

HOT SPRING

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'...It will be thus realised that in a plural society like that of Sri Lanka, with solidarity pattern based upon divided religious, linguistic and ethnic identity, a National Consensus of Sound Basis and Political Goal is hard to establish.'

- Ravi Kant Dubey -

'Indo - Sri Lankan Relations' with special reference to the Tamil problem.

Prisoners of War Write to Government

"Obtain Our Release or We Fast Unto Death"

Sinhala Prisoners of War in LTTE custody have threatened to resort to fast unto death if the Government of Sri Lanka does not take steps to have their release from custody obtained.

The news in this connection states:

Thirty eight Sinhala policemen who were taken into custody by the LTTE at the outbreak of the current war in June 1990 and a Sinhala soldier captured by the LTTE during the Elephant Pass war in July 1991 are being held by the LTTE as prisoners of war.

Earlier on Thai Pongal Day in January, 1991 (14-1-91) the LTTE released one

Police Constable Nagaratne (No. 5434) who was in its custody on humanitarian grounds for medical reasons. The request for the release of that prisoner of war was made by the ICRC Team in Jaffna after it had seen all 43 prisoners of war in LTTE custody.

Again in January this year when the Bishop of Colombo, Rt. Rev. Kenneth Fernando, came to Jaffna and also met Mr. V. Pirabakaran, the LTTE leader, the latter unconditionally released two of the prisoners of war, namely Police Sergeant K. L. M. Bandara and Police Driver S. K. Edward Perera as a gesture of good-will

Though the prisoners were always presented to Sinhalese visitors to Jaffna as happened during the visit of Rt. Rev. Kenneth Fernando, the Bishop of Colombo and to the visiting Buddhist clergymen under the leader-

ship of Rev. Pandit Madam-pagama Assigi Thero and though the visiting dignitance promised to strive hard to restore peace - which consequently would lead to the release of all prisoners of war, the efforts of the clergymen do not seem to have produced any impact on the Sri Lankan government.

The Sinhala prisoners of war who are now under custody for three years, had, it is learnt, sent petitions to President D. B. Wijetunge, the Inspector General of Police, Mr. Ernest Perera and to some ministers and Buddhist Clerical Heads through the ICRC requesting the

Government of Sri Lanka to take steps to have their releases obtained. The pri-

soners of war are further reported to have stated in (Continued on Page 4)

Sivakumaran Remembered

Ponnuthurai Sivakumaran's 19th death anniversary was

celebrated at the Sivakumaran Memorial Hall at Urumpirai, his native village on Saturday, June 5 evening.



The commemoration programme included the lighting of the fire of sacrifice, hoisting of Tamil Eelam National Flag, garlanding of Sivakumaran's portrait and speeches in commemoration of the early militant freedom fighter. Cultural programmes presented by the Arts and Cul-

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Stunning Midnight Attack

Tigers Destroy Sri Lankan Army Mini Camp at Polonnaruwa

Tigers attacked and destroyed a Sri Lankan mini Army camp in the Polonnaruwa district killing six S. L. soldiers and recovering a large haul of arms.

L.T.T.E attacked, a S. L. Army mini Camp at Jeyanthipura in the Polonnaruwa district near the Karadykulum Army Camp. The attack took place at 1.20 early in the morning of Saturday May 29.

The attack lasted for fifteen minutes only. The stunning attack left six S. L. soldiers, dead. Most of the S. L. Soldiers escaped, some with injuries. The mini Camp was believed to have had about 40 S. L. soldiers.

The Tigers who had brought the camp under their control, completely destroyed it. There were 10 houses which housed the soldiers. All the 10 houses were destroyed. The Tigers also destroyed 15 Sentry Points on the forward defence line of the S. L. Army.

LTTE also recovered a large haul of arms, ammunitions and other military ware.

One L.T.T.E fighter died in action.

BE TRUE TO YOURSELVES

Since the assumption of office of Presidency by D. B. Wijetunge, a section of the Colombo - based 'national' press has been gleefully hoping the restoration of democracy.

