

TRIBUNE

CEYLON NEWS REVIEW

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Next Week

- ★ **WHY POLITICAL**
—Not Military
- ★ **ETHNIC PROBLEM-2**
—by S. P. Amarasingam
- ★ **IN ISRAEL**
—Labour Likud
- ★ **TAPROBANE**
—Court de Mauny
- ★ **CONFIDENTIALLY**
—Pseudonyms

TRIBUNE INVITES ...

PEACE AND HARMONY is what everybody wants—not only in Sri Lanka but everywhere in the world. Just as charity should begin at home, the endeavour to achieve this happy state of affairs should first begin in our little island home. Over the years one can point to many acts of commission and omission on the part of different governments, leaders, political parties and others. Postmortems are of little help and it is pointless bemoaning over milk that has been spilt. Fault-finding is counter-productive. What is important is to

find a solution to the problem that is hanging over this island like the proverbial sword of Damocles.

The APC has gone on for over six months and a solution is not yet in sight. There is a deadlock and a stalemate: and, whether a Second Chamber will help is yet to be seen. The SLFP is standing on the outer perimeter to see what political advantage it can draw from any "concessions" the UNP might be tempted to grant the TULF or the Tamils. The Maha Sangha wants to walk the tight rope between the UNP and the SLFP—not realising that what is most urgent is a solution that will be workable. The TULF wants to maximise the concessions in order, some allege, to pretend that it has secured a shadow Eelam. There are only broad hints about what the UNP thinks might be a workable solution. The SLFP maintains a dogged silence except for occasional boasts that if it comes to power it can solve the problem.

And terrorism continues in the North. The law and order situation in the rest of the country is not what it should be. The tourist industry is still in the doldrums. Only a political solution can bring the tourists back. Normality can be restored only with communal peace and national harmony. The question that many ask today is what is the political solution that will be acceptable and which can work? What are the practical perimeters within for a pragmatic solution? "Tribune" invites the views of its readers. We will publish all that is printable under the existing guidelines of the Emergency Regulations. A full and free discussion is possible with a unitary state as a basis. Will the solution centre around District Councils or Regional or Provincial or Zonal Councils? Or are there other solutions?

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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. 3/2/6/12/522

It is intended to acquire the land described in the Schedule below. For further particulars please see Gazette Extraordinary of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka No. 309/3 of 6. 8. 84.

SCHEDULE

A. G. A's, Division : Kalaniya
Village : Warakanatta
 Colombo.
Situation :
Name of Land : Davatagahawatta alias
 Kottangahawatta
Lot Nos. : 1
Plan No. P. P. Gam. : 752

A. L. S. Malwenna
 District Land Officer of
 Gampaha District.

The Kachcheri,
 Gampaha.
 Date 9-7-1984

NOTICE UNDER SECTION 7 OF THE LAND ACQUISITION ACT (Chap. 460) AS AMENDED BY THE LAND ACQUISITION (AMENDMENT) ACT No. 28 OF 1968.

Reference No. 3/2/3/10/158

It is intended to acquire the land described in the Schedule below. For further particulars see the Gazette Extraordinary of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka No. 311/12 of 22. 8. 84.

SCHEDULE

Situation : Situated in the Village of
 Pannangoda in the D. R. O's
 division of Wellaboda pattu
 south in galle District.
Name of Land : Waithuduwatta
Lot No. : 1
P. Plan/ Gaa : 1876

A. P. Amaratunga
 Acquiring Officer,
 Galle District.

The Kachcheri,
 Galle.
 Date 16-8-1984

THE LAND ACQUISITION ACT (CHAPTER 460) AS AMENDED BY THE LAND ACQUISITION (AMENDMENT) ACT NO. 28 OF 1964.

Notice Under Section 7

My. No. LL/A, /7396

It is intended to acquire the land described in the schedule below. For further particulars, please see Gazette Extraordinary of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka No. 310/2 of dated 13.8.84

SCHEDULE

Name of Land : Hameediya Estate.
 Puwakwattadeniya, Amuna
Situation : In the village of Miyanadenya,
 Uda Pattu North, Kuruwiti
 Korale, District.
Survey Reference : Lot No. 131, in Supplement
 No. 6 to F.V.P. No. 375

P. J. R. Samarawickrema
 District Land Officer
 Ratnapura District.

Land Branch
 Kachcheri, Ratnapura,
 10th August 1984

NOTICE UNDER SECTION 7 OF THE LAND ACQUISITION ACT, (CAP. 460) AS AMENDED BY THE LAND ACQUISITION (AMENDMENT) ACT NO 28 OF 1964

Reference No. 3/2/3/10/158

It is intended to acquire the land described in the schedule below. For further particulars, please see Gazette Extraordinary of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka No. 305/3 of 9. 7. 1984

SCHEDULE

A. G. A's Division : Attanagalla.
Village : Wobodagalla.
Situation :
Name of Land : Siyambalagahawatta alias
 Magahawatta alias
 Nugagahalanda
Lot Nos : 1
Plan No.P.P. Co.Gam : 393

S. H. Withanage
 Assistant Government Agent
 District Land Officer of Gampaha

The Kachcheri,
 Gampaha.
 Date 4-06-1984

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LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

THERE IS A GREAT DEAL of thinking and rethinking in political and commercial circles in this country not only about multinationals but also about Consultancy Contracts which are always the centre-piece of multinational operations. An article in the magazine *Agribusiness* by John Freivalds presents an intriguing story about *Consulting Contracts—There's More At Stake Than Just Fees*: "A new survey reveals that the potential value of exports resulting from a U.S. agricultural consultant's work is US \$ 8 million. A client buys not only a consultant's services, but also the agribusiness systems his country manufactures. The value of potential exports per U.S. agricultural consultant resulting from consulting assignments abroad rose by US \$ 1.6 million between 1982 and 1983, and has now reached a total of US \$ 8.4 million, according to a publication of the American Society of Agricultural Consultants. Frank Frazier, Executive Director of the Society noted, "The multiplier effect of agricultural consulting is often many times the value of the basic services provided as foreign buyers generally turn to the country which conducted the feasibility study for assistance with the construction and maintenance of the project". This fact has finally come to the attention of many governments around the world, some of which have begun to subsidize their consultants, hoping for the business that follows. The subsidies come in a variety of ways: for example, direct payments or low-cost financing to service industries. The Eastern Bloc countries have taken the lead, but even free market economies like South Korea have set up their own agribusiness consulting firms. Mr. Chul-Yong Kim, the head of South Korea's Agricultural Development Corporation, noted that he can place an engineer with ten years' experience and an advanced degree for US \$ 24,000 per annum, including profit and overhead. The stakes are high, according to Kelly Harrison, a US consultant who pointed out that in 1982 approximately one million hectares of new land were brought under irrigation worldwide. The systems ranged from small projects of less than 80 hectares to very large projects of thousands of hectares. "The cost of irrigation equipment alone was about US \$ 1,250 per hectare. Tractors and other farm equipment for these irrigated hectares cost an additional US \$ 1,875 per hectare, while the cost of professional services for project development and design was only about US \$ 125 per hectare". Kelly Harrison speaking at a US Senate-hearing, added that the USA had only a one-third share of the world market for equipment and supplies related to irrigation. Even so, this comes to annual exports of US \$ 400 million in irrigation equipment. "The important point", noted Harrison, "is that, without question, the export of US irrigation services opens the way to major exports of irrigation equipment"...". A recent story in *Brazil Trade and Industry* points what happens when consultants are hired. In May 1977, the Mozambique Ministry of Agriculture contracted the Brazilian firm *Proteco* to elaborate an agricultural development plan for the country. The preliminary study resulted in the preparation of four projects involving the production of maize, sunflowers, beans, cotton and rice, and the raising of beef cattle, as well as two studies on the agricultural feasibility of producing tropical fruits for the juice industry. The plans for one project with investment forecasts of US \$ 50 million were approved, and a service contract was signed to implement the project. As a result tractors, harvesters, generators, trucks, implements and tools worth US \$ 3.1 million were acquired from Brazil. Such are the profits from consultancy contracts.

Exploitation

In THE LETTER FROM THE EDITOR this week attention was focussed on the gigantic international operation called "Consultancy" especially the way it is handled and manipulated by the Multinationals or as they are now better known as Transnationals. In the LETTER FROM THE EDITOR, reference was made to some aspects of Consultancy and what it means. We think that it would be useful to drive the point home so that the powers that be in this country realise just what such Consultancy means. Foreign Aid is tied to such consultancy contracts and the time has come for governments in Third World countries to re-examine the consultancy conditionalities attached to such loans. There is a universal demand in all borrowing countries for untied loans. One of the most important is to free loans from tied consultancy contracts.

An *IPS* article by Chakravarthi Raghavan from Geneva looks at the matter from another angle: "World trade in consulting engineering services has increased considerably in recent years, reaching an estimated 3.7 billion dollars in 1982. But exporters from the industrial world dominate this trade accounting for 95 percent of the billings, according to a recent study by the UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD). Third World countries are the major importers of consulting services, accounting for more than 80 percent of all imports the Geneva-based UNCTAD said. Third world nations paid well over three billion dollars in 1982 to firms from the industrial world for the importation of engineering services. In recent years, consulting firms and contractors from certain Third World countries have increased their share of the international market, accounting in 1982 for five percent of the market. But this incipient export in design work is directed mostly to other Third World nations, with practically no such exports to the industrial world. International transactions relating to the construction and project management carried out by contractors reach volumes substantially higher than those involving consulting engineering services. These often include materials and plant equipment, blurring the line between services and goods. Export billings in 1982 reached 123 billion dollars. Approximately 84 percent of these were earned by firms from the industrial world, while around 15 percent or 190 billion dollars were to firms from the Third World.

"On the other hand, Third World countries were the major importers of these services. In 1982, Third World payments for the construction services exceeded 102 billion dollars, or 83 percent of total billings. European firms received 36.7 percent of all payments, 36.3 percent went to US firms, 11.2 percent to firms

from South Korea, and 7.6 percent Japanese companies. Turkish concerns, newcomers on the scene, garnered 2.2 percent of this market. The main markets were the Middle East with 61.4 percent of total contract awards, Asia 19 percent, Africa 14.4 percent and Latin American 8.4 percent. In recent years contractors from the Third World were able to enter the International market in many cases displacing well-established firms from the industrial world. Third World contractors have been retained mostly for civil works and erection. In many cases they took part in projects that were implemented in a disaggregated way, and they tendered for the construction and erection only. In projects erected on turnkey basis, they most often participated as joint ventures or sub-contractors but rarely as leaders or prime contractors. Contractors from the Third World have not, as a rule, been awarded contracts for whole turnkey projects. This is especially so in the industrial sector. Process, engineering and overall project management were often provided by firms from the industrial countries. There are a number of reasons for this evolution, according to the UNCTAD study. In many cases international operations were a spinoff of domestic work, whereas such Third World contractors were mostly engaged in construction and erection only.

"Several Third World nations have a particular advantage in abundance of labour, even at low cost for less skilled categories. Their initial moves at international contracting were aimed at working in labour-intensive activities in low-population countries. Contractors from the Third World did not, and still do not, have proprietary technology. Suppliers of such technology tend either to do business with contractors from their own countries or to subcontract from developing nations to handle only construction and erection. Financial facilities attached to projects often have a determining role in both imports of goods and services in Third World countries, as also their capacity to complete as exporters of consulting and engineering services. In most Third World countries, financial considerations especially those related to foreign concessional loans, have been a significant factor in determining the way a project is implemented. Major projects in many Third World countries have been won as a result of the loans, and in some cases the grants, which the exporting countries or the exporters themselves have offered. Exports of consulting engineering and construction services are heavily dependent on financial conditions that can be offered by the suppliers. Third World countries that have the technical and managerial capability to be major suppliers of goods and services in the international market do not have the necessary financial resources to offer loans and other financial facilities to match the advantages offered by companies and governments of the industrial nations. The tying of finance is in fact working as a barrier against Third World access, to the international market for goods and services.

This has become critical exactly at the time when companies from some Third World nations are entering those markets and displacing competitors from the industrial world."

There is no doubt that a number of Third World countries like India and Sri Lanka have technical and managerial capabilities to provide Consultancy Services. And for these countries to be at the mercy of Consultancy firms from foreign countries whose main objective is to jack up prices and inflate budgets to help Western contractors to make unconscionable profits is to say the least a sad reflection of our times. It would be interesting to know how much money Sri Lanka has spent on feasibility reports etc., from consultancy firms from the time of Independence and the coming of Foreign Aid. What has been spent on such consultancy fees will probably be more than the total national budget of this country for several years.

