dams.

The diversification programme launched by the Tea Board and UPASI therefore aims at conversion of agriculture from annual vegetables to perennial crops like tea. It has been identified that at least 4000 hectares under vegetable cultivation in different parts of Nilgiris could be profitably brought under tea cultivation. Steps have been taken to introduce this scheme in Thummarahatti and Morigal villages. It is estimated that as a result of the implementation of the programme about 12 million kg of high clonal tea worth about Rs. 18 crores could be produced at the end of 13 years providing direct employment to 10,000 workers.

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Guava

THIS DELICIOUS FRUIT HAS ONLY RECENTLY been deemed worthy of intensive cultivation although it was appreciated by the inhabitants of Central America its country of origin since earliest times. The Guava tree is to be found in all parts of the tropics today and owes its widespread distribution partly to the discovery of the New World but mainly because of the durability of its seeds. Not being easily destroyed they have been carried far distances by birds and when dropped have grown into hardy plants which are drought-resistant and do well in a variety of soils. They need so little attention that in many areas the seedlings grow in such profusion they have come to be regarded as weeds.

In the wild state they become large shrubs with low spreading branches, but when pruned look more like small trees and reach a height of about thirty feet. They belong to the large aromatic evergreen Myrtle family of which there are over 3,000 members including the clove, eucalyptus, allspice, bayberry and sweet gale. There are 150 species of the Guava genus but only two are of commercial importance at present, the Common Guava and the Strawberry or Cuttlerly Guava. A third type the Lucidum, is, however, considered by some horticulturists to be worth further study.

Common Guava: The trunk of the Common Guava tree is covered by a scaly multi-coloured bark and the branches carry light green, oval shaped leaves with a downy undersurface which is heavily veined. Small white flowers, each with four petals, are carried singly in the axils of the leaves. They are extremely attractive flowers which open wide to allow easy pollination by visiting insects. After fertilization, the berried fruits develop in many different ways according to type. Depending on its size, shape and flavour, the Common Guava is sometimes called apple guava, pear guava or lemon guava. Their weight ranges from one ounce to one pound and they may be round or oblong with thin yellow or greenish skins. Immediately beneath the skin is a layer of finely granulated pulp protecting a mass of softer pulp in which the hard, small seeds are embedded. The flesh shows a wide variation in colour. Some varieties are white, others yellow, pink, or red. Some are pleasantly sweet in taste while others are more acid and the worst varieties are disagreeably acid. Even the number of seeds differs from fruit to fruit. In fact, so wide is the variation that, to obtain a steady crop of identical fruit, vegetative propagation of the plants is absolutely necessary.

Strawberry Guava: This is a smaller but hardier type. The tree has a thinner trunk which is smooth

and the bark is grey-brown in colour. The leaves are thick, leathery and glossy and the fruit, usually produced in great abundance, is the size of a large plum. The skin of the fruit is a deep purplish maroon and the flesh has a very soft, melting texture, is yellowish-white and translucent. They are better flavoured than the Common Guava being less pungent and resembling that of the strawberry, hence their name. When cut in half they look rather like tomatoes because of the similarity in the arrangement of their numerous, irregularly oval pips.

Lucidum: This variety is grown on a small scale in Florida and California. The skin is a sulphur yellow shade and flavour of the fruit is pleasantly mild.

Dietary Value: The Chief value of Guavas is their high Vitamin C content though they are also rich in natural sugars and are a good source of iron. Also present are protein fat calcium phosphorus, some Vitamin A, and the Vitamin B 1 and B. Here again the nutritive values depend on variety and the Common Guavas appear to have the edge on the Strawberry Guavas. However interest in the cultivation of the latter is even more recent than that of the Common variety but much research is being carried out and horticulturists have great hopes for vast improvements in its quality.

Commercial Use: In the tropics Guavas are usually eaten straight from the trees, as part of fresh fruit salad, as a conserve, in jams, shortcakes, pies, and as a wine-coloured jelly made from slightly under-ripe fruit. It is as jelly that Guavas are best known for they contain such a high sugar content that the fruit jellifies very easily and that is why it came to be known as 'the jelly berry'. The manufacture of Guava jelly forms quite an important industry in several tropical countries. In Brazil goiabada is the name given to a thick jam made from Guavas and a similar product called Guava cheese is a popular dish in India, the West Indies, Florida and South America, while the juice is universally appreciated either in its natural state or as a basis for other beverages.

When the fruit was first known in Britain is not certain but it was obviously available, either fresh or tinned, in the midnineteenth century for Mrs. Beeton gives a recipe for Guava jelly, which she calls an 'Australian Dish'. Today, we are able to obtain the juice and the skinned fruits in cans. At one time fruit full of seeds was considered unfit for canning but recent improved varieties have allowed the central seed core to be easily removed. Fortunately, though the Vitamin C content is diminished during the canning process, it is far from destroyed and yields approximately 66 mgs of the vitamin per 100 grams. So it is well worth buying for use in the months when there are fewer fresh fruits in the shops. Guavas are cultivated in southern Florida, Hawaii, South

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America, the West Indies, India, Natal and the south coast of the Cape Province of South Africa, where the monkeys love the fruit so much that they make a nuisance of themselves by constantly raiding the orchards.

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AMERICAN FIRM

Rainmaking In Madras

U. S. EXPERTS CALLED FOR RAIN MAKING

Madras, June 16: Artificial rain making operations in the vicinity of the City's water sources likely to begin in the last week of this month. The State Government has finalised the arrangements with a U. S. firm. Atmospherics Inc. California, which carried out similar operations in the city in 1975. A cable requesting them to start the work at the earliest was sent last evening. The three month operation, according to the Chief Secretary in charge, Mr. K. Chockalingam, will cost \$ 250,000 (Rs. 25 lakhs). The Government of India has approved the proposal and agreed to release foreign exchange.

Cloud seeding will be done over the catchment areas of the Red Hills, Sholavaram and Poondi reservoirs which provide Madras with water. It is likely that the same team of experts which was here in 1975 will be coming because of their familiarity with the area and the weather conditions. In 1975, the cost for the three month operation was about \$ 160,000 (Rs. 16 lakhs) —PTI

RAINMAKING (1975) DEFECTIVE

New Delhi June 17: The artificial rainmaking experiments attempted over the lake areas near Madras during the 1975 drought were "defective" in methodology and the technique was "not suitable" on a large number of occasions. So states a confidential evaluation report by a team of experts in meteorology constituted by the Union Department of Science and Technology to monitor the experiment that was carried out by the American firm Atmospherics Inc. The team was headed by Mr. A. A. Rama Sastry, the then Director, Regional Meteorological Centre, Madras, who is now Deputy Director General (Forecasting) in Pune. According to the report: "There could have been only very few occasions when the seeding could have been effective. The cloud development, even on those few occasions when seeding was done, could not be attributed to the seeding operations Statistical evaluation indicated that the actual rainfall values over the seeded area lie very much within the limits of natural variability and clearly indicate absence of any significant increase in the precipitation over the target area due to these experiments" *In other words, in the view of Indian experts, the American team did not induce any more rain than was coming anyway.*

The report was submitted in 1976 but seven years later the same American firm has landed itself with a similar contract to induce rain over the reservoirs during the next three months. The Government of Tamil Nadu, announcing its decision in Madras on Thursday to hire the American firm again, had claimed that there was more rain than normal during the three months in 1975 when the clouds were seeded. The report by the meteorological experts does not disagree with this statement. Indeed, the report notes that from July to September 1975, the catchment areas of the lake received "nearly 150 per cent of the normal" rainfall. But the point driven home in the report is that, during the period, the entire area of Tamil Nadu received excess rainfall. And through the year synoptic conditions were extremely favourable for sustained thunderstorm activity resulting in well distributed rainfall in space as well as in time. "The excess rainfall in the catchment areas of the lake therefore cannot be due to the seedings over the area."

