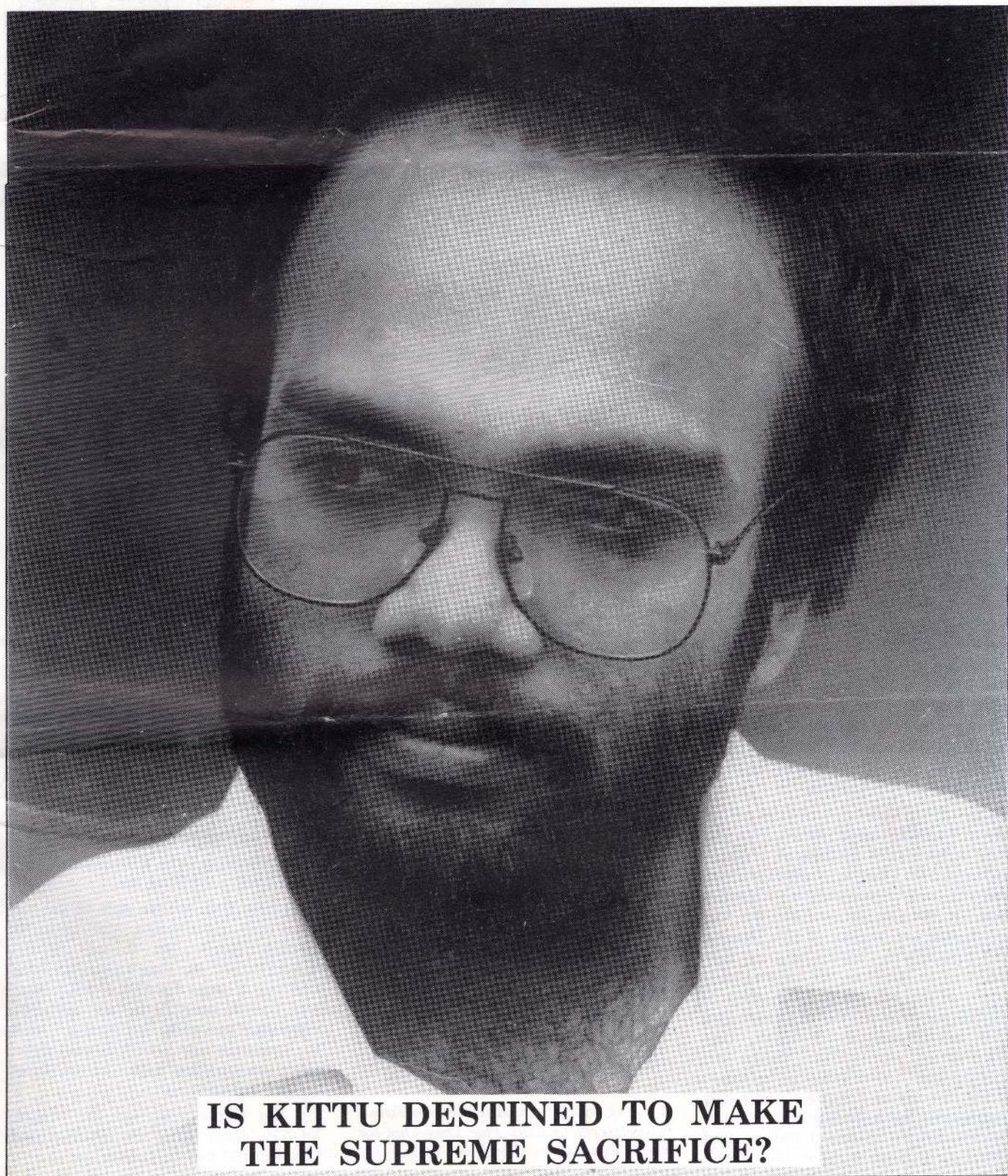


TAMIL VOICE INTERNATIONAL

TVI

Vol. 1 No. 19

15th October, 1988



**IS KITTU DESTINED TO MAKE
THE SUPREME SACRIFICE?**

YOUR VOICE

CREDIBLE LEADER

V.Thangavelu, Canada

As a concerned Tamil I should not allow certain observations made by Dr.Brian Senewiratne in his paper presented at the 4th Tamil Eelam Convention held in New York in July go uncontested. The learned doctor's tirade against his own people and espousal of the Tamil cause might give some satisfaction to unsuspecting Tamils, but a careful reading will demonstrate he is demanding a price. In fact he is demanding a very heavy price. He wants the Tamils, to quote his own words, "evolve from among them credible leaders who will be taken seriously in Colombo, Delhi, and in the international arena...". The doctor thinks the Tamils as of now have no credible leaders. Only when the Tamils have among them credible leaders there will be "end to the current chaos...". Until then there is no salvation.