THE POLITICAL SCENE

IN SRI LANKA TODAY

The Ethnic Problem and The Political Situation

By
S. P. Amarasingam

FRIENDS HAVE BEEN URGING ME for some time to write a series of articles on the ethnic problem in the context of the current socio-political situation in Sri Lanka. I have been postponing writing what I knew would be a heavy task for many reasons, the most important being that this could be done only in a full book length study. But two invitations, which could not be refused, one from the Sri Lanka Foundation Institute (SLFI) and the other from the Commission for Justice and Peace of the National Christian Council (NCC) to address seminars on the same topic left me no alternative but to start on this exercise in a small and sketchy way. What I wrote turned out to be much longer than the twenty minutes allowed to a speaker at Seminars. I, therefore, presented excerpts from what I had written at the SLFI Seminar on September 4, 1984. I am hoping to refer to some other aspects of the same problem dealt with in this paper at the NCC Seminar on October 14.

To begin with I must make it clear that the main reason why I sat down to this exercise is to see whether communal peace and racial harmony could be established in Sri Lanka within the continuing framework of a unitary state. It is my belief that this can be done

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if a number of fundamental changes are made in the ethos and structure of the present state of the polity and public life of Sri Lanka. It is true that the urgent and dangerous problems that confront the country today stem from the demand for the division of the island from a section of the population.

It is, therefore, for men and women of goodwill to do everything in their power to bring peace, harmony and a political settlement without disturbing or impairing the country's unitary status and territorial integrity presently threatened by internal separatist compulsions and external geo-strategic imperatives. The purpose of this study, I repeat, is to see whether a way can be found out of the present impasse. Many Tamils now think that a point of no return has been reached and that only a surgical division of the country will end the bloodshed and the communal confrontation. On the other hand, there are Sinhalese who believe that a solution can be found only when the Tamils were assimilated culturally, linguistically and even racially or driven out to make a Sinhala Only state a reality. Between these two groups of extremists the country is being slowly pushed into a quagmire which threatens to swallow up all that is decent and worthwhile. Is there any other way out? This is what I want to explore in this paper.

AT THE OUTSET I must say that I am not a historian, or a research scholar, or university-based political analyst. I am only an observer of the contemporary political scene. But, maybe because I have been foolhardy enough to comment regularly on notable events of significance as a practitioner of political journalism, the sponsors of this Seminar have thought fit to ask me to place my views before you. In this paper, I have ventured to put forward some thoughts. They are peculiarly my own, but which I think are relevant to the current situation. I hope that they will encourage discussion that will throw more light on the difficult problems that presently envelop this island. What is uppermost in everybody's mind at this time centres around the difficulties that currently are characterised as the Ethnic Problem. Though they stem from the differences that have arisen between the Sinhalese and Tamil communities in the years after Independence, the ethnic problem as it stands today affects every aspect of life and living in this country.

This is probably why the situation in Sri Lanka, according to many observers and commentators, is said to be complicated, confused and unpredictable. These learned gentlemen, therefore, generally avoid evaluations and take cover behind a summary of events or what they call "data" to explain, justify or condemn (by implication) the actions of leaders, Governments and/or political parties. There has also been a proliferation of the dangerous pastime of rewriting history to refashion it to suit chauvinist and ultra-nationalist slogans to rouse people to win elections. Chauvinism,

cunningly camouflaged both among Sinhalese and Tamils, have made objective analysis extremely difficult. But in spite of these diversionary red-herrings to distort history and subvert politics, it is possible, nevertheless, to get a realistic picture of the situation without being carried away by subjective inhibitions or jingoistic aberrations.

TO UNDERSTAND THE COMPLEXITIES of the situation in Sri Lanka the conglomerate of racial, linguistic, religious, caste, social and cultural characteristics inherent in our society must be given due weightage in any evaluative analysis. The history of the recent past, especially the years after the First World War, must be carefully examined; for, events and developments can be understood only in the backdrop of the racial-religious-caste-and-language structure of the island. It is only in this context and setting that one can hope to comprehend all the intricacies of the ethnic and other problems that have already shaken this country to its foundations. I am not a seer or a pundit claiming infallibility for my views I present here. Analysis and prognostications often prove wrong. Nevertheless, I am today putting forward my views in the hope that they will stimulate the ongoing dialogue in the search for solutions.

To start with, it would be useful to refer to some of the communal, religious, linguistic or caste "disturbances" that have taken place in this country in the period from the First World War. The first of such "disturbances" had erupted on May 26, 1915. It had Sinhala-Muslim-cum-Buddhist-Islam overtones. But there were also underlying trade rivalries between the two communities at a time when the cash nexus and commercialism of British colonial mercantilism had made some headway among the newly emerging compradore sections of the local population. The next communal confrontation came in 1951/52 when the Ceylon Indians, mainly plantation workers, staged a Satyagraha campaign to protest against decitizenisation and disenfranchisement brought about by the post-Independence Citizenship laws, the Indian and Pakistani Residents Citizenship Act and other laws enacted between 1948 and 1951. This was the first measure by the politicians who had come to power in Independent Sri Lanka to define citizenship and restrict franchise to secure a stronger political and economic base for the Sinhalese.

The Citizenship laws were so drafted and the regulations so administered that only those with Sinhala names and parentage were automatically regarded as "citizens by descent". All others including Ceylon Tamils and Ceylon Moors and Muslims had to surmount several technical and procedural hurdles to establish their citizenship. Officials vested with discretionary powers made matters more difficult by the bias and prejudice they showed against anything non-Sinhala. *This came at a time when the race myth of the super-*

iority of Sinhalese "Aryans" was surreptitiously made an article of faith. This promptly evoked equally chauvinistic response from Tamil elitists who were seeking the support of Tamil voters. They raised slogans about the antiquity and superior intelligence of the Dravidians, their language and culture. The stage was thus set for the ethnic confrontations to follow.

THE SATYAGRAHA CAMPAIGN was shortlived and soon petered out, but the disenfranchisement of a section of the Tamil minority community has left scars that have still not been erased. The stateless are still with us. Furthermore, the citizenship laws created different categories of citizens (descent, registration, distinguished, etc. etc.)—thus perpetuating a new statutorily divisive structure of the population. And now we have permanent residence visa holders who enjoy greater privileges than ordinary citizens. It is also necessary to mention that in the period 1948/49 school-going children were divided into three channels—Sinhala, Tamil and English. This virtually divided the population into three. Swabasha fanatics, both Sinhalese and Tamil had, in the 50s itself, virtually forced English out of the picture. And thereafter school-going children grew up in two mutually exclusive language channels. Much of the complexities of the current ethnic problem can be traced to this rigid, inflexible and separatist division of the population into two. At that time, many had suggested voluntary bilingualism as an alternative to the two-channel system but this suggestion could not make any headway against the Swabasha enthusiasts and language chauvinists of both communities. Once English was eliminated the Tamil language became an easy target for the Sinhalese chauvinists.

The next communal outburst came with the Tamil protests against the Sinhala Only Act enacted in 1956. Further, the sudden abandoning of the Bandaranaike-Chelvanayakam Pact in 1957 under Sinhala extremist pressure and the Tamil refusal to accept the Sinhala Only *diktat* triggered the anti-Tamil conflicts that culminated in the horrendous riots of May 1958. Behind the language confrontation was the Sinhala grievance that Tamils enjoyed a far greater proportion in public sector and government employment than their numbers warranted and that Tamil traders had a monopoly in certain sectors of wholesale and retail trade. The Tamils said that Sinhala Only was being unilaterally imposed to edge Tamils out of employment, trade and public life. With Sinhala Only made the official language overnight, the Tamils were at a disadvantage in all fields of activity. A head-on collision between the two communities had thus become inevitable.

There is also no doubt that the way the Sinhala Only Act was framed and administered (e.g. in schools Tamils could not learn Sinhala even as a Second

Language, though permitted to learn Latin or Greek), it reduced (de facto through not de jure) Tamils into a Second Class status even if they painstakingly acquired a knowledge of the official language after a time. The Reasonable Use of Tamil Act, the Tamils felt, was a whitewash that only added insult to injury. The Sinhala-Tamil confrontation which began in 1956 continued through the 1960s and 1970s with occasional skirmishes (Satyagraha 1961, the Masala Vadai agitation 1966, Quitting the Dudley Senanayake Cabinet over District Councils 1968, Protest against the Constitution of 1972 etc. etc.).

IN THE MEANTIME, there occurred in April 1971 the armed Insurgency of Sinhala youth against an Establishment dominated by the old order of Sinhala high caste landed gentry and the nouveau riche comp-radore "bourgeoisie" (some from the lesser Sinhala castes). There is no doubt that the 1971 insurgency was a protest mainly of Sinhala youth from the so far under-privileged castes which had placed much hopes on the socialist protestations of the SLFP to end caste (and class) discrimination. The caste composition of the 1971 insurgency has not been fully investigated or analysed. This is probably because those who have so far undertaken this task seem to be hamstrung by Western inhibitions about caste—wishfully believing that "too much importance" should not be attached to caste at a time when class was expected to replace caste.

To be continued.

TRIBUNE

TRIBUNE welcomes feature and analytical articles on matters of current topical interest. They should be typed double-spaced and should not exceed 1,500 words. The ideal length would be around 1,000 words.

Articles in *Tribune* do not represent any consensus of beliefs or any commitment to rigid inflexibility. Editorial views are only to provoke thinking and provide guidelines for opinion making. Nor does *Tribune* expect readers to sympathise with or accept views put forward in the paper. While *Tribune* seeks to keep clear and not get involved in controversial and contentious issues, it believes that it can do much to keep Sri Lanka public opinion informed by broad hospitality to divergent views than it can by identifying itself with one trend of thinking. Furthermore, *Tribune* does not accept responsibility for the validity or otherwise for the views expressed in any article, signed or unsigned, which appears in its pages. What it does accept responsibility for is to give them a chance to appear in print.

TRIBUNE, SEPTEMBER 8, 1984

EXPOSE

SHERLOCK HOLMES

• UREA • Nestle

FERTILISER PURCHASES. A reader has sent us this query about the fertiliser purchases of the Government. "Dear Mr. Sherlock Holmes, You will recall that the "Confidentially" column dealt with some recent Fertiliser Tenders (Vide *Tribune*, Vol. 28, No. 6, No. 7, and No. 23). It will be remembered that when the Ceylon Fertiliser Corporation (CFC) was offered 30,000 MT Urea in January at approximately US \$ 156 per MT with 180 days credit and it was known that it had decided to accept this offer as the credit was around 12% per annum. But they were prevented from finalising the transaction. The reason the CFC is said to have advanced in support was that they borrowed from the banks at 18% but if they bought at the price offered (and the credit at 12%) they could have invested the money they had in hand for 180 days at 24% and that they would have earned some money for the Corporation (CFC). It is said the CFC was asked to reject the tender because the Treasury refused to accept the CFC's line of reasoning and stopped this transaction saying it was bad practice. Thereafter, the Ministry, it is said, had recommended the award to a tenderer with a "money-bag connections". Unfortunately this tenderer could not perform and the tender was abandoned. At this stage some VIPs talked about resuscitating the Urea Plant at Sapugaskande. Then Mr. Sherlock Holmes, the next stage of this drama came when the Treasury insisted on buying 20,000 MT Triple Super Phosphate (TPS) at 180 days credit because the Corporation would benefit (so the Treasury now thought). The full circle had turned. In the meantime, the Urea plant had stopped production and the CFC had no alternative but to invite tenders from government-owned organisations in Russia, Pakistan, Egypt and Rumania (incidentally all four have the same local agent). But not one of the four organisations could make an offer. It also became known that Saudi Arabia and Kuwait companies had offered without invitation. It is now known that the Government at a high level (not the CFC) has recommended the purchase of 15,000 MT from Kuwait and 10,000 MT from Saudi Arabia at approximately US \$ 205. It is also alleged that this transaction was rushed through when Minister Gamini Jayasuriya was out of the island for a few days. Whether this allegation is true is difficult to find out but it is a matter which needs to be checked. But important questions now arise: (1) Who is responsible for paying US \$50 more per ton when it could have been bought a few months ago at US \$ 155;

(2) Why was Urea bought from private companies when tenders were invited only from four (foreign) state organisations? If they were going to buy from private companies why weren't all private companies who normally tender asked to quote. *There is general consensus that the CPC has acted correctly in all the above matters.* But who is responsible for the bungling that has cost the country a tidy sum of money Mr. Sherlock Holmes, this matter of Fertiliser purchases (Urea in particular) needs a great deal of probing. The Minister, Mr. Gamini Jayasuriya has an impeccable track record for honesty and integrity, and I am sure that if he is apprised of the true facts, he will do the needful"

Sherlock Holmes' reply: Tribune has received many complaints about the Fertiliser (Urea) purchases. Many allegations too have been made and continue to be made. The complaints and allegations appear to have substance, but our Investigators are now trying to find out if there is another side to the allegations which will throw light on the Urea purchases and offer some explanation as to why the final decision-makers acted in the way they did. We will soon publish what we find out.