The logic is that there was no democracy under Mr. Premadasa. But Mr. Premadasa insisted that he was working democracy. What is democracy? The conflict of opinion on democracy was not confined to Premadasa and his opponents.

The story of this conflict in Sinhala Rata is long. Every party insisted that the other was not democratic. But what is strange is that all these parties and the Colombo-based 'national' press invite the Tamil liberation fighters to join them in working their 'democracy' (whatever that they mean) on pain of total annihilation.

So what is democracy?

The Tamils are a separate and distinct people divided from the Sinhalese in language, religion, culture, customs and country.

From the time we were told by Britain that we had been given our freedom - minus our lost state - with 'minority' status in a bigger country, Eelam Tamils have exercised their franchise at parliamentary elections but found at the end of the term of each parliament that they had lost something or other which they had earlier. Not only we lost lands, jobs, education, industry, citizenship, language, religion etc. but even our very right to live depended on our Sinhala Rulers' Pleasure!

Enough is enough! We do not want the Sinhala brand of democracy - which has brought us to the brink of death and destruction.

We shall work our own democracy which has eluded us for over four decades.

We shall have our own State of Tamil Eelam. Our people will decide who shall rule them and how.

For the moment we have decided who shall not rule us. Will champions of democracy accept our near unanimous wish and help us rid of Baudha - Sinhala rule once and for all?

Women Sexually Harassed- Observes ILO

An International Labour Organisation (ILO) report released in December last year states that more women suffered from sexual harassment in industrialised countries due to the larger numbers of women entering the labour force and that research findings in 22 industrial countries around the world demonstrated this fact. Judging from these surveys worldwide, sexual harassment of women at work is definitely on the increase and is now a pervasive problem affecting a growing number of working women.

The report warned employers that failure to tackle the problem could affect

the economic performance of their companies as well as lead to the loss of valuable employees, not forgetting extra costs of expensive litigation.

Citing partial surveys compiled in 23 industrial states, the 300 page report showed 84% of working women in Spain and 7% in Britain reporting some form of perceived harassment as against only 11% in Denmark. Such harassment included sexual commentary and jokes, leering and lewd gestures. In national surveys, the ILO report said between 15-20% of women questioned said that they had been subjected to serious harass-

ment including unwanted touching, pinching, offensive remark, unwelcome invitations for sexual intercourse and actual attempts at rape. This phenomenon affecting thousands of working women world wide is a pervasive problem, says ILO Director - General Michael Hansenne who suggests that the true figures of the overall problem may actually be much more, since a large number of cases went unreported often because the victims feared the consequences. For example, studies showed that unwanted attention from male colleagues or bosses caused between 6-8% of women in industrialised countries to change their jobs, while an equally large number were dismissed, when they sought to complain or find redress for their grievances.

The same is true in the case of developing countries like Sri Lanka. Like most developing countries, women continue to share a subordinate position due to sexual division of labour in certain jobs and the emphasis on women as home-makers, wives and mothers. While nearly half the labour force

comprises women, only a fraction of jobs held by them, belong to the upper strata of employment.

The biggest proportion of women are those employed in factories, on estates and in low paid jobs in general, and it is they who are among the more vulnerable victims of sexual harassment.

A major cause for a male employer to harass a female

employee or a male worker to harass his female counterpart is unequal social cultural structures which force the woman into an inferior position.

In Sri Lanka, there is an organisation called the Women In Need, taking the cause of the harassed female employees and it has started an awareness campaign to sensitive male employers on the issue, so that they may refrain from harassing their female employees.

Jaffna Government Agent works under Bottle Lamps

The Jaffna Secretariat is functioning with the aid of bottle lamps. Several Government Departments housed in the Secretariat including the office of the Government Agent are functioning with bottle lamps for quite a long time.

Due to the sudden cloudy weather prevailing in Jaffna now, bottle lamps were seen on many tables in the Govern-

ment Secretariat building in Jaffna.