Referring to the methods adopted by the American firm, the report says that inducing clouds to precipitate by artificial means has been tried extensively in different parts of the globe. Essentially there are two ways in which rain occurs in nature: rainfall from *warm clouds*, that is, clouds with temperature above 0 degree C, and from *cold clouds*, those that are so tall that the ambient temperature at their pinnacle is below freezing. In *warm clouds* rain occurs by coalescence, bigger clouds collecting smaller droplets and finally becoming too large and heavy to remain supported by rising air currents. In the case of *cold clouds*, moisture exists in three states: water vapour, water droplets and ice crystals. When super-cooled water droplets and ice crystals coexist, the ice crystals grow over the ice is less than that over the water. When the ice crystals grow sufficiently large and too heavy to be supported by air currents, they fall through the cloud and melt into raindrops before they hit the earth. The rain from the cold cloud can be initiated artificially by kindling the production of the appropriate ice crystals.

In this method, known as cloud seeding, *silver iodide* is used since the crystal structure of Silver iodide is similar to that of ice. One of the ways by which silver iodide crystals are delivered to the clouds is updraft seeding in which an aircraft releases silver iodide smoke in the updraft below individual convective cloud cells. The seeded substance, apart from acting as freezing nuclei, will enhance the precipitation efficiency of the cloud. The American team seems to have adopted the updraft seeding technique for seeding, the silver iodide smoke being fixed to the wings of the aircraft. The smoke was allowed to mix with the layers of clouds through which the aircraft was flying. It was assumed that the silver iodide would be carried upwards to the required levels by vertical air currents. According to

the experts team: "From the experience of the Indian scientists who flew in the seeding aircraft, one is led to believe that there were not much of updrafts. Most of the time, clouds were either raining or were about to rain. On 13 out of the 17 occasions (when the clouds were seeded) rain or drizzle was noticed at the time of seeding — a condition which is not conducive for any updrafts. So it is very doubtful to level where the air temperature was 50 degree C or lower. If the cloud is already in the process of raining or actually raining, whether the rain reaches the ground or not, (it needs) no further coaxing by artificial means for giving rainfall". The report concedes that observations were handicapped because the net work of surface rain gauges was not dense enough to record rainfall from each of the clouds seeded. But it believes that it does not become a serious limitation for suitable statistical evaluation using historical data as well.

The seeding experiments were mostly conducted over the catchment area of the lakes, the target zone being a rectangle 25 miles long and 35 miles wide. The evaluation team also demarcated control zones (non-seeded areas) to the north, south and west of it. Rainfall data of all rain gauges in the different zones were utilised to arrive at the zonal mean, and "the study showed actual rain all during the three months over the seeded area (lay) very much within the limits of natural variability and clearly indicates the absence of any significant increase in the precipitation over the target area due to these experiments." The report is also critical the American firm's attitude towards the participation of Indians in the seeding operations. "Arrangements existed for regular Indian participation in all seedling flights... However, it should be mentioned that the American firm was not very enthusiastic in taking Indian scientists on their flights and they used various techniques to avoid the Indians. —Hindu.

U. S. RAIN-MAKERS HOPE FOR SEEDABLE CLOUDS : *Madras, July 7:* The leader of the four member American team artificial rain-makers, Mr. Thomas Henderson, is optimistic about the success of the cloud seeding operation, proposed to be carried over the catchment areas of the city's main water sources. Shortly after arriving in Madras this morning, Mr. Henderson called on the Chief Secretary, Mr. K. Chockalingam and discussed with him the preliminaries of the rain-making programme. Two other team members, Capt. Mike Holehouse, pilot, and Mr. Will Scot, radar and electronic specialist, also joined the talks. Talking to newsmen, Mr. Henderson said, he expected the radar and other equipment to reach Madras tomorrow evening and the consignment of silver iodide candles on July 12. With the fourth team member, Mr. Walter Sneff, meteorologist, arriving on July 11, the team would be ready for the operation any time after July 12, depending on the cloud formations. "Probably next

week-end we will start the seeding" he said. "In the last couple of days there has been a change in the wind direction more towards the weather conditions that we are looking for" said Capt. Holehouse who has made a few reconnaissance flights.

Explaining the delay in commencing the operation the programme was scheduled to start in the first week of the month — Mr. Henderson said silver iodide candles which were to come from California could be shipped by only cargo flights. The consignment was held up in New York and would be arriving by Air India's next cargo service due in Madras on July 12. For any operation of this type to start, he said, normally it took 60 days, for the preliminaries to be completed. "But now we will start very soon, within just 30 days of the proposal", because of the eagerness of the Tamil Nadu Government to launch the programme at the earliest and the cooperation in getting the approval quickly for landing the equipment. *Stating that cloud seeding was a highly technical and scientific endeavour Mr. Henderson emphasised that there should be rain-bearing clouds of desirable thickness (about 5 000 feet) for a successful operation.* "You don't make rain: by seeding all that you do is to increase the amount of rainfall by about 25 per cent but you must have the right kind of cloud". During the three-month operation in 1975 at least on 15 occasions the team found clouds which were susceptible. "We are hoping to find similar clouds this time also" Mr. Henderson said.—PTI.

FOCUS ON THE VILLAGE

AN INVESTMENT IN MANKIND

Housing And Shelter

By R. Premadasa

We publish below the statement made by Prime Minister R. Premadasa at the Sixth Session of the United Nations Commission on Human Settlements held in Helsinki on April 25 1983.

I CONSIDER IT AN HONOUR and a privilege to be associated with you at this ceremonial meeting which inaugurates the 6th Session of the United Nations Commission on Human Settlements in this beautiful city of Helsinki. By inviting me to speak on this historic occasion you have done a great honour to my country, Sri Lanka. Perhaps the reason of this privilege is the fact that my country has had the opportunity in recent years to take the initiative in

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calling for concerted action from the world community to meet the challenge of providing decent shelter for people all over the world. Two and a half years ago, speaking at the United Nations General Assembly at its 35th Session I called on behalf of Sri Lanka for the Declaration of an International Year committed to homes for the homeless. I referred then to the fact that the problem of housing was not one confined to Sri Lanka or Asia. It was a global problem. *We saw the provision of decent housing for people not as a peripheral part of development, but as its very core. We saw it as an investment in mankind itself.*

The motivations behind Sri Lanka's initiative were direct and simple. In that part of the world from which we come, Asia, more than half of our peoples live on the edge of poverty. Overcrowded cities and homes, insanitary surroundings and an insecure environment are the common lot of most of our people. In many of our countries of Asia, urbanisation has run out of control. Rural areas have been depopulated and cities have spawned large and ugly slums. Congestion, malnutrition and ill health are often the consequences of inadequate shelter. These problems are not common only to the rapidly growing urban centres. The rural dweller too suffers through lack of communication, access to basic health care and inadequate housing.