To give some credence to his thinking he quotes Justice Krishna Iyer. The ex-judge is an eminent jurist; no one will deny. His background will not permit him to understand a freedom struggle, especially an armed revolutionary struggle. The very concept is anathema to him. The learned judge, like the learned doctor wants a United Front. The two men are suggesting the impossible. If they don't recognise the leadership of Prabaharan it is their choosing. **BUT NOT OF THE EELAM TAMILS!** We will not be deflected by such pleadings any more. The learned men must know that leadership is not something people buy from the market place; or create from thin air! **The leadership evolves from among the people struggling for freedom. And clearly and unambiguously the Tamil leader is Prabaharan who leads the armed struggle against Sinhalese imperialism.**

To be charitable, the doctor is not alone to offer such advice. In the past also, leftist Sinhalese leaders advised the Tamils to return Trotskyites and Communists to Parliament if they were to fight for the language and rights of the Tamils. The Tamils have come a long way during the last 10 years. We have already paid a very high price. Thousands of youths have made the supreme sacrifice in advancing our freedom struggle. The cry now is Tamil Eelam and nothing less. The political polarisation of the Tamils is complete. **The day Appapillai Amirthalingam reneged on his Eelam demand and talked about an 'alternative to Tamil**

Eelam' he lost the leadership of the Tamils. The same goes for other organisations which gave up the fight for Eelam without even firing a shot! Let there be no mistake. In Prabaharan the Tamils have got their long awaited Messiah.

NO END TO DISCRIMINATION

Navamani, Jaffna

Tamils in thousands were killed by the Sinhalese armed forces and Sinhalese thugs during the last few years. From last year the Sinhalese Government continues its task with the assistance of the Indian forces. Hundreds of Tamil families are undergoing the agony of not knowing whether their children or members of their families are dead or alive, whether they are being tortured daily or have gone into eternal peace. No one hears the cries of the Tamils, not even the U.N.Secretary General and his team of 'Peace Mission'. The Sinhalese nation, probably with the exception of a few, rejoice over the sufferings of the Tamils, with a thought that the Tamils deserve it.

But, today, the South has started experiencing the same trauma. The death of Liyanarachi has resulted in strikes, hartal, and what not, to the extent that the government has ordered an inquiry into his death. I am not voicing against such inquiry, but why such inquiries in this particular case only?

Is it not because he is a Sinhalese and his people (also Sinhalese) have raised the issue? Is it not because the government needs the Sinhalese votes? How many hundreds of Tamils have disappeared after being arrested by Sinhalese forces? Again, what about the 53 Tamils kept in custody in the Welikade Prison butchered by Sinhalese thugs, while the security personnel turned a blind eye to that atrocious act? What more, even scores of Tamils taken by the Indian forces have 'disappeared'.

So, the discrimination continues. There is no change of heart in the Sinhalese towards the Tamils. Tamils have no alternative but to fight their way until they succeed in obtaining a status where they would be considered equals and treated as equals.

TAMIL TOGETHERNESS

S.Ratnam, Wembley

I was shocked to read the article *Tamil Togetherness and The Way Out for Our People* by Krishna Vaikuntha-

vasan published in your TVI Journal Vol.I-No.17.

I agree that Rajiv has already established control over Tamil Eelam; he is trying to stay; he is exercising control over Tamil Eelam for the time being through quislings like the EPRLF, and in the long run to get it established -**not under a confederation but under the Federation of India. The quisling groups would be made to agitate towards such a move.**

So, should the Tamils give up their freedom struggle? People like Vaikunthavasan, if they are too old to fight, should not tend to become cowards, or think that the Tamils of today or tomorrow would become so.