NESTLE AGREEMENT. A reader had recently asked us to publish the agreement between Nestle and the Milk Board. Though this is a public document it has been kept a "secret" (why we do not know). We have however been able to get a copy of what we believe is the Agreement. If Nestle (the senior and major partner) and the Milk Board feel that they have any other Agreement they are at liberty to send it us for publication.

In the first instance we will publish the Agreement in instalments. *Our comments will follow later.* The title is: AGREEMENT between the MILK BOARD and NESTLE S.A. of 17th June 1980. The contents are listed thus: 1. General; 2. Incorporation of Joint Company; 3. Management; 4. Activities prior to Take-over-day; 5. Implementation; 6. Production; 7. Marketing and Distribution; 8. Finance; 9. Government approvals and concessions; 10. Term; and 11. Miscellaneous. On the title page is also mentioned that is an Annexe of a General Licence Agreement.

The preamble to the agreement reads: "THIS AGREEMENT is made this 17th day of June 1980 between the MILK BOARD, a statutory corporation established in Sri Lanka by the Milk Board Act No. 12 of 1954 (hereinafter referred to as "the Milk Board") of the one part and NESTLE S.A. a company incorporated under the laws of Switzerland and having its registered office at Avenue Nestle, Vevey, Switzerland (hereinafter referred to as "Nestle") of the other part.

"WHEREAS (a) The Milk Board operates a sweetened condensed milk plant at Polonnaruwa, Sri Lanka;

(b) Nestle and its affiliated companies have for many years been successfully engaged in the manufacture of dairy and other food products throughout the world and as a result possess a great expertise in the production and marketing of sweetened condensed milk; (c) The Milk Board and Nestle wish to join in the formation of a joint company for the operation and management of the Polonnaruwa plant which the Milk Board will lease to the joint company."

Section 1, entitled GENERAL reads: "Now It Is Hereby Agreed as follows: 1.1 *Definitions:* In this Agreement the following expressions shall have the following respective meanings: "the Company": the company to be incorporated pursuant to Clause 2.1. hereof; "the said plant": the sweetened condensed milk plant at Polonnaruwa owned by the Milk Board composed of factory buildings, warehouses, offices, general services, staff houses (other than the Circuit Bungalow), machinery and equipment, fixtures, tools and furniture and vehicles but excluding the collecting centres; "the said land": the land (totalling approximately 46 acres) pertaining to the said plant as delineated pursuant to Clause 4.1. f) hereof; "General Stores": raw materials, packing materials, technical spares, office material and other consumable assets; "the Take-over day": the date determined in accordance with the provisions of Clause 5.1 hereof on which the Company shall take on lease and manage the said plant; "the Product": the sweetened condensed milk to be produced by the Company at the said plant; "The A List": the nominal list to be established by Nestle in collaboration with the Milk Board of all the personnel pertaining to the said plant and employed by the Milk Board which the Company shall take over on Takeover-day; "the B List": the nominal list to be established by Nestle in collaboration with the Milk Board of all the personnel pertaining to the said Plant and employed by the Milk Board which the Company shall not take over on Takeover-day; "the C List": the list to be established by Nestle in collaboration with the Milk Board of the General Stores found usable by the Company; "Nestle affiliate": any company controlled directly or indirectly whether through one or more intermediaries or otherwise by Nestle; "S.P.N.": Societe des Produits Nestle A.S. of Vevey Switzerland, the Nestle affiliate acting as Licensor.

1.2. *Scope:* The purpose of the Joint Venture between the parties hereto shall be the manufacture of sweetened condensed milk at the said plant and the qualitative improvement and quantitative increase of the latter's output. This Joint Venture may be extended to other dairy products by mutual agreement between the parties hereto.

Section 2 entitled INCORPORATION OF JOINT COMPANY reads: 2.1. *Formation:* Nestle shall forthwith procure the incorporation of a private company under the Companies Ordinance No. 61 of 1938 of

TRIBUNE, SEPTEMBER 8, 1984

Sri Lanka and having an authorised share capital of Rs. 50,000,000—divided into 5,000,000 ordinary shares of Rs. 10 each; 2.2 *Name*: The company shall be called "International Dairy Products Limited" if such name is available for registration or by such other available name as may be agreed between the parties hereto; 2.3. *Memorandum and Articles of Association*: The Memorandum and Articles of Association of the Company shall be drafted by the lawyers of and agreed to by the parties hereto; 2.4. *Share capital*: Within 21 days after incorporation of the Company the paid-up capital shall be Rs. 1,000,000—and prior to the Takeover day it shall be increased to Rs. 30,000,000. The share capital shall be held in the following proportions: 40% Milk Board, 60% Nestle. In any subsequent capital increase the Milk Board and Nestle shall have pre-emptive rights in each additional issue of shares in the Company in proportion to their existing shareholding; 2.5. *Application for shares*: As soon as the Company shall be incorporated, the Milk Board and Nestle shall each deliver to the Company an application for the allotment to them for cash at par of (a) in the case of the Milk Board 1,200,000 ordinary shares of Rs. 10 each in the capital of the Company and (b) in the case of Nestle 1,800,000 ordinary shares of Rs. 10 each in the capital of the Company, less any shares subscribed by the promoters. Both applications shall be conditional upon the Milk Board and the Company entering into the Lease Agreement referred to in Clause 4.4. hereof and shall be upon terms that the shares shall be payable upon one or more calls prior to the Takeover-day; 2.6. *Subscriptions by Nestle*: The payment for shares by Nestle under Clause 2.5 hereof shall be effected by the transfer to Sri Lanka of Swiss Francs at the prevailing rate of exchange; 2.7. *Initial expenses*: Each of the parties hereto shall bear its own expenses in relation with this Agreement or Joint Venture up to the incorporation of the Company. All incorporation expenses as well as all costs and fees incidental to the Lease Agreement referred to under Clause 4.4 hereof shall be borne by the Company."

To be continued.

We will publish the remaining provisions of the Agreement in two further instalments. We will then critically examine and comment on their agreement in the context of the Nestle activities in the country.

x x x

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August 27 - September 2**DIARY OF EVENTS IN SRI LANKA
COMPILED FROM DAILY NEWS-
PAPERS PUBLISHED IN COLOMBO**

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

MONDAY, AUGUST 27: The first charge of hydel power from the accelerated Mahaweli programme's turbines at Victoria hits the national power grid today; the CEB however will be able to greet this long awaited contribution with stop-gap measures only, for the most part. The Vatican revealed yesterday that Pope John Paul was refused permission to visit the Soviet Republic of Lithuania this month for a religious celebration—*DN*. The Sri Lanka shipping industry was gearing itself to meet a reprisal boycott of Indian vessels by local water front unions this week; according to sources the Indian boycott has been confined to Madras and Bombay and the call made by the Indian Federation of Port Workers to the International Transport Union has been turned down—*DM*. A death threat has been made on Customs Chief H. B. Disanayake; this comes in the wake of the closure of the Duty Free Shopping Complex at Kollupitiya which followed last Monday's acid throwing on Sub Collector Victor Karunanayake, the Customs Officer in charge of the complex—*DO*. The Maha Nayake Theros of the Asgiriya and Malwatte Sangha Sabhas have opposed the government's decision to empower the President to select the Diyawadana Nilame. The national carriers of Sri Lanka and Singapore have failed in two days of talks here to end a row that threatens to disrupt flights between their two countries, aviation sources said today. Finance and Planning Minister Ronnie de Mel on Saturday reiterated that there were some public corporations which have become a plague on his life and a pain on the economy of the country—*SU*. Significant changes in the spheres of education, employment and implementation of Tamil Language are likely to come into effect after discussions on the report submitted by the Committee B to the Round Table Conference, informed sources said yesterday. A World Bank team which spent two weeks here has reported serious under-utilisation of 28 million-dollar credit line as under 10 after 2 years of a 3½ year period; this is under the Small and Medium Industries Scheme founded by the IDA, the soft loan affiliate of the World Bank—*S*. A new Duty Free Shopping Complex will

be opened in the next two months at the Katunayake International Airport—*DN*.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 28: Singapore Airlines has not to date officially vindicated that they may unilaterally suspend the services between Singapore and Sri Lanka, Air Lanka said yesterday. South African Indians elect their first members of parliament on Tuesday with diplomats predicting an even lower turnout than at last week's poll of mixed-race coloureds—*DN*. The Sri Lanka Rupavahini Corporation facing stiff competition from the Independent Television Network has lined up an interesting series of programmes together with their expansion projects to maintain their lead over ITN and sustain viewer interest—*DM*. The Ministry of Finance and Planning under which the Customs operate approves the proposal of the Minister of Trade and Shipping to shift the Duty Free Shopping complex to the Katunayake International Airport—*DO*. The Samasthalanka Sinhala Buddha Sanvidhanaya yesterday appealed to the public not to be misled by certain political elements who publicly denounced President J. R. Jayewardena's proposal to set up a Second Chamber of Parliament to solve the country's ethnic problems. An unidentified gang which broke into the Bank of Ceylon Branch at Kalavanchikudy in Batticaloa yesterday afternoon are reported to have got away with about Rs. 120,000 and the arms and ammunition of the bank's security guards. A separate unit has been set up in the Attorney General's Department to indict persons against whom the armed forces and the police uncover evidence of involvement in terrorist activities—*SU*. No action has been taken against a senior official of the State Fertilizer Manufacturing Corporation whose signature appears on two cheques which have been used allegedly to defraud the corporation of more than Rs. 1.5 million. The Inter-University Students' Federation, a body of representatives from the unofficial University Students' Action Committee, has decided to ask Vice Chancellors to help release under-graduates now in custody. Air Lanka announced yesterday that the discussions between Singapore Airlines and Air Lanka which were held in Singapore on 24th and 25th August 1984 between representatives of Sri Lanka and Singapore with a view to solving the problems that have arisen regarding the Air Services Agreement between the countries ended in a stalemate—*S*.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 29: A Buddhist Organisation yesterday pledged its fullest co-operation to President Jayewardene's Second Chamber proposal describing it as the "most constructive and workable" solution to the country's ethnic problems. Pakistan yesterday forcefully rejected Indian allegations that Sikh militants who hijacked an Indian airline last Friday were supplied with guns by Pakistani authorities during a stopover at Lahore airport—*DN*. The temporary solution to the Duty Free Shopping complex at Kollupitiya which was

closed since last Tuesday after the acid-throwing incident the previous day will be made known next week, informed sources indicated—*DM*. The TULF last night decided to attend the All Party Conference; General Secretary of the TULF A. Amirthalingam told the *Observer* this morning: "We feel that we should proceed with the discussions to evolve a solution"—*DO*. Consumers and Consumer Protection Societies have complained that gold sold at well known trading markets in Colombo—is inferior in quality and mixed with other low priced metals. More than 3,900 vacancies for sub-Inspectors and Constables exist in the Sri Lanka Police Force; of this number 2,700 are for Constables, but the Police Department is unable to fill these vacancies promptly due to the lack of adequate training facilities. Subjects related to the devolution of power—which were under study by the working group of Committee A—will be given top priority when the All-Party Conference reconvenes at the BMICH this evening—*SU*. The current boycott of Sri Lankan ships at Indian ports is likely to affect India's export sector, officials said yesterday. The experts committee appointed by the Round Table Conference to go into the subject of devolution has recommended that twenty-three different categories of subjects and functions should be reserved exclusively by the government. Vice Chancellors have ruled out any possibility of university examinations scheduled to be held shortly being postponed. CID intelligence believe terrorist leader Prabhakaran is now in Sri Lanka to give morale boost to the now fragmented terrorist movement in the North; he is believed to be based in the north in cognito—*S*.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 30: The Madras airport explosion was linked to a strategy of attacks on Padaviya and Medawachchiya in an effort to draw a JVP re-herringer in the current anti-terrorist war, according to information now in the possession of the intelligence authorities here. The South Pacific Forum in a communique issued last night announced the creation of a working group chaired by Australia to examine the substantive, legal and other issues involved in establishing a nuclear free zone in the region—*DN*. Special compensation to the next of kin of officers of all ranks in the Department of Excise killed in extraordinary circumstances like terrorist action in the performance of duty, will be paid at the same rates as that given to the Armed Services and Police—*DM*. The government-owned business organisation, Hotel de Buhari, has earned an income of about Rs. 5 million for the first six months of this year; this is revealed in a report sent to the Treasury by its Competent Authority—*DO*. The Ministry of Education will establish nine Colleges of Education to ensure that all schools are manned entirely by trained teachers. A questionnaire has been distributed among the people in Mannar to estimate the extent of damage to various establishments recently. The Ministry of Health has declared the Colombo, Kalutara, Galle, Matara, Hambantota, Kurunegala and