MY OWN COUNTRY SRI LANKA fortunately stands somewhat higher in the scale than the average picture of Asia that I have described above. We have happily been able to reverse the trend towards increasing urbanisation. This has been achieved by a conscious policy of rural development, aimed primarily at elevating the quality of life of our rural people. We have tried to keep them happy and contented in their village homes and therefore contained the drift into the city. But our very success has only made us more aware of the need for a continuing deployment of resources towards shelter. Our experience has made us alive both to the reward which would come through an improvement in the quality of life of people through housing, and the depths to which one can sink without adequate shelter. We realise therefore that while each nation should do all it could domestically, to evolve a strong and purposive shelter strategy, there is much to be said for global action which would help to focus the collective attention of the world community on the need for better housing for all. *I am specially gratified and humbled at the response which all nations, big and small, have given to the proposal which I made at the United Nations in September 1980. I am also especially grateful to the Director and staff of the United Nations Commissions on Human Settlements operating from Nairobi, which acting on my initiative has drawn up a specific programme of measures and activities to be undertaken prior to and during the International Year, which has now been designated as 1987.*

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EXCELLENCIES, all of you leaders of the countries represented at this meeting are intimately aware of the several steps which have been taken at the United Nations Commission on Human Settlements at the Economic and Social Council meetings in the last two years, and indeed at the United Nations General Assembly wherein Sri Lanka's proposal for collective action on Housing has gained acceptance. It has resulted in the unanimous decision of the global community to name 1987 as the "International Year of Shelter for the Homeless". The legal and organizational framework has been clearly established by consensus among all members states of the United Nations. All that remains now is to decide among ourselves on the specific measures that will be taken nationally, regionally and internationally during the year and to mobilize the level of resources which are deemed necessary to implement our Plan of Action.

I have been in personal contact throughout this period with the leaders of all member states and I have been overwhelmed by the strength of their assurances of support in the realisation of the objectives of the International Year. Naturally, some member states have in the light of their own financial procedures not been able as yet to back up their acceptance in principle with a concrete financial commitment. But I have absolutely no doubt that this will be forthcoming in full measure. In the preparatory work that has been done, there is cause for optimism that the modest target of around 6 Million US dollars that has been presently estimated for activities in the international arena will be fully subscribed. *As a token of our own resolve, Sri Lanka has been pleased to pledge a contribution of US Dollars 1 Million towards the cost of the International Year. I have no doubt that this example of a small and developing country will be followed by several of our bigger and stronger friends.*

AS I MENTIONED EARLIER, most of the action in respect of Housing from now on must come from within each of our countries. The concept of the International Year provides the umbrella under which individual nations strive to focus priority attention on the problem of shelter. In my own country, Sri Lanka, we have added a new dimension to our strategy on Housing. In the past five years we undertook a rapid programme of State aided house construction throughout the country. We build over a 100 000 houses during this period and this was a record achievement. It was necessary in the context of the huge backlog of our housing needs. We have now decided on a major policy change, the chief effects of which are to expand the programme dramatically to reach a target of 1 million houses and to provide greater flexibility to the users as regards affordability and the use of technology. I do not propose to go into the details of this now, but merely use it as an example to dramatize the

change that we have introduced in Sri Lanka as a consequence of our acceptance of the International Year

We have found too that with the International Year, there is a heightened awareness among policy makers, State Treasuries and the people at large with regard to Housing which has lifted Housing, almost imperceptibly, to high priority rank. Our objective in calling for the declaration of an International Year would have been amply served, if during this decade the need for Housing which I regard as a fundamental basic right of mankind, receives high priority attention by all National Governments. During the next few days, we will be engaged in detailed discussions on several aspects of Housing, Human Settlements and environment. Sri Lanka is privileged to contribute its own experience to what will be a historic conference. I have no doubt that this 6th Session of the United Nations Commission on Human Settlements will be a landmark in liberating mankind from one of its basic needs — the need for shelter.

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LESSON FOR SRI LANKA

The Rural Market In India

We publish in five instalments, a speech delivered by Dr. A. S. Ganguly, Chairman, Hindustan Lever Ltd., at the Annual General Meeting held at Bombay on Friday 24th June, 1983 on "THE GROWING RURAL MARKET IN INDIA." The speech received wide publicity in India. The full text was published in special supplements in all the leading dailies in India.

The matters Dr. Ganguly spotlighted and the questions he raised about the Rural Market in India are in a large measure applicable to Sri Lanka also. We publish his speech to provoke thinking about the Rural Market in Sri Lanka which has been very badly neglected all these years. The future of Agriculture and the Village Reawakening Movement in this country depends to a very large extent, on the way the Rural Market is handled and developed.

Unless the farming community is able to sell its produce at a profit and unless the goods they need are supplied at reasonable prices, poverty and misery at sub-subsistence level will continue to stalk the rural countryside — Editor.

THE BUSINESS KNOWN TODAY as Hindustan Lever began operations about a hundred years ago, importing distributing and selling soaps and later toiletries, detergents and foods. Manufacturing

facilities were set up in the 1930s. During the last two decades, major diversification programmes as well as capital investment in backward areas have been undertaken. All through this period the company has continued to invest in and strengthen its sales and distribution system. It is known today for its vast network of sales outlets throughout the country covering several hundred thousand markets. The company's periodic socio-economic surveys both in urban and rural India have enabled it to assess the changes taking place there and to suitably modify its marketing and distribution setup to meet new needs of consumers economically. Over the past few decades, Hindustan Lever Ltd., (HLL) has been supplying to its rural customers — directly as well as indirectly — a wide range of products. *The company believes that in spite of the high rate of urban population growth through migration and other routes, and the consequent increase in their purchasing power, the rural market offers opportunities which are vast and yet relatively untapped. A recent macro-economic survey indicates that there is great opportunity not only for further growth and distribution of traditional consumer goods, but also, increasingly, for products which help improve farm yields. Interest is also spurred by the company's plans for marketing a wide range of products such as plant growth, nutrient, rhizobia, fertilisers and others for the farm sector.*

I HAVE CHOSEN THE RURAL MARKET as the subject for this year's Annual General Meeting address in order to examine some of the latest developments taking place there and assess their economic and commercial significance. To understand them, I believe, is important to the company's strategy for growth and diversification. As a result of the country's successive Five Year plans since the 1950s, agricultural productivity has improved without doubt and this has given a new impetus to India's rural economy. There is, however, a continuous debate centring around "poverty line" — a debate made only more complex by the country's high birth rate and generally improved life expectancy. But the "line" does not divide the country's population evenly. Data from varied sources indicate that there has been a real and absolute increase in the standard of living of the rural population, particularly in certain States and some of these improvements are rather impressive. The numbers being continuously drawn into the cash economy have risen. This highlights the need and the opportunity for the spread of trade and industry to rural areas. Does this mean that at this stage India is well set to build its future with developments in wealthier countries as a model? The answer has to be "No". This is so because the models and systems which will succeed here have to evolve, given the country's unique economic, social and political realities, and the aspirations of the majority of the people.