If Tamils of Tamil Nadu tolerate the Indian Constitution, does it mean that we Eelam Tamils also should. Let us free our Tamil Eelam from the yoke of Sinhalese domination, and let the Dravidians in India free their land. Then, and only then, may we consider a Federation of 'Thraavida Nadu'. But, for the present, **let us free ourselves first.**

With due respect to the elderly Vaikunthavasan, I beg of him and the people of his category, not to under-estimate our present youth and the future Tamil generation. If they cannot put up with them, they must move to Vaikuntham.

WELL DONE, T V I

Siva, Thirumalai

We should express our appreciation to certain features appearing in the TVI. The regular feature 'Thirukkural' is superb. *The Editorial is excellent.* The new feature 'Tamil Greats' is a must, and thanks to those who thought of it. Hope you will publish more and often under this topic.

We are also pleased with the contributions from writers like Prof.A.J.Wilson, Mr.Satyendra, Mr. Wakeley Paul, and Dr.Brian Seneviratne. We hope to be able to read more often their contributions.

It is good that we are able to get the news hot hot under the captions 'Eelam News', 'Sri Lankan News', 'World News', etc. **Can't you consider sparing a page for the work which our Tamils outside Eelam are contributing towards our cause - that is, towards our freedom struggle, the preservation and development of our culture, etc.**

On the whole, may we say WELL DONE, considering the short period this Journal has been running.

A CALL TO BOYCOTT NP-EP PROVINCIAL ELECTION

TAMIL VOICE INTERNATIONAL appeals to the voters of the 'merged' Northern-Eastern Province to refrain from participating in a half-baked and fraudulent scheme for a decentralised Provincial Council. We remind the voters of the call by the Jaffna Youth Congress in 1931, to boycott elections to the newly constituted Donoughmore State Council. The statement of the Youth Congress rings true even unto this day, viz.,

"This Conference holds swaraj to be the inalienable birthright of every people and calls upon the youth of the land to consecrate their lives to the achievement of their country's freedom (for swaraj, read "national self-determination" and for country, read "Tamil Eelam")."

Tamil Voice International states categorically on the best of expert opinion, Sinhalese and Tamil, that the Thirteenth Amendment to the Sri Lanka Constitution and the Chidambaram proposals of 1986 **"militate against the attainment of swaraj by our people."** We add that the call of the Youth Congress was enthusiastically supported at that time by Mrs. Sarojini Naidu and Mrs. Kamaladevi Chattopadhyaya.

Our reasons for a call to boycott the elections are: (1) the continuance of the Sixth Amendment under which an oath forswearing separatism must be taken, (2) the continued colonisation of the Tamil territories (Welioya in Mullaitivu being the most recent), (3) the fact that the Provincial Council has no more power than a glorified municipal council, (4) J.R. Jayewardene's vain promises that the powers of the Council WILL BE enhanced once the elections are completed (to vary Mahatma Gandhi's statement, the J.R. promise is a postdated cheque on a bankrupt Sri Lanka), and (5) J.R. himself repeatedly states that the merger is temporary and that "it was the permanent North and East linkage that provoked him to launch the UNP's 1958 'holy march' to Kandy against the B-C Pact" - ('Lanka Guardian', Sept. 15, 1988).

Bryan Johnson, the 'Globe and Mail' correspondent in Colombo writes in its issue of October 7, 1988, "groups such as the EPRLF, now allied with Indian troops in the embattled areas, have called on the Indian Government to provide alternate arrangements for handling the nominations." Johnson adds that "EPRLF and a few smaller Tamil guerrilla bands have acted as spotters at Indian security checkpoints and agreed to participate in the November polls." ***We regret that these groupings as well as the TULF have involved themselves in this electoral fraud. Electoral participation is a signal to the world that we, the Tamils, have agreed to this gigantic crochet work of fraud, the Thirteenth Amendment. It means that the Tamil people are being made to look like puppets on a string.*** Group is set up against group and internecine warfare is actively promoted all at the bidding of foreign agents, Indians and Sinhalese as well as the henchmen of Gandhi and J.R. who have infiltrated our country. ***Now is the hour to put patriotism beyond politics and boycott an election which has already been discredited in the Southern and Central districts of Sri Lanka.***

The Tamil people having been deceived and defrauded from British times to the present day, several times over, cannot rely on undertakings which are written on water. A negotiated permanent ceasefire must precede talks that will lead to an acceptable and everlasting settlement. The Tamil people have just now, with the elections for Parliament and President looming in Sri Lanka, become the whipping boy of all Sinhala political parties. With the situation as fluid as that, only tyros in politics, and the servile instruments of foreigners, will want to take part in a farcical election.