Gampaha districts as rabies-affected areas—*SU*. Should the sub-national institutions that are to be set up to devolve power to the periphery be on District Provincial or Regional (inter-provincial) lines?; this was the main question that was discussed at the round-table conference which was reconvened yesterday. The controversy raging over the visit of State Ministry Secretary, Douglas Liyanage to Israel and his statements to the "*Jerusalem Post*" was not taken up by Cabinet when it met yesterday. The Ceylon Shipping Corporation vessel "Lanka Athula" which had been detained outside Bombay port since last Friday due to the refusal of Indian dock workers to handle Sri Lanka vessels, is reported to be running short of fuel—*S*.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 31: A group of northern lawyers practicing at Mallakam have decided to boycott the courts next week protesting alleged harassment by the security forces. Former French President Valery Giscard D'Estaing, 58, will make a political comeback next month with the apparent aim of standing as President again in 1988—*DN*. The Constitution of Sri Lanka does not embody that the President should be a Buddhist and the rebuy the appointment of a Diyawadana Nilame by the President would not be approved by the Buddhists of the country, is stated in a 15-point memorandum submitted by the Joint Karaka Sangha Sabha of the Two Chapters of Malwatta and Asgiriya—*DM*. Jathika Sevaka Sangamaya (Port Branch) President A. V. Silva said yesterday that the 12,000 strong union in the Port of Colombo is deeply concerned about the boycott of Sri Lankan ships in the Indian ports following a decision by the Indian Port and Dock Workers Federation—*DO*. Nomination day for the four by-elections to the seats at Trincomalee, Paddirippuwa, Kundasale and Minneriya has been fixed for September 27. Justice Minister and the Dalada Maligawa's Diyawadana Nilame Nissanka Wijeyeratne, has had a hush-hush meeting with SLFP leader Sirimavo Bandaranaike, at her Rosmead Place residence; it is learnt that Dr. Wijeyeratne sought the meeting. Casual employees who have served for more than six months will be entitled to be made permanent under a new bill drawn up by the Ministry of Labour. An Indian newspaper has reported that representatives of five militant Tamil groups are in New Delhi to appeal to Premier Indira Gandhi and foreign missions for assistance in their struggle—*SU*. Investigations into the Gonawela Petrol pilfering racket may prove futile since the records of the Petroleum Corporation do not show any loss of petroleum as a result of the tapping according to authoritative sources. Finance and Planning Minister Ronnie de Mel brought his criticism of the duty free complex, into play once again yesterday saying "this monster should be closed down". Despite the Cabinet decision to bring new laws to enable the President to appoint the Diyawadana Nilame for Dalada Maligawa, Kandy, at least six persons are busy canvassing support of the Basnayake Nilames and the Trustees of Buddhist temples in the Kandyan

provinces—/S. Three persons were fined Rs. 1,500/- each for unlawfully pirating electricity supply—DP.

SATURDAY, SEPT. 1: The foreign ministry in Colombo and a statement from Downing Street in London, yesterday provided overwhelming evidence to nail a canard in the Indian press that British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher had cancelled her Sri Lanka visit owing to "displeasure" about recent developments in the North. Ten opposition parties will meet in New Delhi today to debate forming a coalition to fight the government of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi in the general elections due at the end of the year—DN. The Arab League has not taken any decision to cut down on the intake of Sri Lankan workers to the Middle East and a highly placed Labour Ministry official in Doha has said that no decision has been taken to bar Lankan Labour into Qatar—DM. Devolution of power, the establishment of a second chamber in the legislature and related topics will dominate today's sessions of the All Party Conference which resumes at the BMICH at 9.30 a.m. An army unit recovered more than Rs. 250,000 worth of contraband from an abandoned lorry at Madagal, Jaifna yesterday afternoon, during a routine patrol. A sum of Rs. 32.5 million has been approved by the United Nations Development Programme to develop the ayurveda system in Sri Lanka—SU. The state-owned *Daily Mirror* newspaper which has been in existence for over twenty years, will cease publication from Monday, the newspaper's management decided yesterday. An attempt by undergraduates to meet the Minister of National Security, Lalith Athulathmudali in obtaining the release of undergraduates in custody has proved abortive. *The Island* understands that President J. R. Jayewardene has summoned Justice Minister Nissanka Wijeyeratne to the President's office to explain the Minister's recent visit to the Rosmead Place residence of Mrs. Sirima Bandaranaike—/S.

SUNDAY, SEPT. 2: The Washington-based International Monetary Fund has warned the Sri Lankan Government that it would not neglect the country's non-traditional exports because of the euphoria caused by high tea prices in the world market. When the All Party Conference met yesterday discussions of Committee A were continued; those who made contributions to the discussions were Ven. Madihe Pannaseha Maha Nayaka Thero, Mr. K. W. Devanayagam, Rev. Celestine Fernando and the Sinhala Association. Mother Teresa arrives here on Thursday at 9.40 in the morning at Katunayake Airport. The Government is negotiating a loan of Rs. 5 billion from the World Bank spread over a period of five years to rehabilitate the plantation industries, with a special emphasis on tea—SO. The Duty Free Shopping Complex at Kollupitiya which was closed 12 days ago is expected to be reopened from next Friday, according to informed Government circles. The Ceylon Petroleum Corporation which chartered a tanker from Troodos of Greece

to carry to Colombo 90,000 tones of crude oil from Saudi Arabia has now been assured of a replacement vessel to carry the same amount of crude. The hundred-year old Wellawatte Spinning and Weaving Mills Ltd., a Government-owned Business Undertaking will be closed down shortly; a new mill will be set up outside the Colombo Municipal limits to replace the Wellawatte Mills—ST. Two thousand five hundred affluent Finnish tourists may not come to paradise; the reason—Air Lanka is said to have objected to the granting of landing rights for a charter flight by a leading European airline; it is feared that these tourists may now revamp their tour programmes and spend their holidays in India and the Maldives. SLFP leader Mrs. Sirimavo Bandaranaike yesterday in a press statement confirmed the meeting that she had with Justice Minister Nissanka Wijeyeratne at the latter's request. Sri Lanka, it seems has finally achieved "official" notoriety; State owned media in several countries some independent and others reflecting the opinion of their respective governments have until recently projected a fair and unbiased coverage of the situation in Sri Lanka like most other western media—WK. The Court of Appeal in a judgement delivered on Tuesday held that a marriage contracted according to customs, rules and rites of the Catholic Church is null and void. It has become near impossible to get down Tamil films from Madras for the Sri Lanka Rupavahini Corporation according to its Chairman Mr. M. J. Perera; the National Film Development Corporation with which the SLRC has held negotiations, has so far refused to release these films even on very attractive royalty payments. Sri Lanka is gearing for the massive power needs of the country in the year 2,000; the government last week okayed feasibility studies regarding the establishment of a giant Thermal (Coal) Power Project in Trincomalee—/S.

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

A WEEKLY COMMENTARY

By Ariel

• Canada • South Africa

The world has recently witnessed a number of events of major international significance. In *Canada*, the Liberals who had ruled continuously for 21 years were swept out of power. It was a landslide in favour of the Conservatives who captured as many as 211 of the 292 seats in Parliament. The Liberals managed to get only 40 seats, and the New Democratic Party 36. There was also an Independent. When the Parliament was dissolved on July 10, the Liberals had 139 seats,

the Conservatives 100 and the New Democrats 11. There was one Independent and 11 seats were vacant. The full implications and significance of the Conservative victory cannot be evaluated for sometime, but observers are looking forward to some interesting changes in Canada's foreign as well as domestic policies.

Already commentators, however, have been quick to point out that the landslide victory for the Conservatives in Canada was readily welcomed by the Reagan administration because of Mr. Mulroney's pledge to improve relations with the United States and of a strong undercurrent of hope that the same Conservative winds will blow in the US in November 6 presidential elections bringing success to Mr. Reagan's bid for a second term. A third reason why the Republican leaders are happy is because the charisma of Mr. Trudeau who has been an outspoken critic of successive US administrations, and most notably of Mr. Reagan, might fade away. Mr. Mulroney in his capacity as Opposition Leader had visited Washington and called on President Reagan to stress that he wanted to improve ties. Referring to the Irish origin of both Mr. Mulroney is reported to have said at his White House meeting, "North America needs another Irishman at the helm". Mr. Reagan is said to have responded "I agree".

Mr. Mulroney is expected to make some changes in the economic policy, possibly to promote greater collaboration with the United States. One of the agencies that may be affected is the Foreign Investment Review Agency, a creation of Mr. Trudeau to screen foreign investment in Canada, and obviously to ensure that the country did not come under the total domination of US economic interests. Mr. Mulroney has already made known his intention to give the agency a new role and a new name, "Investment Canada", and he believed generally that foreign investment should be welcomed except in cases where it is proved to be detrimental to Canada's interests. Commentators have also pointed out that the new Prime Minister's Third World philosophy was not yet quite clear, unlike that of Mr. Trudeau who was a known defender of Third World causes, both at the United Nations and in the exclusive western organisations.

In *Chile*, in the two-day protest demonstration against the Pinochet dictatorship, the tough-arm tactics of the military resulted in violence and bloodshed. There is no doubt that the opposition to Pinochet continues to grow in spite of the junta's repressive policies. But there was even greater bloodshed and violence in *South Africa*. The inauguration of the new Constitution with an Executive President in a three-chamber Parliament in which the black majority of 20 millions are effectively shut out was marked by violent demonstrations not only in the black towns but also in some of the bigger towns in the Republic. The anger of the protestors has now turned on Blacks who co-operate

with the White Government in various capacities as mayors or local government Council Members in black townships and homelands. The recent boycott of the elections have demonstrated that the overwhelming majority of the mixed-races and the Indians are with the Blacks in their fight against apartheid.

Last month South Africa held elections to set up two non-white chambers as adjuncts to the all-white Parliament to demonstrate that it was taking steps to end apartheid in stages. The first election was for the mixed-races chamber. In this election over 75 percent of the registered as eligible kept away from the polls. Then last week Indian settlers were given an opportunity to elect representatives for a 40-seat Indian chamber. Of the nine-lakh strong Indian community only 17 percent of those registered went to the polls. This showed that 83 percent of the Indian voters had heeded the boycott call. There can be no doubt that this Indian support for the boycott will go a long way towards linking Indian political aspirations with those of the indigenous black Africans. Apart from everything else, the Indian community has to maintain friendly relations with the black leaders to ensure that there will be no anti-Indianism when the blacks come to power.

As a result of the effective boycott of the elections by the mixed-races and the Indians, the credibility of the South African Government has been eroded. Prime Minister Botha now has to seek some other device to pretend that he was anxious to end apartheid step by step. But White South Africans are still not able to hide their determination to retain power at any cost. The way political power is used in South Africa is basically crude. In order to ensure that the white minority of some 4.5 millions retain permanent political power, Prime Minister Botha's latest device was a three chamber Parliament in which a modest number of coloured and Indian sycophants would be accommodated with white parliamentarians. Botha and his compatriots behave as if the 19 or 20 million black South Africans just do not exist, because they belong to black homeland states artificially created in the most uninviting climatic and geographical parts of the country. The best agricultural lands remain under white ownership. Even today, South Africa's non-whites are subjected to a degree of racial discrimination, which will never be tolerated in any civilised society. The minority regime survives with the blessings of the Western Governments whose media look upon racism in South Africa as a historical heritage, about which nothing much can be done.