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THE INDIAN SCENE presents interesting trends. The land holding community's expenditure pattern shows that it is an active and expanding part of the cash economy. The industry too is slowly dispersing to the countryside. There are also investments in rural areas by the Government as part of development planning. A thorough rural survey and market analysis are needed for determining the most cost effective method of distribution as most hamlets in the interior are inaccessible. In this context, communications, trading, and distribution must be regarded as activities of national importance. If these activities are not adequately comprehended at the macro-level they tend to be regarded merely as conduits for goods and cash, and become a ready target for higher taxation. In order, therefore, to comprehend the socio-economic implications of the growing importance of the rural market, I have attempted to analyse some of the factors. During my frequent business rours through small towns and rural areas in different parts of the country, I have felt greatly encouraged by the growth potential there. I have also realised how new techniques have to be continuously developed and tested in order to service this varied market in the most cost effective manner. I believe this subject needs to be better understood and used as a vehicle for ushering a greater measure of economic spread. I hope this speech will lead to wider study and debate on an important subject. *The rest of the speech is divided in three parts: (1) Current marketing issues in India; (2) The size and importance of the rural market and (3) Hindustan Lever and the rural market.*

1 CURRENT MARKETING ISSUES IN INDIA

1. *Marketing as an industrial activity:* The market place is one of the few areas in modern society in which people have an opportunity to participate directly in public life. However in the scheme of economic development in India the generation of surpluses and operation of a free market economy, have not been accorded the prominence they merit. Marketing is erroneously perceived by some as a superfluous activity more suited to a capitalist economy. During the period when there was a drive towards *import substitution*, marketing in India was considered to be an unfair technique used by multinational companies with the help of brand names and advertisements to the disadvantage of local competition. Marketing was also seen as an *urban or semi-urban activity* restricted to a cash economy and catering somewhat unfairly to supposedly more affluent consumers. I believe, however, these popular notions are fast changing. The high cost of self-sufficiency due to obsolescence of technology, and the pressures to export, combined with the need to produce more within the country, is forcing a reappraisal of the whole area of post-manufacturing management. *Marketing is now seen as an invaluable tool for economic spread within the country as well as in international*

trade. This is true both of agricultural produce as well as industrial products.

2. *Potential for Growth:* Until now, the practice of modern marketing has mostly remained confined to the urban centres. The inappropriateness of this, however, is now becoming obvious with the emergence of a larger cash economy in the agricultural sector. Currently the GDP from agriculture is 40 percent and from the industrial sector 22 percent. Of this, one third of the industrial sector's contribution is directly related to inputs into the agricultural sector. In addition to the contribution made by agricultural commodities including cash crops, there are other factors which help in the development of a cash economy in rural India. These can be traced to the socio-economic policies of the Government meant primarily for achieving a measure of distributive justice. There are large projects, dams, irrigation and canal networks and new industrial centres around steel mills, fertiliser plants, and so on. Besides these, there has been a deliberate attempt to encourage and subsidise investments in non-industrialised, backward areas to encourage the dispersal of organised private sector industry from the urban centres as well as to foster more evenly spread economic development in the country. To force the pace, the Government has now published a list of "zero industry districts". All in all, the cash consumer economy is bound to expand rapidly. The process has been catalysed also by the dispersal of the branches of nationalised banks into rural India and the phenomenal growth of communications, first through the transsitor radio, and now through television.

3. *Spread of marketing:* All this represents the positive effect of marketing over the years, even though it was neither recognized nor its importance accepted as such. The Green Revolution itself was the result of marketing of a scientific technology to the masses of rural India. It possibly is the biggest and most successful marketing endeavour of our times. Over a very short period, the concept of hybrid varieties and chemical fertilisers came to be known to virtually every farmer in the country. Not only that. A vast majority of them switched to modern farming practices abandoning ones which had held sway for centuries. *The credit for this goes to the Government agencies and individuals who organised this successful marketing task on such a gigantic scale.*

Incidentally, as part of this effort, rural advertising is increasingly evident throughout the countryside. The majority of advertisements and hoardings are for fertilisers, hybrid seeds, diesel pumps and pesticides, not to mention the message of family planning. Therefore, marketing/advertising, in the Indian context, must be seen as consisting of techniques for improving economic mobility within the country. Emergence of an active cash economy is bound to create a strong

rural demand and promote consumption. The traditional growth and dominance of the urban industrial centres is undergoing rapid change. More equitable distribution in rural areas would also help in slowing down the rapidly increasing influx of people from rural into urban centres.

To be continued...

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SALT MIXTURE

To Prevent Infant Deaths

By **Carla Carlson**

Washington: A simple solution of water and salts may be the cure for needless infant deaths in the less developed countries (LDCs) and the key to introducing millions of the world's poor to health through sanitation and nutrition education. In 1980, according to the World Health Organisation (WHO) as estimated five million children under age five died in developing countries — about ten every minute — as a consequence of dehydration (loss of fluid) from diarrheal disease. But by giving a sick child a mixture of salts and sugar combined with water, the child will regain fluids and the salts necessary for regulation of body functions, said Halfdan Mahler, Director General of WHO based in Geneva, Switzerland. Mahler explained how the introduction of "oral rehydration salts" to people in developing countries can be the "entry point" into their value and their understanding of disease and good health during a four-day international conference on oral rehydration therapy. The conference which brings together 500 scientists and health officials from 50 developing countries, is sponsored by the US Agency for International Development (AID) in cooperation with the International Centre for Diarrheal Disease Research (in Bangladesh), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and WHO.

"Too many people know what it is to put in a day's work when you have diarrhea," Mahler said. "It undermines the intellectual and social potential you have. And around you, children drop like flies". He pointed that while oral rehydration therapy is "unusually simple yet highly effective" in reducing death, the education efforts that must be used to help mothers and fathers understand the cause of diarrheal disease — unwashed hands, poorly designed latrines, improper nutrition, unclean food and water — can bring about improved health in general. "In developing countries, health problems are a symbol of underdevelopment and poverty," he added. "Health and socio-economic development go hand in hand." A number of diarrheal diseases stem from bacterial or viral infections or parasites. The conventional treatment for dehydration that results from diarrhea is infusion of lost fluid and salts by

intravenous therapy — injecting a solution directly into the bloodstream via a needle and syringe. However, this therapy is inappropriate in areas where diarrhea is most common because it is expensive and because trained personnel and hospital facilities are required. Physicians have long believed that, because of intestinal irritation during of diarrhea nutrients could not be absorbed normally. But a US study of hospitalized infants in 1949 showed that oral rehydration — countering dehydration by taking fluids and salts by mouth — was a successful alternative to intravenous therapy. It was not until the 1960s however, that this technique received professional attention from the Cholera Research Laboratory — now known as the International Centre for Diarrheal Disease Research in Bangladesh.