TAMIL VOICE International

எப்பொருள் யார் யார் வாய்க் கேட்பினும் அப்பொருள்
மெய்ப்பொருள் காண்பதறிவு

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

LTTE LEADER APPEALS TO THE INDIAN PRIME MINISTER

Mr.Sathasivam Krishnakumar (Kittu), one of the top-ranking leaders of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) and its former regional commander of Jaffna, who is now in judicial custody in the Madras Central Jail, has sent an urgent communication to the Indian Prime Minister, Mr.Rajiv Gandhi, with copies to The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Delhi, The President of India, Governor of Tamil Nadu, and The Chief Judge, High Court, Madras. The following is the full text of his letter:

"It is a matter of regret that the talks we had with the representatives of the Government of India collapsed before an agreement could be reached. I handed over a letter to your representatives on the 29th July 1988 in which I have clearly expressed the view that provided an agreement were reached we were ready to surrender our arms and also be willing to participate in the elections to be held in the North and East.

In that letter I had also stated that our stand was to support the implementation of the Indo-Sri Lankan agreement if it fulfils the aspirations of the Tamil-speaking people of our homeland. I made a request to you to declare a ceasefire in a particular area - anywhere in the North and East - for 5 days to enable us to meet and to know from Mr.V.Prabaharan, our leader, his views on what we had discussed during the talks.

But unfortunately our requests were rejected and the talks that were going on between the representatives of the Government of India and us were stopped. In the meantime, to our surprise, we were arrested and sent to jail under the National Security Act. It is I who participated in the talks on behalf of our organisation and I should say that because of my arrest it has now become rather difficult to continue the talks any further. The 10-day ceasefire announcement by the IPKF has not resulted in any settlement.

Our leader, Mr.Prabaharan, announced during this period of ceasefire that the Government of India should release us from prison immediately and renew the talks without delay. It is regrettable indeed that you brought the ceasefire to an end without paying any heed to his words. We are not enemies of peace. What we want is permanent peace. Our comrade Johnny was taken by the Government of India to Sri Lanka to assist you to bring back peace; but what happened? He was killed by the IPKF.

My comrades and I were arrested and are now kept in prison for no rhyme or reason. False allegations are made against us. In this situation I feel it is against justice and the very principle of democracy to keep us in prison under the Security Act. It is nothing but an attempt by the Government of India to harm our organisation and to insult our struggle.

This being our plight, I would like to place the following demands before you, and start fasting unto death in this land of Ahimsa without even taking any liquid, food or water if these demands are rejected:

1. If we had committed any criminal offence in India we should be brought to trial and punished if the charges are proved.

2. If not, we should be released immediately and handed over to our comrades in Tamil Eelam.

If I do not get a favourable reply from you before 9 a.m. on 10.10.88, I will start my fast in the Central Jail, Madras, on the same day and at the same time.

If I happen to die my comrades in the prison will continue the non-violent struggle after me.

ANNEXURE I (9.6.88)

For the last three months, the LTTE and the representatives of the Government of India have had informal negotiations to bring an end to the unfortunate armed conflict and to establish peace and normalcy in Tamil Eelam with the view to create congenial conditions for the induction of a political process. During this negotiating process the LTTE has raised many issues that affect the people, clarified its position and offered suggestions. We list below some of the

crucial points raised by our organisation:

1. The armed conflict between the IPKF and the LTTE was not our choice but rather imposed on us against our will. We are opposed to this war morally and spiritually. We sincerely desire that this conflict should end immediately and that the immense suffering of our people should be alleviated.

2. In our communication to the Prime Minister of India, we have repeatedly pleaded for an immediate cessation of hostilities and to resume negotiations for reconciliation. Our leader Mr.Prabaharan, in his letter to the Indian Prime Minister on the 9th March 1988, has appealed for negotiations without pre-conditions.

3. As already pledged, we assure that the LTTE will co-operate with the implementation of the Indo-Sri Lankan Accord if Tamil interests and aspirations are assured.