What has so far given the South African governments its punch and power is gold. Of the gold producing countries, the Republic of South Africa is by far the most important. Its economic prosperity was always based on the gold mines. Even today gold accounts for half the country's exports. Gold prices, unfortunately for Botha have kept falling for the last three

years and hopes of an economic recovery are fast receding. Indeed, with drought which has forced Pretoria to the import of maize—the staple food of the 20 million blacks—South Africa is facing its worst economic crisis since the great depression. The collapse of gold prices has created an unprecedented crisis in South Africa. Though Finance Minister Horwood preached financial discipline, he never practised it. Public expenditure went on rising year by year and defence took a huge chunk. The defence budget for 1984-85 is 42 billion rands, twice of what it was just four years ago.

These economic compulsions, the enormous burden imposed by the self-imposed task of preserving white supremacy and the interventions in Mozambique, Angola and Namibia had recently led Pretoria to seek a solution to the Namibian problem. It would be wrong to believe that the settlements in these three matters present a victory for Pretoria. The fact is that South Africa has finally come to realise that by wielding the big stick in Namibia, it was bleeding itself to death. If gold prices had not dropped so drastically, South Africa could undoubtedly have taken the economic cost of the Namibian involvement in its stride, even though the psychological and political cost would have taken their toll. At the moment economic difficulties appear to be increasing.

At the beginning of last month the Government introduced the most stringent measures in South Africa's history. Interest rates shot up: commercial banks raised prime overdraft rate from 22 to 25 percent. There was also a five percent increase in the maximum hire purchase rate of 32 percent and a severe reduction in repayment periods. The Reserve Bank raised its discount rate from 18.75 percent to 21.75 percent for treasury bills, from 19 to 22 percent for land bank bills and from 19.5 to 22.5 percent for bankers acceptance. These unprecedented measures clearly indicated that South Africa was going through its most severe economic crisis and that Botha was in no position to pursue a policy of confrontation. As long as the price of gold kept falling Pretoria will be on the defensive and Botha will pursue detente with the African states. But when the price of gold rises and the South African economy is on the way to recovery Pretoria may once again return to the old path of flaunting arrogant white supremacy. But there are also other indications that the Botha Government was anxious to continue its policy of detente with African states. Reliable sources in Britain have revealed that Botha may even seek a reconciliation with the Soviet Union. South Africa had broken diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union in 1956 and had carried on a vicious and ruthless anti-Communist policy from that time. Reports indicate that he was even willing to fight the white die-hard rightwingers in his party and the country on this issue.



RICE

What Next?

1. INTRODUCTION. That we have made rapid advances in rice production almost to the point of self-reliance none will deny. That self-reliance can be maintained in the years ahead, following the development of the Mahaweli Program is not in doubt. So what is the future of rice research—where do we go from here? Now that overall production is no longer a critical issue more attention is being directed to: (i) Strengthening rice production in stable environments by developing pest-tolerant new improved varieties (NIV); (ii) improving old recommended varieties; (iii) developing suitable rice varieties for areas where NIV do not perform well; (iv) improving rice quality to meet existing local and export market preferences; (v) substituting low-cost cultural techniques for high cost methods and (vi) intensifying the development of shorter-aged varieties to compensate for unpredictable weather.

2. PEST TOLERANCE. NIV tend to be more susceptible to damage by insect pests. Every effort is therefore being made to induce a higher level of tolerance to these varieties, particularly in respect of the ubiquitous and very damaging Brown Plant Hopper. *Brown Plant Hopper:* Success has already been achieved with the release of Bg 379-2 (4-4 ½ months) which is tolerant of the Brown Plant Hopper (BPH). Two other promising selections in the same age class have been taken up for further testing from the following: 82-3032, 80-3041, 82-3079 and 82-3037. In the three months age class two BPH resistant lines Bg 731-1 and 731-2 have been included in the National Co-ordinated Rice Varietal Trials (NORVT). These two lines have also out-yielded the standard recommendation Bg 276-5, which is susceptible to BPH. Another Indian introduction C o 10 has been identified



as a good source of resistance to BPH. It will be used along with Ptb 33 in future breeding programmes. **Stem Rot:** Symptoms of this disease (*Helminthosporium sigmoideum*) are often confused with crop "burn" caused by BPH. Infection causes early leaf yellowing and lodging. Susceptibility is greater under humid conditions in the wet zone. Bg 34-8 and Bg 276-5 are susceptible varieties, while Bg 400-1, Bg 379-2 and Bg 94-1 are tolerant. Since this disease is becoming more troublesome, breeding has been extended to inducing stem-rot resistance to NIV that are being developed. Bg 731-1 and Bg 731-2 (three months), which have already been included in NCRVT, show stem-rot resistance as well as tolerance to BPH.

3. IMPROVING OLD RICE VARIETIES. (H4 (4-4½ months) and 62-344 (3 months) are the two most popular of the older recommendations cultivate in the less stable environments where NIV do not thrive. Bg 11-11 (4-4½ months) is a popular samba-grain type grown in the stable environments. These three varieties are subject to various disadvantages which breeders are attempting to correct. *M/ 273* has already been released, under the new name of Dwarf E4, to replace H4. It is superior to the old recommendation in that it has a greater production potential and is non-lodging and non-shattering.

Meanwhile four elite lines 80-3061, 82-3077, 82-2054 and 82-3076 have been included in the "manawari" VAT program as promising replacements of 62-355. These lines have a higher production potential when cultivated under irrigation (4.3 t/ha compared to 4.4 t/ha); they are also lodging and blast resistant. *Bg 573-7*. This is a new Bg 11-11 improved line developed at Batalagoda with a higher production potential, and a greater tolerance of blast, BLB and gall midge. It has a smaller grain than Bg 11-11 and a better milling quality. Total milled rice is 70.8% with high head rice recovery at 64.6% and a low level of broken grain (C.2%). *Bg 573-7* is being finally evaluated in farmers' fields prior to recommendation as a national release.

4. DEVELOPING MORE SUITABLE VARIETIES FOR UNSTABLE ENVIRONMENTS. Since NIV have failed to perform well in unstable environments where poor drainage, droughts, flash floods, iron toxicity, salinity and alkalinity prevail, a search for suitable HYV for these "problem" areas continues. In the poorly drained iron toxic, mineral soils obtaining in the Colombo, Kalutara, Galle, Matara and Ratnapura Districts, three such varieties were released recently *Bg 272-6B* (3 m), *Bg 266-7* and *Bg 267-3* (3½ m). *BW 288-1-3*: This selection (3 m) has also performed well in the above named Districts, and will be recommended to the National Seeds Committee as a regional selection. It has significantly outyielded the standard varieties *Bg 94-1* and *Bg 34-6* (3½ m). *BW 288-1-3*

is a red rice with a potential yield of 5 t/ha. Other advantages are early seedling vigour, profuse tillering with a high percentage of effective tillers and tolerance of iron toxicity.

5. QUALITY RICES. Since the pressure to increase overall rice output has somewhat eased, more attention is now given to meeting consumer preferences for red rice and long, slender white rices of high translucency. **Red Rices:** Even though there is no nutritional difference of any significance between red and white rices, the former is still much in demand. This may be attributed to the fact that red rices dominated the market in pre-war times, before the influx of imported white rices and locally developed white rices. Acquired palatability preference still persevere. Another reason for this preference could be that farmers have found red rices to be more adaptable to environmental changes than white rices. This is perhaps, borne out by the fact that the red rices H4, Dwarf H4, 62-355, Bg 34-6, At 16 and Bg 750 are cultivated mostly in unstable environments unsuitable for the cultivation of white rices. Unfortunately, these red rice varieties are poor to medium producers: research is therefore aimed at developing HY red rices.

BW 272-6B: Some success has already been achieved with the release of *BW 272-6B* (3 m) to replace the low-yielding indigenous red rice "Herath Banda" in the poorly drained mineral soils of the Kalutara and Galle Districts. *BW 288-1-3:* Another HY red rice *BW 288-1-3* (3½ m) will soon be recommended as a regional release for the poorly drained mineral soils extending from Colombo to Matara. *Bg 94-1 (red):* Perhaps the most promising of red rices now being developed is *Bg 94-1 (red)*. This selection (3½ m), which is in the final stages of testing, has proved itself in rainfed farmers' fields in Welimada (Up-country Intermediate Zone) where it has outyielded H4 (4-4½ m) by almost 1.2 t/ha, despite a prolonged drought in Yala 1983. Good results have also been obtained at Paranthan (Low Country Dry Zone) where it proved superior for its white pericarped counterpart *Bg 94-1*, producing about 4.5 t/ha/ of paddy. This selection has long slender grains with intermediate chalkiness and translucency. Total milled rice is 68.2%, but head rice recovery is low at 42.5% with 25.7% broken grains (BG).

Others: Several other red rice selections are in the breeding pipeline: At 77-1 (3 m), 82-1811, At 75-1, At 76-1, At 79-37, LD 14p-71 (3½ m). At 79-127 and Bg 500 (4-4½ m). At 19-37 has long slender grains with no chalkiness and high translucency, but its milling quality is poor in that the BG content is high (29.3%). On the other hand, 82-1811 has a high TMR and head rice recovery of 72.2% and 66.2% respectively with only 6% BG. This selection which falls into the intermediate bold grain category with intermediate chalkiness and translucency is a very

promising line. *Long Slender White Rices*: Quality white rices for local consumption or export must have the following characteristics: i. Long, slender - size and shape, ii. Non-chalkiness; iii. High translucence; iv. Over 65% TMR and v. Less than 6% BG for Grade 1 rice. Twelve lines developed for these characteristic were evaluated at Batalagoda. All of them had TMR over 65%; seven had high translucence; but only three of these selections had these characters plus a BG level of less than 6%. These selections: 83-994, 83-1008 and 83-1048 will be further tested. In yield trials conducted at Batalagoda, quality rices have given statistically significant lower yields than comparable Bg standards. This is a disadvantage that has yet to be remedied.—*Research Highlights No. 17.*

To be concluded

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LETTER

Wings for all Legumes

Sir,

It was very gratifying to read a newspaper report of the decision taken by Professor Cyril Ponnampereuma to change the objectives of the International Winged Beans Institute at Peradeniya to include all legumes, and re-name it as the International Winged Beans and Tropical Legumes Institute. When the Winged Beans Project was first mooted and given nationwide publicity one of our local scientists Dr. Mervyn De Silva, Advisor, Ministry of Plan Implementation, pointed out in an article which appeared in a newspaper the inadvisability of concentrating too much of available funds and research effort on a new crop, when several other subsidiary food crops were receiving step motherly treatment, especially where financial support is concerned. Recently, many newspapers published reports which show that even Rice research at Batalagoda and elsewhere has fallen into this category and face the threat of a complete reversal of the achievements of several decades of work entailing public funds. His article focussed attention on what our research priorities should be.

What a rumpus there was about the article which first led to Dr. De Silva being placed on compulsory leave by the Secretary, Ministry of Plan Implementation followed by a high powered inquiry. Today three years later the points aired by Dr. De Silva have not only been taken serious note of, but implemented as the press report by Dr. Ponnampereuma shows. The tragedy is that as a part of a continuing vendetta against the author of that article for his "heretical" views he allegedly has been transferred to Trincomalee and is languishing in its Kachcheri there, after a service

of one-and-half decades at the Ministry. Will Professor Ponnampereuma who is no doubt aware of all these happenings and who hails from a country that values intellectual and scientific freedom of thought, go to the rescue of a fellow alumni of the Berkeley campus of the University of California? Judging from the proposed new look The Winged Bean Institute now takes incorporating the very ideas of his article, hasn't he contributed in a more concrete way towards the development and evolution of that Institute than all those "good" scientists and planners who agreed then, and will agree now, without any question.

J. C. G.

Wattala.

x x x

RUBBER

Headlight for Pre-dawn Tapping

It is well known that rubber trees tend to yield 15 to 20% more latex if tapped before daybreak. This is because the turgour pressure in the cells of plants reaches its climax in the small hours of the morning, as transpiration is arrested when sun sets. Therefore if the rubber trees are tapped before dawn, there will be accelerated flow of latex in a bid to release the pressure accumulated in the plant cells since sunset. But this is not being practised widely now as tapping cannot be done in the dark. To tide over this situation, a battery operated 'Head light' has been developed by Mr. Jose Abraham, Physics Lecturer of Newman College at Thodupuzha in Kerala.