Since the imposition of the power cut beginning from the outbreak of the war in June, 1990, the Jaffna Secretariat depended on its own generator for its lighting. But for a long time now, the generator itself has become defective and the Government Secretariat is forced to switch over to use of bottle lamps.

TRO Runs Orphanage at Kilinochchi

The Tamils Rehabilitation Organisation (TRO) spends nearly Rs: 75,000/- per month on maintenance, education, medicine and recreation for orphaned children at the Gandhi Children's Home and training centre at Kilinochchi.

According to 'FUTURE' the quarterly newsletter issued by the TRO there are 38 boys and 39 girls living in the Orphanage called Gandhi Children's Home and Training Centre at Kilinochchi. Most of these children have lost both their parents or

some of them one of their parents. They range between the ages of 3 to 15.

Apart from feeding, and clothing sheltering them, the task of educating them and training them have also to be cared for. The TRO has provided facilities for the education, sports and recreation, of these orphaned children also.

The TRO spends nearly Rs: 75,000/- per month on maintenance, education, medicine and recreation.

Puccaro bombs Eechankulam in Vavunia

Two Sri Lankan Air Force Puccaro planes bombed Eechankulam in Vavunia.

The news from Vavunia in this connection states that on Thursday, May 27, two Sri Lankan Air Force Puccaro bombers threw six bombs at Eechankulam in the Vavunia District. The bombing took place about 4.30 p.m.

Damage caused has not been verified.

NEWS IN BRIEF

May 20 - Thursday

Shell and gunfire attack from S. L. Naval Gun Boats off Poonkari directed towards Kilali coast.

Shell attack from S. L. Army camp at Iyakachchi directed towards surrounding areas.

May 21 - Friday

Shell and gunfire attack from S.L. Naval gun boats directed towards Kilali coast.

Gunfire at noon from Sri Lankan Army Defence lines at Mandaitivu directed towards Gurunagar, Alupanthy,

Navanthurai and Kottady areas within Jaffna town limits.

Sri Lankan Naval Gun boats fire cannon and shells for 3 hours from the sea off Munai in Point Pedro. Also many S. L. Navy men surrounded and assaulted many fishermen in the sea and damaged their implements.

May 23 - Sunday

Gun fire from Mandaitivu Sri Lankan Army positions at Mandaitivu directed towards the coast of Jaffna town.

Shell attack at night towards fishermen. Shells exploded in the sea.

Shell attack from S. L. Army units at Alaveddy directed towards adjoining areas.

May 27 - Thursday

Gun fire attack on coastal areas of Jaffna town from Sri Lankan Army positions at Mandaitivu.

Shell attack from Tellippalai S. L. Army positions directed towards adjoining areas. As most people have been displaced from the area no reports of any casualty.

Sri Lankan Navy fires shells from boats off Mathagal and Ilavala seas.

What animosity against Books?

List of Libraries destroyed in Tamil Eelam by Sri Lanka

The burning of the Jaffna Public Library by the Sri Lankan Police on June, 1st 1981 was condemned by the civilized world then as a crime against humanity. But the Sri Lankan Security Forces have continued to destroy libraries in Tamil Eelam by resorting to arson with scant respect to world opinion.

The following is a list of libraries destroyed by arson by the Security Forces up to June, 1987:-

1. June 1st, 1981
Jaffna Public Library.
2. August, 1984
Community Centre Library at Valvettiturai.
4. September 1st, 1984
Wesleyan Mission Hartley College with its collection of 150 years.
A small library at Thikkam with a collection of 4,000 books.
4. December 2nd., 1984
Erlalai Uthayasoorian Library.
5. December 2nd., 1984
Othikaimalai Government Mixed School Library in the Mullaitivu District.
6. January 30th, 1985
Polikandy Community Centre Library.
7. January, 1985
Ariyalai Community Centre Library.
8. May 3rd., 1985
Karainagari Globe Library which was built with Swedish aid.
9. August 16th, 1985
Vavuniya Public Library
10. September 10th, 1985
Private Library of Mr. R. Sampanthan, MP for Trincomalee with a collection of three generation of books.
11. September 16th, 1985
Nilaveli Public Library destroyed by arson with six live civilians locked inside.
12. May 10th, 1986
Trincomalee Public Library.
13. May 10th, 1986
Trincomalee Hindu College Library.
14. June 5th, 1986
Aathi Sakthi Library, Valvettiturai.
15. June 6th 1986
Vigneswara Library, Valvettiturai.