4. We desire a broad-based agreement between the Government of India and the LTTE with regard to the implementation of the Indo-Sri Lankan Accord and the Dixit-Prabaharan Agreement with the objective of promoting the interests of our people.

5. We expect the Government of India to call for a total ceasefire if the present informal negotiations between the LTTE and the representatives of the Government of India succeed in reaching an amicable settlement on various issues.

6. The LTTE is prepared to hand over an agreed number of small arms (excluding the locally manufactured ones and pistols and grenades) at pre-designated places on the dates mutually agreed.

7. Following the handover of the first lot of arms, the LTTE assures the rest of the arms will be surrendered to the IPKF within the time span of five months. (We are requesting this time frame because of the realities of the

ground situation. A large number of our cadres, group commanders and those who were in charge of weapons, were killed during IPKF operations. Therefore, we need time to locate the missing arms and to work out an inventory of weapons).

8. We request the Government of India to allot a sum of Rs.150 crores (Indian currency) for the rehabilitation of the people in the north and east. A part of this fund, Rs.50 crores, can be set apart for the rehabilitation of LTTE cadres, their families, sympathisers and helpers who have lost everything in the ongoing conflict and also for the reconstruction of LTTE-related Institutions. We suggest the formation of a Committee for the disposal of funds for the rehabilitation of the LTTE, the members for which should be appointed by our leader Mr.Prabaharan. LTTE should be consulted in the appointments to the committee to administer the Fund of Rs.100 crores.

9. We request the Government of India to provide full protection to the LTTE cadres and leaders and the people of Tamil Eelam. We expect the Government of India to disarm totally all other militant groups.

10. We request the Government of India to release all our members, supporters and sympathisers who have been arrested by the IPKF. We also request that all our property confiscated by the IPKF to be returned to us.

11. We request the Government of India to reduce and re-allocate the IPKF after the ceasefire in consultation with the LTTE leadership.

12. We request the Government of India to set up an Interim Administrative Council to facilitate the rehabilitation and resettlement of Tamil refugees and to allow time to create a congenial atmosphere for the induction of an electoral process, to allow time to re-negotiate to work out an adequate package of devolution. This Interim Administration can be set up according to the terms and conditions agreed between Mr.Dixit and Mr.Prabaharan.

13. We wish to point out that the Government of Sri Lanka, in breach of the Indo-Sri Lanka Agreement, has passed the 13th Amendment to the

Sri Lankan Constitution and the Provincial Council Bill in Parliament. These Bills have serious limitations and fall short of Tamil aspirations. We request the Government of India to re-negotiate with Sri Lanka to work out an adequate framework with satisfactory devolution of powers to fulfil the legitimate political aspirations of the Tamil people and guarantee its implementation. The people of Tamil Eelam having had bitter experience of political betrayals for the last 40 years can only be satisfied with an adequate package of devolution.

14. It is the policy of the LTTE that the planned Sinhalese settlements that took place since 1948 with the objective of annexing the Tamil homeland, should be dismantled. However, we suggest that in order to find a reasonable settlement to the Tamil question a pragmatic de-colonisation programme should be worked out.

15. The LTTE suggests that the 1971 census list could form the basis for the compilation of the electoral register for the proposed provincial council election in the north and east.

16. As the 6th Amendment to the Constitution of Sri Lanka violates the democratic rights of the Tamil-speaking people, it should be repealed by the Government of Sri Lanka before the Provincial Council Election for Northern & Eastern Province is held.

17. We are willing to participate in the Provincial Council election if the Government of India agrees to our above suggestions and work out an adequate framework with satisfactory devolution of powers to the Tamil provinces.

18. The LTTE is willing to lift the ban imposed on other militant groups facilitating them to participate in the political process.

MR GOPALSAMY MP ADDS HIS VOICE TO KITTU'S

Thiru Kittu has placed two genuine demands before the Government of India and has given an ultimatum to start a fast unto death on 10th October, 1988, if those demands are rejected. The action of the Government is most unfortunate and unjustifiable. In detaining under the NSA one of the most respected leaders of the Sri Lankan Tamils, with whom it was holding high level talks till the last week of July, the Government of India has been gravely wrong.

I cannot imagine the future course of events and conse-

quences if Kittu lays down his precious life in martyrdom. I am certain that Thiru Kittu will go ahead in his determination to fast unto death. This will be the darkest hour in the history of the Sri Lankan Tamil Liberation Movement.