The 'Head light' which is more of an adaptation of the Hunter's light, draws energy from a 'Nickel-cadmium' battery made abroad. The headlight can be fixed to the forehead of the tapper with the help of an elastic tape and the battery wrapped in a rexin bag hung to his shoulder. The battery is rechargeable by plugging its cord to the sockets (220 volts) available with the power connection in households. With a continuous charge of eight hours, the battery can be used to energise the lamp for seven to eight hours at a stretch. After a day's operation, it is advisable to plug the battery for recharging. Besides increase in crop without extra inputs, tapping before dawn provides more leisure hours to workers which they could gainfully utilise for engaging in other remunerative jobs as well. In addition, tapping before day break reduces exhaustion of workers.

This headlight is now priced Rs. 250 (Indian) including the cost of the battery. Mr. Jose Abraham is trying his best to bring down the cost by introducing further alterations to the device. But the cost of the

battery is the major component that hikes the price of the light. This could be solved effectively, only if he is able to import the battery direct. Even the present cost of this device would not appear to be very high as the total investment could be recouped by the users with the proceeds from the extra crop realised within a period of three to four weeks. Early tapping of rubber has to emerge as a routine estate practice as it will help to increase domestic production of rubber by 10-15%. Besides increasing the return for farmers, this will reduce the quantum of rubber imports proportionately.

P. K. Narayanan.



NUTRITIOUS GREEN

Chekurmanis

LEAFY vegetables are the cheapest natural sources of minerals and vitamins for our daily diet. Among the leafy vegetables, *amaranthus* (tampala—Sinhala) is the most popular and widely cultivated in the country. Plants like the *amaranthus*, however, require to be raised frequently to ensure their round-the-year availability). Some of the leafy vegetables which are perennial in nature can come in handy for the housewives whenever the common greens become either scarce or costly in the market. One such promising, perennial plant is "*Chekurmanis*" meaning sweet green leafy vegetable in Malay. Botanically, it is *Sauropus Androgynus Merr*, and belongs to the castor family. In Tamil, it is known as *Thavasi Murungai* and *Panithora* or *Japan Batu* in Sinhalese.

Chekurmanis is a small perennial shrub which is believed to have been introduced into this country in the early years of this century from Malaysia where it is a popular leafy vegetable. The leaves of the plant are rich in protein and vitamins A, B and C. The leaves contains as much as 7.4 per cent protein as against 3.2 per cent in the common *amaranthus* and much higher amounts of Vitamins A, B and C than those in the latter. Being rich in several vitamins, it is also popularly referred to as the "multi vitamin green." The tender shoots, leaves and fruits can be cooked and prepared in the same manner as drumstick or murunga leaves. The leaves have a pleasant sweet taste and are nutritionally superior to the common greens like *amaranthus* and spinach.

The plant can be easily raised by cuttings or seeds. It comes up well in mild humid situations enjoying good rainfall. Suited for most soil types, the plant demands no particular care in culture. It can be planted as isolated plants in the home garden or grown as a hedge or may be trained on a bower or a trellis. It comes up luxuriantly in partially shaded situations producing larger and more succulent leaves. Left

unchecked, it can assume the proportion of a small-sized tree. Rooted or unrooted cuttings can be used for propagation. The cuttings may be planted in well prepared pits measuring about 30 cm cube. Planted on a field scale, a spacing of 60 cm between rows and 45 cm between plants will be adequate. When the plants attain a height of about 90 cm they may be "tipped" to develop laterals which in turn can be trimmed periodically.

The leaves will be ready for picking in about four to six months after planting. Being a perennial, the plant continues to yield fresh leaves for several years. It is also practically free from insect pests and diseases. One or two plants raised in a home garden will provide, on and off, a good supply of nutrient-rich leaves to break the monotony of eating the common *amaranthus* every day. Being a cheap source of protein and vitamins, the leaves can be used as a cattle and poultry feed as well.



FACTS ABOUT

Chicken Eggs

SOME PERSONS erroneously believe that some factors affect the nutritive value of the eggs. In certain regions of the United States, people consider egg shell colour as an indication of high quality and higher nutritive value. They are willing to pay more for eggs with the desired shell colour. The colour of the shell has no effect on the nutrient composition of the egg. Many people think that dark yellow yolks are nutritionally better than light yellow ones. Xanthophyl, the major pigment, causing yolks to have a deeper yellow colour, has no nutritive value. Some still believe that fertile eggs are more nutritious than non-fertile eggs. No scientific proof exists to confirm such a recommendation with the possible exception that the developing embryo might provide slightly more nutrients.

"Organic" eggs (country eggs) may be claimed as much safer and more nutritious than those produced by hens on the usual commercial rations. If the crops produced are free from pesticide and other chemicals there is no reason for concern about eating eggs produced on commercial rations. Organic eggs are no higher in nutritive value than regular eggs. Some persons consider raw eggs more digestible than the cooked ones, perhaps because egg-nogs are included in convalescent and geriatric diets. But, cooked eggs are more readily digested than raw. But ultimately both are very completely digested and absorbed.



Elephant & Agriculture

MANAGING ELEPHANT DEPRADATION IN AGRICULTURAL AND FORESTRY PROJECTS.

A World Bank Technical Paper, by John Seidensticker. 33 Pages, is available at \$ 3 from World Bank Publications. Washington D.C. 20433.

Few people can boast a familiarity with elephants. But for development planners, these largest of terrestrial mammals can present problems of massive proportions. No less than 13 World Bank-assisted projects in Africa and Asia either have had or still have "elephant implications"—meaning that the very presence of elephants must be taken into consideration. To explore the management of elephants, The World Bank looked to John Seidensticker, a wild-life ecologist for the National Zoological Park of the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C. Mr. Seidensticker, who has travelled widely in Sri Lanka, Nepal, India, Bangladesh, and Indonesia, is the author of a recently published World Bank Technological Paper entitled "Managing Elephant Depredation in Agricultural and Forestry Projects." Elephants, Seidensticker says, often disregard the best efforts to keep them out of agricultural or forestry projects established in traditional habitats. "By and large," he says, "what development projects do to (elephant) habitat is create a rich food source, where elephants usually respond by entering and eating, or simply staying around."

"Elephants can threaten projects," he says, "and that probably isn't necessary. It's possible to accommodate elephants very early on in projects, and seeing to their ultimate conservation is a plus for development, as well as for the future of these animals." And elephants, he is quick to point out, simply don't go away. "(They) are resourceful, they take advantage of what's being done at every opportunity, and come back to naut projects that haven't anticipated potential problems and made provisions for these endangered animals If there were a single, easy way to keep elephants and development projects separate, it would be applied on a routine basis," Seidensticker says. "There is no one way, but effective measures can be recommended depending on project type and site." Seidensticker believes elephant management features should be mainly passive. They can include minor modifications in infrastructure either to ease or to block elephant movement, or create buffer zones to separate production areas and forest refuges.

Traditional methods of dealing with elephant depredation do not always work. Seidensticker points out, for example, that electrified fences are rarely effective: they require too much maintenance

and even if maintained, can easily be knocked over by an elephant—ivory does not conduct electricity. Also, he says, "trees fall over the fences, elephants push trees over them, or vegetation grows and shorts them out. There are just any number of things that can go wrong." Shipping elephants to zoos is also ineffective. "There probably is room in North America for 50 elephants," Mr. Seidensticker says, "and if we take a project the size of the Mahaweli Ganga (a river basin development project in Sri Lanka), we're talking about 800 elephants. So it becomes necessary to accommodate elephants where they are." *Courtesy: World Bank News.*

SCIENCE, ENVIRONMENT, MAN

POPULATION AND POVERTY — 2

Social Origins of the Malthusian Myth

By
Professor A. C. J. Weerakoon

MALTHUS was an Englishman, an economist, His "Essay on Population" was first published in 1798, by which time the Industrial Revolution was over 30 years' old. This Revolution had been preceded by a revolution in agricultural practice in England—involving the new use of clover and turnip as crop-plants, the adoption of a 4-year rotational cultivation, deep hoeing and ploughing, improvements in cattle and sheep-breeding—all of which were absolutely incompatible with the open-field system of cultivation then widely practiced; and which accelerated the enclosure of common land that had been going on at a slow pace ever since the mid-14th century. Between 1750 and 1800 nearly 2½ million acres were enclosed as against a mere 200 thousand or so in the first half of that century. Within a generation these enclosures had transformed a Britain that was a land of common-fields communally cultivated into a land of individualist agriculture, of large and medium sized farms. On which the new and more scientific agriculture was practiced. But these very enclosures that had greatly increased the productivity of the land also dispossessed the villager, and created a vast mass of people divorced from the soil and devoid of capital, people ripe for transformation into the sort of 'free' wage-labourer required by the factories and the mines of the Industrial Revolution.

IT HAS BEEN SAID that for the common people depreciation of human life was the leading fact about

the new system, both in agriculture and in industry; the revolution which had raised the standard of comfort for the rich, had depressed the standard of life for the poor. That is very true. Between 1760 and about 1850, misery, poverty and hunger, such as were not known before or since, were wide-spread in town and country-side. Prices shot up and wages lagged far behind. More and more were children compelled to work in order to add to the family's meagre income. Children and adults both worked for as many as 14 to 18 hours a day. And they lived and worked in filthy, insanitary, inhuman and degrading conditions. These workers were free. Yet in most ways they were worse off than the slaves of the West Indian plantations. Chimney-sweeps were, indeed, actually bought and sold. At four years of age they were trained by their owners to climb into narrow, dark, soot-filled chimneys often not more than a foot square within. They were beaten and tortured, pins were stuck into them, fires were lit in the grates beneath them, to persuade them to climb into the narrow choking darkness of the chimney. A few years of this deformed a child for life. And it wasn't unusual for him to get stuck in some bend of the chimney and choke to death in the very soot he had swept down. Conditions in the mines were not much better. Here children were put to work when a little older, at seven or eight. And no wonder. Often for 14 to 18 hours each day they dragged trolleys filled with newly-won coal up dark unlit tunnels, tunnels so narrow that the children were forced to crawl on all fours to get through.

THE LIFE OF THE WORKING PEOPLE of Britain was so wretched, their conditions so disgusting, that the rich themselves were moved with horror at their state and with pity for the poor. The owning classes made fortunes from this misery, but there grew amongst them a great fear. For, the victims of the system did not take it all lying down. There were riots here and there during all this period, and especially after the French Revolution of 1789. In 1793 there were riots all over the country and by the next year they had reached such proportions that Pitt had to suspend the Habeas Corpus—and it remained suspended for the next eight years. Labourers resentful of the lowering of their living standards took to wrecking the machines they wrongly supposed were responsible. In 1795 there were food riots all over England. In 1797, right in the middle of her war with revolutionary France England's navy mutinied. In 1816 rioting in the country districts was so extensive that it has been called a Peasant Revolt. In 1817 the Habeas Corpus had to be suspended once more, and the so-called "Gagging Acts" were passed to control public meetings and prohibit the formation of radical clubs and the publication of radical newspapers. In 1819 there occurred the "Peterloo Massacre" in which, without any provocation or warning whatsoever, mounted troops with drawn swords attacked a large gathering of men,

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women and children who, dressed in their pitiful Sunday best, had collected at St. Peter's Fields, outside Manchester, to hear their leaders voice their demands for better living standards, at a meeting for which the city magistrates had given permission. Within five minutes 11 lay dead, including one woman and a child, and 400 were wounded, including 113 women. From 1836 to 1842 the country was shaken from end to end with the Chartists' agitation for a reformed Parliament; the six demands of their Charter were sufficient, it has been said, "to overthrow the whole English Constitution, Queen and Lords included."

THIS WAS THE SORT OF ATMOSPHERE in which Malthus "discovered" his principle of population, the Principle by which he sought to explain all the misery, hunger, unemployment and other sufferings of the working people as the inevitable consequences of what he claimed were laws of nature. Is it any wonder that his views were enthusiastically accepted? On the one hand there were the poor people, leading miserable inhuman lives and beginning to revolt. On the other hand were the rich—amongst whom horror at the condition of the poor, pity for them, feelings of guilt, and fears of a revolution (such as had overturned France in 1789), were spread wide. *Is it any wonder that Malthus' thesis was eagerly accepted by the rich? It shifted, did it not, the responsibility, the blame for their condition on to the shoulders of the poor themselves? If they were wretched and hungry, ill-paid, ill-housed and ill-clothed, that was merely because there were too many of them; they bred too much. And the remedy too lay in their hands alone. They had only to reduce their numbers and all would be well. There would be enough food, enough houses, enough clothing, more than enough jobs, wages would rise.*

To be continued.