Compiled by: P. Poologasingam

(To be continued)

New President and Solution to the Ethnic Problem

It was widely talked about that the new President D.B. Wijetunge was a moderate and that he would solve the ethnic problem.

In the series of persons like D.S., Dudley, Sirimavo J.R. and Premadasa about each of whom people thought might be alright, D.B. Wijetunge has also got himself included.

Majority viewed Premadasa with confidence. Many people believed him to be the Sinhalese leader destined to solve the ethnic problem.

Premadasa had the capability to implement whatever he wished. When he wanted to send the Indian army away, he invited the Liberation Tigers for talks without laying down any conditions.

Liberation Tigers with their arms and in their uniforms had talks with the President in Colombo. 'There is nothing more foolish than asking to lay down arms from people who are fighting', so advised Premadasa to the Indian government.

Premadasa was capable of taking decisions in this out of the ordinary way, too did not place any solution to the ethnic problem.

He engaged himself by attempting to divide the North and East and reduce the existing powers of the Provincial Councils.

Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam have revealed to the new President their intention to bring about a solution to the ethnic problem through negotiations.

A solution to the ethnic problem is beyond a unitary system of government. This fact is known to everyone.

The facts stated by the new President in an interview to the Observer of 16.05.93 do not spell out hope.

In the contradictory statement given at the interview, he says that he is prepared to bring about a solution through negotiation.

At the same time, he has also said 'the country should remain united in a unitary government'. 'There is no ethnic problem here. Everywhere Tamils and Sinhalese are living together, working together. It is said that there is ethnic problem only in one part of the country. I say what finds one there is no ethnic problem, but a terrorist contradiction'.

When asked, 'Have you not put forward a solution?'

he said, 'They must come with a proposal asking for a solution. They did not ask. How can a solution be put forward, when they have not asked?'

This is the usual chauvinistic voice that we continue to hear. He has not said anything new.

D. B. Wijetunge is not a leader of the calibre of Premadasa who had a strong base. And further he is president pro-tem.

Provincial Council elections results have clearly indicated the difficulties that the next

Presidential candidate has to face in order to be victorious.

In this context, there is none in Sri Lanka, who could find a solution to the ethnic problem. It is regrettable that we are unable to find a Sinhalese leader who could take a bold decision, taking into consideration Sri Lanka's interests in the long run.

Can anyone who intends putting forward a solution

beyond a unitary system of government, win the next elections? If they take such a decision, can they survive? These are the present questions.

The truth that has emerged in our forty-five year long history is that Sinhala-chauvinistic rulers cannot find a solution to the ethnic problem.

The speeches and their activities repeatedly confirm

the hopes of the people of Tamil Eelam that only the weapons in their hands could destroy the chauvinistic Sinhala rule.

Even if Gautama Buddha were in D. B. Wijetunge's seat, he too would have no alternative other than to go to the army camps of the Sinhala armed forces and bless them in their military activities.

Courtesy: Viduthalai Political - May, 1993 (Editorial)

FILM REVIEW:

"THAMILOSAI"

Writer / Director: Thasan

Producer: Mullaitivu Branch of the Arts and Culture Division of Liberation Tigers.

Running Time: 40 minutes.

No matter how brutal the oppression, nor how severe the punishment, the courage and determination of the Tamil people will overcome all obstacles on the path to liberation. This is the point made clear, in an entertaining manner, by the video film 'Thamilosai' (the Sound of Tamil) which enjoyed a successful run in Jaffna Cinemas recently.

Set in a village in the Eastern Province (presumably Batticaloa District), the story focuses on the villagers' trials, tribulations and eventual triumph against the Sri Lankan Army of occupation.