I would request you to raise your voice to ensure that the life of Thiru Kittu is saved. Tamils all over the world will be ever grateful to you for your expression of solidarity with Thiru Kittu.

DELHI'S DOUBLE STANDARDS

India has regretted that the draft Constitution approved by the interim government in Fiji contains several provisions that are "undemocratic, discriminatory, and detrimental to the interests of peace, stability and racial harmony."

In a statement in New Delhi on September 20, the government said, "While the full text of the draft is still waited, the information available so far indicates that no effort has been made to give just and equitable representation to different Communities in the proposed parliament."

The deposed prime minister Timoci Bavadra has said that the new Constitu-

tion "reduces the Indian people to third class citizenry in a country where they compose about 50 percent of the population."

ASPIRIN CAN STOP ABORTION

Doctors have announced that Aspirin (believed to stave off heart attacks because of its blood-thinning properties) could also help prevent miscarriages in pregnant women. Hundreds of women with a history of difficult pregnancies are taking part in national trials held in England. They are being given a low dose tablet once a day in an experiment which doctors hope will lead to a great decrease in miscarriages.

Thirukkural

By S.Sriskandarajah

ஊழிற் பெருவலி யாவுள் மற்றென்று
குழினும் தான்முந் துறும்.

"Oozhil Peruvali Yaavula, Matttrontru
Choozhinum Thaan Munthurum" (Transliteration)

What is stronger than fate? If we think of an expedient to avert it, it will itself be with us before the thought (Translation)

This is the 380th **Kural**. It is an easy Kural and therefore a household one. It tells us that everything is predetermined and that, however we may try, it is difficult to defeat destiny. This does not mean that one should rush to the conclusion that **Thiruvalluvar** is a fatalist; no, far from it. He believes in human effort also and goes to the extent of stressing that those who endeavour unflinchingly can defeat fate. This should not be interpreted as a contradiction of his conviction. While subscribing to the view that fate is invincible he is trying to drive home the fact that we should not become fatalists and abandon all effort and thus lose grip on life.

The story of **Savitri and Satyavaan** is a classical instance our forebears have bestowed on us to illustrate the point that God Himself would come to the assistance of those that strive relentlessly to achieve their goals.

Let us now illustrate the Kural under discussion though by reason of its simplicity it needs no illustration or further interpretation. Let me once again paint an episode from the great **Mahabharatha** to drive home the point of the Kural.

Yudhishtira (Tharumar) performed his **Rajasuya Yaaga** and received the title of 'Emperor'. Sage **Vyasa**, who had gone to witness the **Rajasuya**, while bidding farewell to the **Pandavas**, warned them that much sorrow and suffering were in store for thirteen years to follow. The words of **Vyasa** filled **Yudhishtira** with grief and he felt miserable. He prostrated himself before the Almighty and implored Him to give him wisdom and protection. He took a vow not to speak harshly to anyone and resolved to avoid any possibility for conflict. Also he took a vow not to give way to anger which, as repeatedly stressed by **Thiruvalluvar**, is the root cause for enmity in the world.

Yudhishtira had taken every precaution to avoid the pitfalls that could force him into an irretrievable situation. Still, when **Sakuni**, the evil genius of **Duryodhana**, invited **Yudhishtira** for a gambling match, his resolve dissolved, and he inexplicably agreed. How? Why? Why did the wise and nice **Yudhishtira** allow himself to be inveigled into this tricky step, the disastrous consequences of which he was not unaware? Had he temporarily

mortgaged his sane brain, and, had the innate passion in him for the game of dice got the better of him?

It is not correct to say that he forgot even for a fleeting moment the evil consequences of the game of dice. Then, why did he agree to this game which eventually resulted in the annihilation of a race through internecine killings? The reason was his fixed resolve to be friendly with his cousin **Duryodhana** and others by not turning down their invitation. Because of his superabundant anxiety and wish to foster goodwill, he fell an easy prey to the designs of destiny. Though **Yudhishtira** had taken all efforts to avert confrontation with and enmity towards his cousin, the all-powerful destiny manoeuvred events in such a way as to have its own desired way.