William B. Greenough, Director of the Center said that oral rehydration salts may actually resemble solutions that were used during illness in ancient times among families in China and India and other countries. "In science, most things are discovered only after they have been known for hundreds of thousands of years" Greenough said. "Now we once again try to tie it (oral rehydration) in with the traditions of home". There are four delivery methods for oral rehydration therapy in developing countries, according to AID: Distribution of WHO-endorsed packets that can be directly mixed with one liter of clean water; distribution of special spoons to measure out salts and sugar for home preparation of solutions; the "pinch and scoop" method, whereby mothers are taught to make home solutions using hand measurements of market-brought salts and sugar, and use of locally designed utensils. Experts note that breast feeding helps to reduce the incidence of diarrhea. Mothers who breast feed their infants not only provide nourishment but also help them build resistance to diseases. And although contaminated water is often a source of the agents that cause diarrhea, a study conducted in the Gambia showed that the water used to mix oral rehydration salts was clean or contaminated made no difference in the incidence or duration of the disease. Clean water is highly preferred in mixing the solution. However, health officials as parents should remember that their children may die of dehydration — not of diarrhea itself — if fluids and salts cannot be restored. The WHO recommended formula of oral rehydration therapy is: 3.4 grams of Sodium chloride (table salt); 2.5 grams of Sodium bicarbonate; 1.5 grams of Potassium chloride; 20 grams of Glucose (a type of sugar) and one liter of water.

Glucose acts as a carrier of the salts (called electrolytes) from the intestines into the bloodstream, Greenough explained. He added that new research is being conducted at the Bangladesh center on the possible use of starch based oral-rehydration fluids. Starches, such as rice and potatoes

contain glucose and are more commonly found in some areas than sugar. "We are looking for ways to make it (oral rehydration) simpler to use", Greenough said. But currently the greatest need is to get the formula to people who need it and to educate them about its use, he added. The Bangladesh centre is supported by AID which also sponsors 67 other projects or activities with diarrheal disease components in 30 developing countries—USIS.



SPOTLIGHT

• Wimbledon • Sri Lanka Cricket

WE TAKE A BREAK FROM THE EXCITEMENT OF WORLD CUP CRICKET to offer a big bouquet to John McEnroe on his winning the plum of world tennis the Wimbledon title beating Chris Lewis in the final played on the picturesque centre court at the headquarters of tennis in England. Playing near-flawless tennis McEnroe popularly known as the "Supaer Brat" spent nearly 35 minutes in the centre court in racing to a 6 - 2, 6 - 2, 6 - 2 victory over Lewis of New Zealand. Incidentally Lewis was Wimbledon's first unseeded finalist after Wilhelm Bungert of West Germany in 1967. He is the first New Zealander to enter the final in 69 years. It must also be recalled that Lewis was seeded 91st in the world rankings.

McEnroe who has always had a brush with officialdom collected 66,000 sterling and bagged his fifth Grand Slam title. He won Wimbledon in 1981 and the US open between 1979 and 1981. In this tourney McEnroe had a peaceful time with match organisers and was fined only 500 of his 11,500 dollars prize money. McEnroe (said after the final: "I feel great no question about it and certainly no feeling of anti-climax just because it was so easy." He further added that he was proud to win the Wimbledon title. "Everything went according to plan. It all went exactly as I wanted. I knew he would be nervous and that I had to get on top of him early because Lewis is the type of guy who if you let him into the match could be hard to beat. But I kept all over him and he had an uphill struggle all the way I wanted to. And I am glad to have been to win in the way people wanted me to", said the champion.

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McEnroe played one of his best games in winning the title. His superb touch and control coupled with his speed and variation were all of the highest class and was too much for his opponent. McEnroe accepted the Wimbledon Trophy from the Duke of Kent. The Women's Singles title went to Martina Navratilova who brushed aside fellow American Andres Jaeger in straight sets. Later Navratilova partnered Pam Shriver to take the Doubles title. They beat American Resie Cassals and Wendy Turnbull of Australia 6 - 2, 6 - 2. Incidentally John McEnroe partnered Peter Flemming to take the Men's doubles title too. McEnroe's younger brother Patrick who played in the Junior Wimbledon, came near to reaching the Junior Final. After taking the first set and forcing his opponent Stefan Edberg of Sweden into a tie-breaker McEnroe junior's game deteriorated and he went down to the French Junior champion 3 - 6, 6 - 7, 6 - 2.

THE WORLD CUP CRICKET TOURNAMENT was successfully concluded in England with India winning the glittering Prudential Trophy for the first time and the winners were given a rousing welcome home by their numerous supporters. A near 5,000 crowd cheering lustily at the Airport garlanded Kapil Dev and his team mates and waved flags chanting "Kapil Dev Zindabad" — meaning "Long Live Kapil Dev". Their joy was so great that most of the schools were closed and school children lined the 20 mile route from the airport to Central Bombay to cheer the cricketers. The Indian cricketers were welcomed at the airport by the Maharashtra State Sports Minister Arun Dikar. Also present was former Indian Captain Ajit Wadekar who led India successfully in the early 70s. The Indian cricketers were also given receptions by President Zail Singh and Prime Minister Indira Gandhi.

SRI LANKA which also took part in the World Cup tourney and won only one of their six matches (beating New Zealand) is now getting down to meeting its cricketing commitments for the next seven months which was drawn up at the International Cricket Conference meeting held at Lord's recently. Zimbabwe will be the first team to play here and that will be in December. Last October Sri Lanka visited Zimbabwe. On that tour Zimbabwe beat Sri Lanka convincingly and it will be interesting to see how Sri Lanka will fare against them on home soil. Zimbabwe showed their cricketing skills during the World Cup tourney beating the Australians and later having the World Champions India tottering at 27 for five., only to let the Indians off the hook by some lapses on the field. Zimbabwe are trying their utmost to gain Test status and there is no doubt that they will bring a team of full strength in an endeavour to raise their fame and their image and enhance their chances of gaining full member status.