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ENVIRONMENT

The Disaster That Is Ratmalana-2

By
Dr. M. L. M. Salgado

A RIVER in the vicinity is a great asset, as it has an effect on the purity of the environment. Considering that there are also cosmetic factories, who dispose of their spoilt chemicals haphazardly, and which finally pollutes ground water and with the high water table in the entire housing estate area as well as in the vicinity are indicated in the peculiar flavour and smell of the water which are pumped from wells attached to houses, as there is no water supply from mains from the supplies of the Moratuwa UC. Now it is only the frog's

TRIBUNE, SEPTEMBER 8, 1984

orchestra at night and the buzzing of swarms of mosquitoes that are a menace to the health and happiness of the residents that break the monotony at night. In spite of the danger from filaria which is endemic in this area, even the officers of the Filaria Campaign who used to visit at night to take blood samples have not made their appearance for years. There is no integrated scheme to drain the area and make the vicinity beautiful. Yet we are only half a mile from the Water and Drainage Department which is situated at the junction of Borupana Road and Galle Road. In the early days before upstairs bungalows were constructed one could, on a full moon night see the lights of Adam's Peak, even in early dawn when the sun just rises Adam's Peak was visible and was a glorious sight. Home builders have little time for relaxing, when husband and wife both working return late in the evening. Further here too commercialisation has dominated to a large extent as they devote their time that may be available for the planting of nurseries of foliage plants and of such flowers as Anthuriums and orchids for sale to meet the demands of galloping inflation.

PLANTING TREES on the fences from cuttings is an easy job. This can be done on the boundary fences. Albizzias which are quick growing, and come into flower, and the "Flame of the Forest" with its display of Red flowers are easy to grow, and require little attention. The only silver lining in the area which has been landscaped with flowering trees is the Air Port Road, planted with Lagerstromia Flos Regina (Queen of flowers as its Botanical name indicates and called Maruta in Sinhala) which flowers profusely twice a year, displaying a profusion of dark pink flowers. There are several coloured species which can be propagated from cuttings. Its natural habitat is on the banks of river and minor streams. One cutting which was brought by me from the bank of Kolamunu Oya (a branch of the Deduru Oya at Bingiriya) was successfully grown along the boundary fence along the main PWD-Borupana Road and up to flower in profusion. Similarly Cassia fistula (Ehela) which thrives under dry conditions can be planted along the fence, and the crossroads. This tree, when in flower is a magnificent sight and with its sprays of yellow flowers, with cascades of inflorescences hanging from the exile is a magnificent sight, a thing of real beauty. Further, it is also a safe from cattle damage as the leaves are bittered laxative. As such it is not necessary to protect the plants if planted on the road sides.

We need not be scientifically trained ecologists and environmentalists to appreciate the dangers in the present situation, and if matters are taken up even at this stage it may not be too late to repair the damage. Unless the landscape is controlled by the State by passing special legislation, when building plans are passed by the local authorities, to carry out the tree

planting in advance so that the trees would come up by the time the house building is completed.

THERE IS A FURTHER PROBLEM that has arisen in blocks which have been purchased and not built, and kept vacant with a hope of land value rising. Several such blocks have reverted to scrub jungle, and covered with Eupatorium (Podisinghe Maran) and Lantana (such Gandapana). Such lands are a menace to those who have built houses in adjacent building blocks. Particularly at the end of the Borupana Road, there are normally dangerous snakes, mainly cobras and polongas (Russel's Viper). These uncleared blocks which have reverted to scrub jungle covered by Eupatorium, are an ideal shelter for dangerous reptiles. In fact there are rabbits colonising such scrub in the old days and there were rabbit shooters in the old days when the scrub jungle had not been invaded by Eupatorium, but consisted mainly of Madan trees, a few cadju trees and an under canopy of grass on which the rabbits grazed.

These same problems will arise in other housing estates which are proliferating in various village and rural areas where coconut and rubber are being converted into housing estates, both by private bodies as well as by Housing authorities. As stated in the article by Prof. Weerakoon ugliness "for them for the vast majority of us, all around is ugliness, that an ugliness that grows apace. It has reached our villages but is especially rampant in our towns, both large and small and it is here in the towns that seems to be growing fast". I will conclude by quoting from the last para of Prof. Weerakoon's article: "You have realised by now that this is not about forests only. Matter of fact I had called Art and Forests. I have chosen to read in the evening not only because the comments I have then made are even more important today but also because, what with talking and writing about Ecology and about the environment so much. The fashion today is in danger of supposing that trees and forests are of significance, of importance merely because they play an important role in the economy of nature, merely because they are an essential part of healthy environment. But at least as important is the aesthetic role of trees and forests. And it will be for our society, to avoid falling into pitfalls that beset its road ahead, it is steadfastly championed trees and forests in their aesthetic role as well. While so many others are gabbling about the environment one does not need to be a trained Ecologist to detect what is phoney in the Ecological and environmental talk and writings of today's Sri Lanka".

Concluded

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RELIGION, CULTURE LITERATURE

SIXTY YEARS AGO

Digawapi

By
K. Kanapathipillai

I KNEW DIGAWAPI of some six decades ago, and I have known Digawapi of the 1980s. They are as different as chalk from cheese. The Digawapi of sixty years ago was of a piece with nature, despite the fact it was man-designed and man-made. I visited Digawapi, then popularly called *Visarai*, in my early teens when I had known very little difference between one religious mode and another, and was blissfully ignorant of any sort of conditioning circumstances so far as my religious convictions were concerned. Religion was not for me a patented product set out for sale in the market. Since then I had sojourned into many a religious mode, found in it a wholesome milieu only for a short while, and then strayed into another, and wandered off as easily and as spontaneously as I got into it. That is another story, personal, and brimming over with blusteringly severe hazards. But at the end, so it would seem, I have discovered my own way of living a meaningful stabilised life.

The way to *Digawapi*, in those good old days, lay through miles and miles of waving ears of paddy, thick elephant-haunted jungle, expansive savannahs and "talawas" of Illuk and cyperus and Typha. My home was in a village a dozen miles or so from "risarai" and the impression has still been left green on my erstwhile childhood memory of the sylvan shrine—so I considered it to be; and all the village folk held that view. It was to all intents and purposes a sacred spot. And when the young swung round and the wesak moon came in the month of *Waikasi* (May), the people of my village made it a religious vow to go on a pilgrimage to the jungle shrine.

ALL THAT I KNEW of this hallowed spot was that it was as far away to my childhood mind as Timbuctoo or Delhi was from my village. The distance was only a matter of twelve miles. But still, so far as the village folk were concerned, it was a journey to be thought of in the light of a pilgrimage to be undertaken in all seriousness suffused with sacred thoughts and sacred feelings; to be planned long, yearned for, and worked out in true earnest. It seemed to me a life time mission, the only thing to do; so formidable, so bold, so precious an undertaking; but yet to be achieved. My

father being a very intimate friend of the white-robed sadu who resided at the *Visarai Malai* shrine and a devotee of the spirit that prevailed, had much in common with the sadu in matters pertaining to *Pathini Bakti*, the noble four-fold path, snake venom remedies and treatment; and used to be a regular visitor to the Visarai. Our paddy land was only a couple of miles or so from Digawapi; and my father and the sadu possessed between them what was considered then a precious snake-bite and snake-venom lore; and the victims used to visit them by the dozen seeking remedy.

THE LONG-AWAITED *Visaka* season comes round. There is fun and stir and a pilgrim feeling that possesses the village folk. Kandan and Sellan, Punci Appu and Podi Singho and Kanayan Podiyar, and Bandaiah Udayar of Uhana are awake. A rare frenzy seizes them all; "a wander thirst that would not let them be. It works in them like madness", and the village bullock carts are on the road trending, in a caravan, to move in the direction of *Visarai Malai*. The Wesak full moon and the *Pathini-Kuluthi* full-moon, more often than not coincide. And the pilgrim crowd surges to and fro between the great *Pathini* Temple of my village and the *Visarai Mount*, that was *Digawapi*.

THE WAY TO VISARAI MOUNT lay between fields of waving ears of rice and of Indian corn; through chenai clearings where squenchy water melons, juicy cucumbers and gaudy pumpkin flowers embellished the semi-wild landscape: thorn scrub and jungle where lantanas and zyzophus vied for dominance, and the elephant, wild buffalo, leopard and slouth bear held sway. As the wesak moon waxed to its fullest rotundity and shone over tor and mound and spreading savannah and the murmuring Gal-oya distributaries—the Weerakaddu Pattampiddi Aru—the slow-moving pilgrim carts with their pilgrim loads of men, women and children, bags of pounded rice, coconut and arecanut flowers and tender palm fronds and ola baskets bursting at their seams with lotus and oleander, wended their caravan way in a single file and reached their wanted destination when the wesak moon had climbed the first quarter of its journey. Thereafter the pilgrims bivouacked, cooked their "Kiri bath", baked their rice rotti, and took their offerings of coconut oil, ghee and flowers and sweet meats in ola baskets on their head, and the entire talawa landscape for miles around shot up into tongues of fire; and the pilgrims went marching round and round the Visarai Mount, singing the chorus; "Arohara! Arohara! Arohara, Sadhu, Sadhu, Sai!" All this they did keeping time with the boom of bang of tom toms and the blare of rattan pipes and conch shells. And the fuss and the sound was anything but pompous, impressive, magnificent and devotional. It was all in all a "bakti"—suffused procession: so simple, so elegant, so orderly and yet so grand and sublime. One felt as through

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one had been magically transported to the abode of the affulgent beings. The total effect was heart-throbbing and heart-warming.

At the end of the *Thiruvila* (Perehera) the pilgrims, irrespective of those divisive considerations of caste, creed, race, to which we attach so much meaning today, sat on the silver moon-lit glade and partook of the silvery kiri-bath snack, rice puffs, kitul jaggery and coconut treacle. It was an age of plenty and the cornucopia over-flowed—as the Tamil saying goes with milk and honey. And people had large heart, with expensive feelings. For them life was perfection life was flawless, life was encompassing and all-embracing.

And Digawapi, some sixty years ago, was a symbol: serene, pure. And if it did achieve that incomparable, noble goal divine, then; why can't it now?

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YAKOVLEV'S NOTE

On Ivan Bunin

This story continues a series of publications by Vladimir Yakovlev, a well-known Soviet diplomat and journalist, first USSR Ambassador to Sri Lanka, Vice-President of the USSR-Sri Lanka Friendship Society. The story tells about the Russian writer Ivan Bunin who visited Ceylon at the beginning of the 20th century.

IVAN BUNIN was a prominent writer who all his life followed the best traditions of classical Russian literature and succeeded in their further development. Among his best known works are "Arsenyev's Life", "The Village", "The Bowl of Life", "Suchodol", a collection of short stories "Dark Alleys", the first full translation of Longfellow's "Hiawatha" all written from the end of the 19th to the beginning of the 50's of this century.

On the eve of World War I Ivan Bunin visited Ceylon. The Ceylon theme occupies an important place in his works. In a vividly realistic story "Brothers" he expressed his deep sympathy for the talented Lankan people subjugated by foreign invaders. This is a story of a young rickshaw puller who sweated his long way from Fort to Mount Lavinia. When he learned that his bride had been sold to a wealthy Englishman, life lost all meaning for him and he committed suicide.

An interesting episode is described by Bunin in his story "The Third Class". While travelling on the island, the author decided to go from Colombo to Anuradhapura in a third class coach in order to have a chance to talk to not-so-well-to-do local folks. But

the cashier, who was an Englishman, did not want to sell the white man a ticket to the coach for coloured people. Only after his indignant demand Bunin was given the ticket. How great his surprise was when he saw that he was the only passenger in the coach. As it turned out, the cashier had written in white chalk on the wall of the coach that all seats were occupied. Bunin moved to the fourth class coach packed with the passengers. Bunin's poetry reflects the impressions of his many travels to the Orient during his long and eventful life. In his 77-verse poem "Ceylon" he gives an exciting description of the island which, he says, is "as wild and beautiful as Eden".

BUNIN WAS GREATLY IMPRESSED by the venerable ruins of Anuradhapura. In his story "The City of the King of Kings" he writes: "Anuradhapura, the most sacred place in the Buddhist world, has been taken by the jungle and degraded into one of the remotest and forsaken little places in Ceylon. It strikes the visitors only by the pathetic remnants of old glory. And for more than two thousand years it had been a flourishing wonder of the ancient East equalling modern Paris in size, vying with Rome for its gold and marble, surpassing Egyptian pyramids by its huge dagobas."