This episode is an illustration of the futility of the plans of humans, however well-meant unless aided by the Almighty. The best wisdom of **Yudhishtira** was in vain, and useless against fate. Fate had its way and the righteous resolve of **Yudhishtira** proved to be of no avail.

In the course of the game of dice **Yudhishtira** lost his all - kingdom, wife, brothers, gold, jewels. At this stage of disgrace and helplessness, **Dhritrashtra** gave back all that **Yudhishtira** had lost and asked him to return to **Indraprastha**. And **Yudhishtira** departed with his brothers. **Duryodhana** was thoroughly upset by what his father had done and taunted his father for having let the **Pandavas** go. The taunt was so piercing that the dotting **Dhritrashtra** gave permission to call back **Yudhishtira** for another game of dice and a messenger was sent forthwith to fetch **Yudhishtira** and his brothers.

Once bitten, twice shy, we say. But **Yudhishtira** appeared ignorant of this. When the second invitation came he could have declined. But he would not; and he did not. When he heard the messenger extend the invitation, he said "Good and evil come from destiny and cannot be avoided. A challenge to dice cannot in honour be refused. I must accept it." Thus, destiny prevailed on him, and his wisdom and experience deserted him.

Such is the power of fate. Even so, let us not yield to despondency or despair. To endeavour, again and again, is our duty, whatever destiny may have in store!

LTTE FREES CAPTURED INDIAN SOLDIERS

As a gesture of goodwill towards the people of India, the LTTE has set free two Indian prisoners of war on the 1st October in the Mullaitivu District of Northern Sri Lanka. These two Indian soldiers of the IPKF were captured by the LTTE guerrillas on the 25th September this year.

Sergeant **Rajendran**, aged 38, from Madurai, father of 3 children, and **Naidu** from Andara Pradesh, aged 26, father of 2 children, were released with their weapons at a village called **Pokkanai** in **Puthukkudiyiruppu** area in the presence of the Assistant Government Agent of the area. The released soldiers declared that they were treated kindly by the LTTE and praised the organisation for its humanitarian gesture. Appreciating the dedication and commitment of the LTTE fighters, the freed soldiers blamed the Indian political leaders for the armed confrontation between the IPKF and the LTTE.

LTTE's Mullaitivu regional political organiser, **Vasanthan**, speaking on the occasion, said that the LTTE's decision to release the Indian soldiers was a gesture of goodwill towards the people of India. "The Indian troops have subjected our people to untold sufferings and committed brutal atrocities to impose upon them an unfair and unacceptable political framework. Yet, we have shown compassion towards Indian prisoners of war and always freed them. This shows our magnanimity." **Vasanthan** also appealed to the IPKF to understand the aspirations of the Tamil people and treat them with kindness and dignity.

AMNESTY DEPLORES

Forty years after the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, oppression by governments of their own citizens presents an "ugly picture", Amnesty International has stated. "In at least half the countries of the world, people are locked away for speaking their minds, often after trials that are no more than a sham", it added.

SUMMER TIME

Summer time in Britain ends at 2a.m. on Sunday October, 23rd, when clocks should be put back one hour to 1a.m. Summer time will start again on Sunday, March 26, and end on October 29, 1989.

BETRAYALS OF TAMIL LEADERS

V. Thangavelu, Canada (continued from Issue No. 18)

When Mr. T entered the Cabinet he had made up his mind to stay put for the entire parliamentary period of 5 years. He delayed the framing of the District Council Bill for more than two long years under one excuse or another. By the time it was presented to the Cabinet the UNP no longer required FP support to remain in power. The six appointed M.Ps and the crossing over of some Muslim M.Ps from the Eastern province to the UNP gave Dudley Senanayake a comfortable majority. **Like Ponnambalam who got booted out by Sir John Kotelawala, Mr. Thiruchelvam too was left with no alternative but to resign when Dudley countermanded Mr. T's decision to appoint a Commission to declare Koneswaram Temple, in Trincomalee, a sacred area.** The 1965-70 period was the blackest period in the political history of the Tamils. The struggle for language and territorial rights were rolled back by several years. Extra-parliamentary agitation in the form of Satyagraha, fasting, prayers, marches etc. were put on hold. What seemed pathetic was that instead of black flags, red carpets were rolled to receive UNP ministers. **The FP and the TC vied with each other in receiving Dudley Senanayake in Jaffna with the usual garlands, 'Nilapavadai' and 'merlathaalam'.** When the general elections were held in 1970, the Tamil masses couldn't distinguish between the Tamil Congress, the original, and the Federal Party, the duplicate copy of the UNP. This is the reason why GGP lost Jaffna seat to Mr. C.X. Martin, Mr. Amirthalingam lost Vaddukkoddai to Mr. Thiyagarajah and Mr. M. Sivasithamparam to Mr. Jeyakkody at Uduppiddy.