After Zimbabweans, World Cup champions *India* will be here in January and play Two Tests and a series of one-day Internationals. The Indians will be a big draw here. *New Zealand* will follow the Indians and will be here for four weeks playing a Test series in addition to one-day Internationals. The Kiwis are expected to play three Tests. The local Cricket Board has picked Colombo, Galle and Kandy as the venues for the Tests. The One-day Internationals will be played in Colombo. *There are a lot of chinks in the armour of the Sri Lanka squad at the moment and the authorities will have to get down to work immediately and put things right, Sri Lanka very badly needs a good allrounder and with so many to choose from we hope the right one will be picked. The Sri Lanka bowling too has to be strengthened.*

IN THE MEANTIME a Tobacco firm in London is planning to hold a competition to find the greatest allrounder in the game today. Three allrounders have already been contacted. They are Ian Botham, Imran Khan and Kapil Dev. Ian Botham apparently has been overated. He also had a disastrous World Cup fling and he will certainly have to improve considerably if he is to make a name for himself in the future. The winner of the above competition stands to gain 10,000 pounds. In all 29 thousand pounds will be at stake. According to the organisers two first class wicket keepers and three top umpires will be invited along with a squad of top class fieldsmen. However the competition is certain to run into some foul weather because according to Neil Durden-Smith, Chairman of Sports Sponsorship International Limited, there is the possibility of the tournament being held in South Africa. If this is so it is guaranteed that the best allrounders from countries opposed to apartheid will not want to show their prowess in South Africa. The suggested format for this tournament is: Each player will face 20 overs and bowl four overs at each of his rivals. His score will be calculated on the number of runs he scores, divided by the number of times he is out and then multiplied by the number of wickets he has taken. The organisers have had talks with the Test and County Cricket Board and will shortly announce more details of the competition and venue.

AVE MARIA CONVENT, NEGOMBO proved their class once again by emerging All Island Champions in the contest organised by the Sri Lanka Schools Athletic Association and sponsored by Mackwoods Limited. The meet was held at St. Peter's College grounds. In their bid to get the title they won five of the eight trophies including the Lake House Challenge Trophy. The other athletes to impress were Dipika Rodrigo of Anuradhapura MV who bettered her own record in the Under 19 Putt Shot. She also won the Javelin and Discus events. Simonne Van Heer Van Heer of Holy Family Convent, Bambalapitiya, equalled her own record in the 100 metres with

a time of 12.9 seconds. She also won the 200 metres and the Long Jump in the Under 19 age group. She was awarded the Cleverdale Trophy for the Best Performance.

L. V. R. Fernando is the Chairman of the new body that will be in charge of gymnastics in Sri Lanka. The Secretary is H. S. de Zoysa and the treasurer is M. N. Tennekoon. Other members are Dr. A. Johan and Mrs. H. Molligoda. The new body was appointed after the Ministry of Sport had cancelled the registration of the National Gymnastics Association. The new members are determined to popularise gymnastics in the provinces by holding classes, coaches camp for judges and for beginners.

ALLROUNDER

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SPORTS CHRONICLE

July 4-10

MONDAY, JULY 4. Trinity boosted their morale for the Centenary Bradby Shield Rugby Football encounter against Royal in Colombo when they beat the Royalists by 14 points (2 tries and 2 penalties) to 6 (a goal) in a rousing first-round encounter at the Bogambara Stadium on Saturday; at half time Trinity led 7 — 6. St. Anthony's College Kandy emerged champions in the Central Zone Group B of the Sri Lanka Schools Cricket Association under 15 tournament by defeating Sri Rahula College Katugastota recently. Sri Rahula 1st innings 35 all out and St. Anthony's 1st innings 122 for 1. Maliyadeva College, Kurnegala, gained an easy first inngs victory over St. Mary's College, Kegalle in their under 17 cricket tournament match recently. Maliyadeva 336 for 4 declared and St. Mary's 135. A fine bowling performance by Wasnatha Fernando (5 for 9) helped D. S. Senanayake Vidyalaya score an easy victory over St. Benedict's College in their schools Under 15 pre-quarter final match played on the Prisons grounds; St. Benedicts 57 and D. S. Senanayake Vidyalaya 67 for 5.

TUESDAY, JULY 5: Royal routed Overseas Children's School by 6 goals to one in their Schools Under 17 Soccer Tournament match played at Rudra Park Wellawatte after leading 3-nil at half time. Kelani Valley beat Dickoya by 10 points (one goal and a try) after leading 6 - 0 at the breather in the up-country rugby league tournament match played at Darrawella on Friday. Joint champions Joseph Vaz edged out Wesley by 2 goals to one after leading 1 — 0 at the breather in the Under 19 Colombo Schools Hockey Tournament match yesterday. Hindu College defeated D. S. Senanayake by 3 goals to nil in their under 17 Sri Lanka schools football tournament match at Bambalapitiya on Friday after leading 1 - 0 at the break.

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WEDNESDAY, JULY 6: Dharmaraja College, Kandy beat Tritinity College by 3 runs in their under 17 schools cricket tournament matches played at Lake View grounds recently; Trinity 1st. innings 121 for 6 wickets and Dharmaraja 124 for 3 wickets. D. S. Senanayake MV qualified to meet Ananda A in an Under 15 Division 1 cricket semi final when they beat Nalanda A by 5 wickets in the quarter finals match played at Campbell Place; Nalanda A 122 for 7 and D. S. Senanayake A 123 for 5. D. S. Senanayake's prequarter final win was over St. Thomas, Matale on the Bloomfield grounds; D. S. Senanayake 121 and St Thomas, Matale 58. Dharmaraja College, Kandy beat Sri Rahula College, Katugastota by 1-0 in their under 17 Sir John Tarbat Shield soccer tournament match played recently at Lake view.

THURSDAY, JULY 7: Paceman K. G. Priyantha's sentential figures of 14.4 overs — 8 maidens 12 runs 9 wickets in the quarter final against S. Thomas Prep. Kollupitiya on the Prisons Grounds saw Isipatana through to the under 15 Division II cricker semi-finals; Isipatana 164 for 9 in 53 overs and S. Thomas Prep: 92 in 29.4 overs. An unbeaten 150 by skipper Upul Prasanna and an aggressive 107 by Sujith de Silva helped Ananda Sastrayala beat Wesley College convincingly by 102 runs in the prequarter under 15 tournament tricket match played at Kotte; Ananda Satraya 324 for 3 off 70 overs and Wesley 222 for 7 off 70 overs. Kamal Perera of Parakrama House erased a 29-year-old record yesterday; with a throw of 140 feet shattered the 1954 record set by Sarath Wijesinghe of Asoka House (132 ft. 9") at the Anada College Inter House athletics meet held at the College grounds.

FRIDAY, JULY 8: Ceylon Tobacco Company A won the B Division title of the Mercantile Hockey Association edging out Singers by 6 goals to 5 in the tie-breaker; at full time the scores stood level at 1 goal each; the final was played on Wednesday at the NCC grounds, Maitland Place. Kelani Valley had to fight hard to pull a 10 points (1 goal, 1 try) to 4 points (1 try) win over Dickoya in their Upcountry League Rugby tournament match played at Darawella; at half time Kelani Valley led 6 nil. Trinity College, Kandy scored a thrilling 110 win over Vidyarthi College, Kandy in their Kandy Schools under 15 hockey tournament match played at the Dumbara Campus grounds, Polgolla on Sunday