Reading Bunin's works about the country that became dear to me, I once again relive the time when I worked in Colombo. Bunin's works are inspired with sympathy and love for Sri Lanka, its hospitable people, wonderful nature and ancient culture. When I lived in Colombo, I met on many occasions Martin Wickramasinghe who told me about his admiration for Russian classics Leo Tolstoy, Nikolai Gogol, Anton Chekhov, precisely those writers who inspired Ivan Bunin. He called them his teachers. Bunin was a talented successor to the trend of critical realism in Russian literature.

BUNIN ENTERED LITERATURE at the time of rapid development of capitalism in Russia. With objectivity typical of a talented writer he shows the disappearance from the historical scene of the Russian aristocracy, a privileged class formed for centuries in Russia under the monarchist regime. He truthfully depicted the abysmal poverty of the Russian countryside and appallingly oppressed peasantry. And still at the time of the Socialist Revolution of 1917 in Russia, Bunin failed to understand its profound democratic character and did not join the majority of the Russian intelligentsia who stood on the side of the Revolution. Bunin's family was split as under. His eldest brother Yuri remained in Russia, while Ivan Bunin left Russia in 1920 for France.

The well-known Soviet writer Konstantin Paustovsky wrote that the more you read Bunin the more you realize the immense depth of his work. He had lived a long, controversial life. He had seen and known a

lot, loved and hated, worked hard, made gross mistakes, but throughout his life he carried great and passionate love for his motherland, Russia. During World War II, though he still lived abroad, Bunin realized the deeply democratic character of the October Revolution which turned Russia from a backward country into a modern state of more than a hundred nationalities bound by the ties of friendship. He was wholeheartedly on the side of the Soviet Army that heroically defended the first socialist state from the fascist aggression.

During his last years, Bunin's longing for Russia increased. But he realized that life had already been spent, and he did not want to come home as a stranger. Bunin's sad mistakes belong to his life; his great literary heritage belongs to the world and Russian literature. Such was the fate of this outstanding writer, a kind and complex man, who wrote in his works with sympathy about Sri Lanka.

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LATIN — 2

With Or With Out Tears

By R. C. Thavarajah

DESPITE POPULAR PREDILECTION the importance of Latin waned considerably. It appears to have outlived its period of usefulness. On the other hand, English, French and German languages are gaining power, vigour, and importance. The accepted concept that a knowledge of Latin is the 'sine-qua-non' for the study of law has also been exploded. This is explained by several students especially the External candidates who cannot understand a single word of Latin completing the Final Examination in Laws (the L.L.B.) in the Sinhala and Tamil media. One wonders how standard maxims in Latin such as "Ex dolo malo non oritur actio" are understood.

Lord Mansfield in the case of Holman vs. Johnson explained the maxim thus "No Court will lend its aid to a man who founds his cause of action upon an immoral or illegal act". There are several other standard principles in Latin but space does not permit their inclusion. By cramming these and including them in their answer scripts giving the phonetic rendition in Sinhala and Tamil, these students have "mastered" the subject.

Assuming that it is feasible to re-introduce Latin in schools, how many are capable of teaching the subject today? There are a precious few of the vintage group of Classical scholars who, after having held high posts in the State, may not have the time nor the

inclination to guide the Latin tutors who may find Virgil's Aeneid, Caesar-de Bello Gallico, Tacitus's fascinating sketch "Agricola" and other inestimable works of Livy and Ovid difficult and un-interesting.

There have been some ludicrous or comical situations. *Dr. Glanville Williams, Q.C., L.L.D., F.B.A.* in his most instructive book entitled "LEARNING THE LAW" (9th Edition) refers to a student unfamiliar with Latin, writing in his answer quoting 'in extenso' some passage from a Law Text book saying "According to IBID (which incidentally rhymes with OVID) This is the result of meaningless swotting without understanding because IBID is the abbreviated form of 'Ibidem'—a Latin term for "in the same place". There is also the case of a Professor who went to his club to relax after a hard day's work and ordering a glass of sherry. He wanted a refill and said to the waiter "IBID. IBID". The astounded waiter who did not know Latin replied, "Sorry, sir, we do not have that brand in stock". A dealer in Sports goods conceived of an excellent idea to attract customers to purchase items which he had for sale. Displayed prominently on the top of the shop were the words "Mens sana in corpore sano" (A sound mind in a sound body). His rival, who dealt with ladies dresses such hosiery etc., ignorant of Latin, decided that, if his rival catered *only* to men, he would beat him in his game. He put up the sign "Womens' sana in corpore sano". There are several amusing anecdotes.

The moot point is whether so much weightage should be given to Latin which had been the main vehicle of Western Culture. What about our Eastern Culture? Do we not have an abundance of books and treatises which are certainly *NOT* in Latin. We have the Official language which is Sinhala, we have a National language, we have English and now we are going to have Latin too. It is also the recent status symbol to study French. In this motley, multi-lingual medley, one can foresee the emergence of either a pathetic Babel or a sickening surfeit of pseudo polyglots of little or no use to the common man—especially to the gentry that produces our staple diet. Nor can the attempted revival of Latin have any relevance to the intrinsic economic development of our Country.

We can go German, French, Italian, Chinese or go to that place—the pathway to which is paved with good intentions". Everything depends on how we fix our priorities.

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Official "Purchasing"

IS IT NOT TRUE that a story is going round that the Ceylon Petroleum Corporation (CPC) buys crude oil on rules that are made to suit particular tenderers? That when a particular tenderer has a particular type of oil to offer, it is alleged that the CPC waives its own rules and finds a way of accepting a quality of oil that was earlier considered unsuitable? That this may or may not be true, but it is a story going round in important circles and is being repeated by VIPs and for that reason therefore it has to be taken note of? That a recent instance of such conduct is being referred to in support of the allegation? That it is said that the CPC had all along made it known that it accepted only Saudi Light and Iranian Light? That, in spite of this, at a recent tender a supplier had offered crude oil from Qatar? That till this tender was called, it was believed that Qatar oil was not considered acceptable? That it must be said however that in this instance crude oil from Qatar was included in the tender invitation? That to everybody's surprise "experts" had furnished a report that oil from Qatar would give a "yield content" that was superior to that of Saudi Light? That the tender was thereupon awarded to a trader quoting for Qatar oil? That in this connection questions have been raised in commercial circles? That if the yield pattern of a particular oil was to be the yardstick, it is argued that in all fairness the CPC should have indicated in the tender invitation the advisability of furnishing equivalent yield patterns? That this would have enabled other tenderers to be aware of the equivalent strengths of the oil they were offering and be able to offer value for money? That what has staggered everyone is that in this instance another tenderer had offered Qatar Marine at a very much cheaper price but that the CPC, it is alleged, had rejected it on the ground that the tenderer had offered only on the basis of sellers' option? That the right thing, according to commercial experts, would have been to ask this seller to confirm his price and origin? That what is most intriguing is that the Qatar Marine was awarded to a trader known as "Coastal"? That this is the same company it is believed, that was not awarded the Trincomalee tank farm originally on the basis that it was financially unsound? That the question now being asked is how this Company is now considered good and sound enough to perform and supply 125,000 MT of crude oil at approximately US \$ 26 million? That all this and more is being whispered in high circles? That if there is anything that is incorrect, inexact or misleading in what we have said (from the point of view of the CPC) we will be happy to publish the CPC version of this Qatar deal?

IS IT NOT A FACT that an explosive story is brewing about Lanka Cement Ltd.? That owing to certain procedures now in vogue, it is said, that a new concept of trading is being followed by certain organisations which must be considered *de jure* as governmental? That it is alleged that such "companies" have been set up to by-pass government rules and tender procedures? That in such Companies a government corporation holds the majority share (as in the case of Lanka Cement Ltd.) and shares are also sold to the public? That this State and public-owned company seems to regard itself as a completely "private" entity? That it is therefore proclaimed that this company is entitled to trade as it wished without Treasury directives or even normal tender procedures? That it is alleged that Lanka Cement Ltd., buys what it wants without any tender procedure at whatever prices it thinks fit? That for reasons unknown, it is said, that in a recent purchase of coal offers were invited only from four Companies? That in this connection, it is said, that this virtually state-controlled company does not follow the widely accepted and generally observed rules regarding as to who should be asked to quote, from whom the company should buy and at what price etc.? That as a result of some recent happenings in the Lanka Cement Ltd., many in political circles now seem to think that the Government should have some control over such "public" companies? That if this is not done soon, it is said, that the malaise, now already acute, will begin to stink to the high heavens? That today the country is full of stories of millions being made by some individuals not only in charge of such "companies" but also of state corporations? That it is alleged that this is done by dispensing with tender procedures or making a mockery of them? That under the pretext of "emergency" or "crisis" (always artificially created) orders worth millions are placed without any tenders being called or sometimes even without quotations being obtained from competing suppliers or manufacturers? That recently the *Daily News* and other papers high-lighted what is obviously an inspired leak from the Auditor General's Department that fraudulent checkrolls jack up the cost of irrigation works? That this was proclaimed as a great discovery? That fictitious checkrolls—not only in the Irrigation Department but in many Departments and Corporations that employ labour—are part of the governmental ethos in this country? But what costs the taxpayer more than fictitious checkrolls are the multi-billion rupee purchases of equipment and machinery at jacked up prices (especially under a line of credit which goes as aid)?

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NOTICE UNDER SECTION 9 OF THE LAND ACQUISITION ACT (Chap. 460) AS AMENDED BY THE LAND ACQUISITION (AMENDMENT) ACT NO. 28 OF 1964.

Reference No. ATH 17/478 (A)

It is intended to acquire the land described in the schedule below. For further particulars please see the Extraordinary Gazette No. 313/8 of 5th September, 1984 of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka.

D.R.O's Division:

Situation : Ward 13, Kawdana (East) within the M.C. limits of Dehiwela-Mt. Lavinia.
Village: Attidiya.
Name of Land: —
Lot No.: 01 - 15.
Plan No. P.P. Co.: 6104

W. Serasinghe
 District Land Officer
 Colombo Distric

The Kachcheri,
 Colombo.
 Date: 27th August, 1984.
 EJP 30/01

NOTICE UNDER SECTION 7 OF THE LAND ACQUISITION ACT, (Chap. 460) AS AMENDED BY LAND ACQUISITION (AMENDMENT) ACT. NO. 28 OF 1964.

Reference No. 3/2/5/5/2009

It is intended to acquire the land described in the Schedule below. For further particulars, please see Gazette Extraordinary of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka No. 304/11 of 5. 7. 84

SCHEDULE

A G A' S, Division : Ja-ela
Village : Batagama North
Name of Land : Kahatagahawatta
Lot Nos. : 1
Plan No.PP. Gam. : 710

A.L.S. Malwenna.
 District Land Officer of
 Gampaha District

The Kachcheri,
 Gampaha.
 Date: 1984. 07. 02

NOTICE UNDER SECTION 9 OF THE LAND ACQUISITION ACT (CHAP. 460 AS AMENDED BY THE LAND ACQUISITION (AMENDMENT) ACT NO. 28 OF 1964

Reference No. ATH 3/600

It is intended to acquire the Land described in the schedule below. For further particulars, please see Gazette Extraordinary of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka. No. 305/3 of 9. 7. 84

SCHEDULE

D. R. O's Division, : Kaduwela.
Situation : Within the T. C. Limits of Battaramulla, Talangama.
Village : Battaramulla.
Name of Land : Bogahawatta.
Lot No. : 01.
Plan No P. P. Co. : 5980

H. C. Gunewardane
 District Land Officer
 Colombo District.

The Kachcheri,
 Colombo.
 Date:-12.7.1984

NOTICE UNDER 7 OF THE LAND ACQUISITION ACT, (Chp. 460) AS AMENDED BY LAND ACQUISITION (AMENDMENT) ACT. No. 28 of 1964

Reference 3/2/5/5/1084

It is intended to acquire the land described in the schedule below. For further particulars please see Gazette Extraordinary of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka No. 306/4 of 17-7-84

SCHEDULE

A. G. A's, Division : Ja-ela
Village. : Ragama
Situation : Ward No. 1 within Ragama Town Council Limits
Name of Land : Laulugahawatta alias Kumbura
Lot Nos. : 10 and 20
Plan No. P.P. Gam : 267 (Amended)

A. L. S Malwenna
 District Land Officer of Gampaha District

The Kachcheri
 Gampaha
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