'Thamilosai' is visually represented by the ringing of temples and church bells to mark the sacrifices of the Tiger Fighters on the memorial 'Heroes Day' (Maveerar Naal) November 27th. The Tigers' presence is felt rather than seen. The villagers support the guerilla fighters at the risk of reprisals from the local Sinhala army garrison. The army commander, knowing of the forthcoming (1991) Heroes' Day, warns all the villagers, 'There will be curfew that day. No temple or church services!...

In spite of the threat and the public murder of an

elderly villager who refuses to cow down to the soldiers' bullying, a family takes the initiative in commemorating Heroes' Day and ringing the bell - with dire results! The eldest son is hunted down by the army, shot at point blank range and his body is dumped in the nearby river.

The following scenes of the father's heart-rending search for the son, have a deep impact on the viewer. The funeral is disrupted by the army and a Tamil from the anti-LTTE groups. All this prompts the dead boy's elder sister to become a full-time Liberation Tiger Guerilla. This last mentioned scene is extremely short in duration but also extremely powerful.

The story moves briskly to 1992 Heroes' Day. Once again the army tries to deter the villagers from commemorating the day by more threats and also the murder of a young girl. However this time, this only serves to strengthen the resolve of the villagers who stand united. It becomes a confrontation between the courageous determination of the unarmed villagers and the armed might of the Sinhala troops. The final scenes are full of dramatic tension and even a surprise ending, when the furious soldiers find their weapons no match for the resolve of the villagers. 'Thamilosai' does not provide any happy endings or definite conclusions - in skeletons the plight of the Tamils of Eastern Province.

Director Thasan and his crew have put a lot of effort

and talent in bringing the story to the screen. 'Thamil Osai' was 'filmed' entirely on VHS Video tape on locations in Mullaitivu and Vanni districts. The final presentation is made in a conventional cinema using a video projector.

Everyone who has seen the film, has praised the high quality of the action sequences, i.e. those involving the army, exact down to the last detail from helmets and uniforms to vehicles, the action sequences are handled very well. The force and power of the armed troops seem at times, to jump out of the screen. All army dialogue is in Sinhala (No substitutes), thus giving the local Tamil viewer a chance to share the frustrations of the villagers in the story. The brutality and arrogance of an army of occupation is portrayed well by those playing the role of troops - all of these actors are in fact full time Tiger fighters! Locations and scenes have been well prepared. A lot of scenes take place at night and these are presented clearly. Night-time shooting is a great strain on even the most experienced movie crew and yet the local artistes have carried it well. Effective use of camera angles and editing give the 'Film' a professional look throughout its running time.

The only criticism that can be made is of the dialogue sequences where the sound is not audible. This is further hampered by the acting which sometimes is a bit amateurish. However, the brisk pace of the story and the action scenes make up for these deficiencies.

The economic blockade imposed on the people of Tamil Eelam, has created many hardships. However,

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June 5th - A Date to Remember

June 5th, 1947

Kandasamy, a Tamil Trade Union leader, was shot dead, while going in a procession at Kolonnawa near Colombo.

June 5th, 1956

- (i) The memorial to Trade Union Martyr, Kandasamy, was destroyed by Sinhalese hoodlums.
- (ii) The notorious 'Sinhala Only' Act was presented in Parliament by the then Prime Minister, Mr. S. W. R. D. Bandaranayake.
- (iii) Tamils stage protest by performing Satyagraha at Galle Face Green, opposite Parliament under the leadership of late Mr. S. J. V. Chelvanayakam Q. C., M. P.
- (iv) Sinhala hoodlums first attack peaceful protesters (Satyagrahis) including Tamil Members of Parliament.
- (v) Sinhala hoodlums then turn their attention on Tamil pedestrians, Office workers and others in Colombo.
- (vi) Alien Sinhala Colonists settled in Tamil Ampari attack Tamils in Amparai.