SATURDAY, JULY 9: Reckless batting by Maharaja's B gave their A team the advantage at the end of the first day of their three-day Mercantile A Division cricket match on the NCC grounds yesterday; when rain drove the players for an early close 20 minutes ahead of time.. Maharajas A were well placed on 153 for a 3 in reply to a paltry Maharaja's B total of 147. Half centuries by opener Amal Silva and Sumithra Warnakulasuriya took Browns A to a comfortable 279 for 5 in 86 overs when rain

stopped play 25 minutes before scheduled close on the first day of their three day Mercantile A Division Tournament Cricket match against Ceylon Tobacco A on the Bloomfield grounds yesterday; the match will be continued today. Army beat a depleted Navy team by 13 points (a goal, try, and a penalty to 3 (a drop goal) in a scrappy Second Round Clifford Cup Rugby match at Galle Face yesterday after leading 3-all at the breather; Navy were without six regulars due to injury. Asanka Seneviratne's 30-yard penalty in the 23rd minute of the first half proved to be the "match winner" for S. Thomas College Mount Lavinia; they beat St. Anthony's College, Katugastota 3 — nil in their rugby match played at Longden Place yesterday. Held down to a 4-nil lead in the first half by solid tackling .. Royal clicked in the second half to beat Vidyarthi by 21 points (a goal, 3 tries and a penalty) to nil in their rugby match at Reid Avenue yesterday. A penalty by full back R. P. Wijaweera helped Dharmaraja beat Nalanda by 3 points to nil in their rugby match played at Nittawela yesterday there was no scoring in the second half.

SUNDAY, JULY 10: Trinity College under 15 cricketers scored another tour victory at London when they beat the famous Public School Dulwich College by 139 runs; Trinity College 228 for only 2 wickets and Dulwich 89. A penalty kicked correctly by Sumathipala in the final two minutes of play helped CH & FC to beat traditional rivals CR & FC by 9 points (3 penalties) to 7 (a try and a penalty) in the return Clifford Cup Rugby Football match played yesterday at Maitland Crescent; at half time CH led 6 — nil. Kandy avenged their first-round defeat when they beat Air Force by 23 points (2 goals 2 tries and a penalty) to 12 (a goal and 2 penalties) in the second-round Clifford Cup rugby football match played yesterday at Nittawela; at half time Kandy led 12 - 11. Trinity trounced St. Peter's by 22 points (a goal and 4 tries) to nil in the inter-school rugby football match played yesterday at Londgen Place; at half time, Trinity led 12 - nil.

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ROWING

Opening Regatta

IN THE FINALS of the opening Regatta of the Colombo Rowing Club, were four events on the card. D. Vedamuttu and Derhan de Silva rowed powerfully, and like seasoned oarsmen, to win the van Langenburg Trophy for Novices, their cox, S. Perera, giving them all the support they wated, in a time of 4 m. 29.5 secs, the losers, Harith de Silva and Kamal Gunawardene coxed by C.Cumarana-

tunga, two lengths behind them at the finish, rowing well, too, the winners improving on the time they took in the heats by nearly a minute. Both pairs were from Royal College.

In the Gordon Armstrong Cup race for junior scullers, Randev Jayasuriya won the finals easily by beating his school club mate A. Jayasinghe, they are both from St. Thomas' College, in 4 mins. 52.9 secs. a slower time than he got in his heats. The Stubbs Quack finals was a surprise in that Rohan Fernando and Lushanta de Silva won their race so easily beating J. S. Wickremasinghe and Hussain Anverally in 4 mins. 10.2 secs. De Silva stroked the coxwainless boat really well, and Fernando who has come on enormously since a year or two back, looking both fitter and stronger, gave him just the support he needed.

The regatta was a great success, and a feature of it was the presence of the first Ceylonese to win the Colombo Rowing Club's Sculling Championship, which he did away back in 1943, and that was Ray Wijewardene, an Olympic yachtsman. Mention must also be made of the fourth race, over a 1,000 yards for senior scullers, in which only two took part, sculling champion H. Anverally and the other finalist in the championship race, J. S. Wickremasinghe, that race being over a mile, but this time Wickremasinghe won in the middle of the course Anverally doing a sprint when he moved very fast but obliquely to the directions in which he should have been going, putting paid by doing this to any chances he had of winning this event.

— Our Rowing Correspondent

The Land Acquisition Act (Cap 460) as amended by the Land Acquisition (Amendment) Act No 280 of 1964

Reference No. EA / 2 / 293.

NOTICE UNDER SECTION 7

It is intended to acquire the Land described below for a Public purpose. for further particulars please see the Gazette Extraordinary of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka. No. 252/ 12 dated 06.07.83.

- Situation** : Situated in the village of Panagoda, in Minor Division of Munwattebage Pattu in the D. R. O' S Division of Raigam Korale East in Kalutara District in Western Province.
- Name of Land** : Mahagedarawatta and Gammeddegodawatta
- Lots & Plan No.** : Lots 1 to 5 in P. P. K. 1977

M. V. P. Silva

Assistant Government Agent
Kalutara District

Kachcheri,
Kalutara,
5th July 1983.

TENDER NOTICE

MINISTRY OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT, HOUSING & CONSTRUCTION. DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS

Tenders for the construction of Internal Plant Building at the proposed Telecommunication Training Centre, Welisara will be received by the Chairman, Ministry Tender Board, Ministry of Local Government Housing and Construction, Transworks House, Colombo 1, upto 10.00 a.m. on Wednesday 03 August, 1983.

Tender forms could be inspected and/or obtained from Chief Construction Engineer (Buildings) Colombo North, Department of Buildings, Model Farm Road, Colombo 8, up to 4.15 p.m. on 29.7.83. Tenderers should be registered contractors or "Trial Letter" holders of the Department of Buildings for a sum above Rs. 4,500,000/- and evidence of same should be produced before issue of Tender Forms. A refundable Tender Deposit of Rs. 2000/- should be paid at the Department of Buildings or any Kachcheri outside Colombo and the receipt produced for issue of Tender Forms.

Tenders will be opened immediately after the time and date of closing of tenders. Tenderers or their authorised representative may be present at the time of opening of tenders.

Tenders in respect of Private Companies tenderers should declare the names of the current Directors and the Shareholders and in regard to Public Companies the names of current Directors.

Any further particulars could be obtained from the above Engineer.

K. C. Samaraweera.
DIRECTOR OF BUILDINGS.

Department of Buildings,
P.O. Box 504,
Colombo. 18 July, 1983.

Govt



Notice

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

Reference No. 3 / 41 / 612

It is intended to acquire the land/lands described in the Schedule below for a Public purpose. For further particulars see Gazette Extraordinary No. 251 / 12 dated 30. 06. 1983 of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka.

SCHEDULE

Situation :- Central Province, Matale District, Ambanganga Divisional Revenue Officer's Division, Ambanganga Korale, Gurubebila Village

Name of Land/s :- Pansala watta

Extent :- 0. 284 hectares

Plan and Lot No. / Nos :- P. P. Ma. 644 - Lot No. 1
02. My notice dated 2. 3. 1983 published in Gazette Extraordinary No 235/3 of 7. 3 1983 of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, is hereby cancelled.

The Kachcheri,
27 June, 1993.

Dharma Hewamedduma
District Land Officer,
Matale District

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CONFIDENTIALLY

Air Lanka

IS IT NOT TRUE that in diplomatic and political circles the Airlanka/Taiwan negotiations continue to provide a major talking point? That last week, this column had raised this matter by referring to certain reports in the newspapers? That *The Island* had persisted in drawing attention to the matter with a report under the headline DEFENCE MINISTRY WAS UNAWARE OF AIRLANKA'S NEGOTIATIONS WITH TAIWAN? That the report read: "Air Lanka is a limited liability company which functions in a commercial environment where the carriage of passengers according to commercial viability is the mode of operation, states a press release issued by the Public Relations Division of Air Lanka. It adds, 'Similarly, all international airlines look at route viability before an operation is begun.... A feasibility study is under way to assess the viability of this operation. Initial talks were held from airline to airline which is the accepted practice and procedure adopted in the field of international aviation. However, the Defence Ministry was unaware of Air Lanka's intention prior to the departure of the Air Lanka delegates to Taiwan. Airlines do not engage themselves in political considerations when they look at the commercial viability of operating on any particular route.... After the feasibility studies are completed and if the route is found viable, then Air Lanka will seek Government approval to fly into Taiwan. It is a matter of interest to note that the Ceylon Shipping Corporation currently operates both into Taiwan and South Africa'....' *That this homily on international trade practices is well and good for the cocktail circuit, but Sri Lanka has had a special trade relationship with China for over 20 years very much to Sri Lanka's advantage? That it is far more important to maintain this trade relationship than to fly Air Lanka planes to Taiwan?*

THAT WHILST AIR LANKA OFFICIALS were humming and hawing about this matter, the *Weekend* of June 26, 1983 had a front-page banner headline AIRLANKA FLIES INTO A TYPHOON: MAY CAUSE A SERIOUS DIPLOMATIC INCIDENT. "The national carrier, Airlanka, has by its own admission been negotiating apparently without the government's consent for an air link with Taiwan which, if successful, could easily sabotage the government's foreign policy by causing a diplomatic incident with China. Airlanka's Chairman Rakkhitha Wickramanayake, denied a *Reuter* report on Thursday which quoted a Taiwanese spokesman as saying that the airline had asked for permission to fly to Taipei. Mr. Wickramanayake told a local newspaper, 'we have no plans to fly to Taiwan yet' and that 'there is no purpose in consulting government until a study

shows the route is viable'. But Airlanka's official house magazine, *MONARA* has made it clear that despite these protestations, the management of the national airline as long ago as March had been engaged in formal talks with the Taiwanese for an air link with Taipei. In its issue dated March/April *MONARA* even carries a picture of the meeting in Taipei on page 3. The caption reads: 'Our Chairman Captain S. R. Wickramanayake and our Chief Operating Officer Peter Swift, at the first round of bilateral talks regarding traffic rights to Taipei'. Such bilateral talks are clearly contrary to the policy of the Sri Lanka Government which has a long-established cordiality with China and which is meticulous in its attitude of not giving the slightest recognition or encouragement to Taiwan. Meanwhile the Chinese Government in Peking which has in the past reacted strongly against attempts by any one to promote a so-called idea of 'Two Chinas' has already expressed its concern about the Airlanka initiative. The Chinese Embassy in Colombo, *WEEKEND* learns last week brought the *MONARA* picture and caption to the attention of the Foreign Office with a request for clarification. *Weekend* learned on good authority that in contacts between Airlanka and Taipei flag carrier China Airways wanted to use Colombo for flights to Johannesburg. At that time China Airways appointed a leading Colombo firm as its General Sales Agent. The matter was dropped after the Government refused to agree to China Airways landing rights in Colombo. Now Airlanka, in its pursuit for contacts with Taiwan, has appointed a GSA in Taipei, making it the first formal link between Taiwan and any governmental organisation here. Capt. Wickramanayake visited Taipei earlier this year as *MONARA* shows".

THAT A HEROIC BUT UNCONVINCING ATTEMPT was made to pour oil on troubled waters by Cabinet Secretary, G.V. P. Samarasinghe who is also a Director of Airlanka by stating that the national carrier's negotiations with Taiwan were merely "on an airline to airline basis? That there was never any question of Sri Lanka going over the head of the government of the People's Republic of China on these negotiations? That if the route was found feasible, Airlanka would have then submitted its proposal to government?" That drama was added to the matter when unexpectedly one of the officials involved in the negotiations, viz., Operations Manager, Peter Swift, a Britisher, terminated his services with Air Lanka as from June 30? That he will therefore not be available for questioning even by a Select Committee of Parliament? That the matter rests there for the moment with Air Lanka threatening (to save face no doubt) to continue with its viability study?

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TRIBUNE, JULY 23, 1983

TENDER NOTICE

DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS

Tenders for the Maintenance and Minor Improvements to Government Buildings in the Colombo West District during the period commencing 01.08.83 and ending on 31.12.84, will be received by the chairman, Tender Board, Ministry of Local Government, Housing & Construction, Transworks House, Lower Chatham Street, Colombo 1 upto 10.00 a.m. on Wednesday 03rd August, 1983.

02. Tenders should be made in duplicate on forms obtainable from the District Engineer, Colombo West, Department of Buildings, Colombo, No. 213, Torrington Avenue, Colombo 07 from whom all particulars and information can be obtained.

03. Contractors registered in the Department of Buildings for unlimited amounts for works are eligible to tender on production of a tender deposit receipt for Rs. 10,000/- to the above named office before 4.15 p.m. on Friday, 22nd July, 1983. A non-refundable late fee of Rs. 100/- per day or part of a day thereof will be payable to the Issuing Officer and receipt obtained by those who apply late for tender forms.

04. The Contractor's Record Book must be produced by each applicant before tender forms are issued to him.

05. Please note that Private Company tenderers should declare the names of the current Directors and Share holders while Public Company tenderers should declare names of the current Directors.

06. The Tender Deposit may be made at the Buildings Department Head Office, Lower Chatham Street, Colombo 1, or at any Kachcheri outside Colombo.

K. C. Samaraweera

Director of Buildings

DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS,
P. O. BOX 504,
COLOMBO 1. 08th July, 1983.

DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS

Tenders for the Maintenance and Minor Improvements to Government Buildings in the Colombo East District during the period commencing 01.08.83 and ending on 31.12.84 will be received by the Chairman, Tender Board Ministry of Local Government Housing & Construction, Transworks House, Lower Chatham Street, Colombo 1, upto 10.00 a. m. on Wednesday 03rd August, 1983.

02. Tenders should be made in duplicate on forms obtainable from the District Engineer, Department of Buildings, Colombo East, Model Far Road, Colombo 08, from whom all particulars and information can be obtained.

03. Contractors registered in the Department of Buildings for unlimited amount for works are eligible to tender on production of a tender deposit receipt for Rs. 10,000/- to the abovenamed office before 4.15 p.m. on Friday, 22nd July, 1983. A non-refundable late fee of Rs. 100/- per day thereof will be payable to the Issuing Officer and receipt obtained by those who apply late for tender forms.

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K. C. Samaraweera.

Director of Buildings

DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS
P. O. BOX 504
COLOMBO 08th July, 1983
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