June 5th, 1974

Militant Tamil student, Sivakumaran takes his own life to avoid arrest by the Sri Lankan Police.

HOT SPRING

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POLITICAL WILL AND WISDOM ARE LACKING

The horrid behaviour of the Sinhala Politicians in dealing with the national rights of the Tamils, clearly shows that the Sinhalese absolutely lack the Political Will and the Wisdom to gracefully concede the legitimate rights of the Tamils and accommodate them under the Sri Lankan Polity.

The pitiable manner in which Mr. D. B. Wijetunge blurts out self-contradictory statements each day on the North-East problem, shows his desperation to assume the mantle of a typical Sinhala leader, the trade mark of which is to show himself as the Protector of the Sinhala race and Buddhist religion by being the destroyer of the Tamils and grabber of their lands.

His predecessors played the role with overt guile and were aided by a rabidly racist Colombo press and some fanatical super racists. They plunged the entire Sinhala nation into the abysmal pit of Sinhala racism from which they are unable to extricate themselves. The Voice of Reason from among the Sinhalese are too meek and muted and has got submerged in the din of Sinhala racism which has been built up as the demeanour and ethos of the Sinhala people. Even the intellectuals among the Sinhalese are overwhelmed by the all pervasive pettiness of Sinhala racism to keep the Tamils under subjugation.

Every Sinhala political leader who reached the the pinnacle of power, contributed his or her utmost to the divisive trend and instead of bringing about the necessary constitutional arrangements to unite the two peoples, did everything possible to widen the cleavage and accelerate the division, convincing the Tamil people that they do not belong to one country with the Sinhalese.

Mr. S. W. R. D. Bandaranaike whipped up anti-Tamil hysteria to come to power and when he wanted to make amends and entered into the B-C pact, the evil racial bigots he encouraged, wouldn't let him right a wrong done by him. The same drama was repeated in the case of the D-C Pact also.

Mrs. Banadaranaiké out did all her predecessors in racial politics, when she did away with the constitution that provided some meagre safeguard to the Tamils and brought about a new unitary Constitution without the concurrence of the Tamils. She started using the armed forces on the Tamils to impose her illegitimate rule on them and violently suppressed their peaceful protests. Political intolerance was clearly displayed by her and the writing on the wall was clear to the Tamils.

J. R. Jayawardene surpassed Mrs. Bandaranaike as a Sinhala racist. The old fox who is described by Sinhalese themselves as an evil genius, did everything possible to make a political settlement impossible. In opposing the B-C pact, he brought about a North East merger phobia to bifurcate the Tamil homeland. He thus created an altogether new digression to pre-empt any settlement. He passed the Sixth Amendment to the Constitution to forestall advocating the right of self-determination of the Tamils. The Constitution he brought about, has many clauses to hinder reaching a settlement. Instead of availing himself of the good offices of the Indian Government to reach a settlement, he manoeuvred and got them to wage a war against the Tamils.

Mr. R. Premadasa, of course, spoke of Political Settlement and tried his utmost to achieve a military supremacy and failed. The performance of the Parliamentary Select Committee (PSC) fully exposed the irresponsible behaviour of the Sinhala politicians and provides further proof that it is futile to expect any fair play from the Sinhala politicians.

In this back-drop, the Tamil National leader, Mr. Velupillai Pirabakaran, in the midst of a life and death struggle to establish a Seperate State for the Tamils, offered to consider any worthwhile alternative proposal from the Sri Lankan Government; it only speaks volumes for his greatness.

The negative response once again confirms the lack of political Will and Wisdom on the part of the Sinhalese to reach a fair settlement and vindicates the stand of the Tamils.

TRINCOMALEE

Tigers Kill 6 S. L. Soldiers

The LTTE attacked Sri Lankan soldiers on the Allai-Kanthalai road in Trincomalee and recovered arms and ammunitions.

The News in this connection states that on Monday, May, 31, the LTTE attacked a group of Sinhala soldiers near the bridge on the Allai-Kanthalai road. Six Sinhala soldiers were killed. The LTTE also recovered arms and ammunitions.

There was no Tiger casualty according to the report.

Workshop on Rehabilitation of Physically Handicapped

A workshop to identify ways and means of rehabilitation of physically handicapped persons organised by the Council of NGOO, Jaffna, was held yesterday and is being continued today at the Auditorium of the Tamils Rehabilitation Organisation at Kokuvil.

Branch Library Opened

A new library was declared open at Navanthurai ward on Tuesday, June 2,

Since the burning of the Public Library in 1981 and the declaration of the area as security zone in 1984 by the J.R. Jayawardhene government, the Jaffna Municipal Council was unable to provide the library facilities as before, has opened up many branch libraries in various wards of the Municipal Council.

FIGHTING AT AMPARAI One Tiger Dead

Fighting broke out between the LTTE and the Special Task Force of the Sri Lankan Government at Vinayagapuram in the Amparai District.

Forces are believed to have sustained heavy losses but details are not known.

One LTTE fighter Chemanachelvan died in this confrontation.

News from Amparai stated that at 10.40 p.m. on Tuesday, May 18, fighting broke out between the LTTE and special Task Force at Vinayagapuram in the Amparai District. In the direct confrontation the Sri Lankan

TEEDOR to issue special Identity Cards to Farmers

The Tamil Eelam Economic Development Organisation (TEEDOR) has a proposal to issue farmers' identity cards to farmers in Tamil Eelam.

In a Press Note TEEDOR says:

The economic blockade imposed by the Sri Lankan Government in Tamil Eelam

has caused great scarcity for agricultural inputs such as fertilizers, fuel, seeds, agricultural implements etc. Farmers have also been adversely affected in the matter of obtaining agricultural loans and finding markets for their produce.

In order to ensure that the farmers obtain their needs even in small measures it is proposed to issue special identity cards to ensure that the available resources reach the farmers direct with least expenditure and inconvenience to the farmers.

The TEEDOR has requested all farmers to apply for the Farmers' Identity Cards in the relevant application forms through rural production societies. The application forms can be obtained in the offices of the co-ordinators of rural production societies and in divisional offices of TEEDOR.

Green Focus - World Environment Day Fair '93

The Green Focus / WED Fair '93 was celebrated at St. John's College, on Saturday 05 June 93 commencing at 9.00 a.m.

Thamilosai...

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it has brought to light many local artistes whose talents were being eclipsed by those from South India etc. In all fields from graphic design to music and now video, local artistes have proved that they too can produce quality work - in spite of the prevailing technical limitations.

'Thamil Osai' has established that local video talent is plentiful. Prior to the release, Director Thasan and

some of the actors were awarded prizes for their efforts by the LTTE leader, Mr. Velupillai Pirabakaran. This caused quite a stir, as Mr. Pirabakaran is not a man who gives praise lightly. However, those who have seen the film were unanimous in their view that the efforts were indeed worthy of a prize. Encouraged by their success, the producers of 'Thamil Osai' are now ready with their next presentation - 'Ithu Engel Thesam' (This is our Land.)

Obtain . . .

(Continuation from Page 1)

their petition that they are deeply grieved over the failure of the Government to have their release obtained and have said that they would start a fast unto death from June 13 if no steps are taken by the Government to obtain their release.

It is further understood that the petition had been signed by all the prisoners of war and that they have not received any response

from the Government of Sri Lanka yet.

Sivakumaran...

(Continuation from Page 1)
tural Division of the LTTE followed.

Sivakumaran ended his own life on June 5, 1974 at Neervely when he found no escape from arrest by the Sri Lankan Police who tried to catch him for his militant activities in the cause of Tamil freedom.

SPORTS

Cricket

Jaffna University sailed into the finals of the Donald Ganeshakumar Trophy with a close 24-run win over Shabra in a match played at Central College grounds. Scores:- Jaffna University - 175 all out in 42 overs Shabra 151 all out in 41 overs.

New Era Publications, 'Lakshmi Building' Dutch Road, Kalviyankadu, Jaffna