'Elutchi Vizha' was held at Wellawatte Ramakrishna Hall to celebrate the victory of the TULF at the 1977 polls. Mr. Amirthalingam, speaking on this occasion, publicly announced that the TULF had sought and won a decisive mandate. Only three years later this Messiah of the Tamils settled for the D.D.C. which, in Mr. Jayewardena's own words, was no more than a glorified Municipality.



V. Thangavelu

Mr. Amirthalingam, in his characteristic way, tried to sell the D.D.C. to the Tamils and branded all those who opposed it as traitors. Those within the TULF who opposed the DDC were summarily expelled from the party. TULF branches which passed resolutions opposing the DDC were made to withdraw the resolutions. At the election meetings for the DDC Mr. Amirthalingam made pathetic appeals to the Tamils to vote massively for the TULF as an answer to the critics of the DDC. For the first time in his chequered political career, Mr. Amirthalingam stood exposed as

an insincere leader, much worse than persons like GGP, whom he used to condemn roundly till the early seventies. It was a classical case of the Poosari who came to exorcise the ghost himself got possessed by the very ghost! I wrote an editorial in the monthly magazine 'Sudar'. On his famous utterance that he would not change his mind even if four youths (thambimaar) with two guns tried to threaten him. It took another three agonising years for Mr. A to confess that the DDC had turned out to be an empty shell devoid of any powers.

It is time for us to believe history and learn from history. Let us resolve, here and now, that we will never ever settle down for anything less than an independent and sovereign state of Tamil Eelam. We have made enormous sacrifice and have paid enough price for our freedom. Thousands of our youths have perished in the sands of our homelands in this sacred war. Their spirits will not pardon us if we have to settle for anything less. Let us not repeat our past history. To do so will be nothing less than treachery. It is not necessary that we should win our freedom in this generation. If we cannot we should pass the baton to the future generation.

'Chudda mannum eera mannum oru pothum cheramaadda!'

CHILDREN ARE WISER THAN MEN

By Sisu

Son to Father: "Pa, talking about Sri Lanka, if JR is considered President of all the citizens of Sri Lanka, then, whenever there is trouble in the country, why is he getting only the Tamil people killed, and not killing the Sinhalese people? There are Tamil militants and Sinhalese militants. Why is Mr. Jayewardene getting his army, navy and air force only to shoot down the ordinary Tamil people, to strafe from gunships, and to cause damage to buildings using heavy cannons, and bombing Tamil areas; whereas, he is merely 'warning' over the Radio and TV and through the newspapers that he would punish the Sinhalese militants unless they contest elections, etc., but not doing anything about it? He has not shot them down like he

massacred Tamil people; he has not bombed their hide-outs; he has not killed them in their hundreds; he has not tortured them mercilessly!

Being unable to defeat the Tamil militants through his fighting forces he announced a big prize of one million rupees for the capture of the militants' leader. But, having failed in that too, he has arranged with India to bring their big Indian army and kill the Tamils. **Is it not a cowardly act, Pa? Why can't he stop all these killings and find out why Tamils have resorted to violence?** If their demands are reasonable, he can very well treat them as equal to the Sinhalese in everything, and then frame the necessary rules in Parliament. Even now it isn't too late, isn't it, Pa?

SRI LANKA: WHERE PEACE MEANS WAR!

Like a used-car salesman desperate for a deal, President Junius Jayewardene of Sri Lanka has offered his reconditioned version of peace to the island's Tamils.

This year's model is the same as the one pictured last year in an agreement between India and Sri Lanka. That never got on the road. The president has tried to make it seem more reliable this time by issuing a warranty on its major components. This took the form of a proclamation that the north and east of the island - the area demanded as a homeland by Tamil separatists - will definitely be merged as promised, something the Tamil groups had doubted. There was also an announcement that most of the remaining Tamil detainees, some 400, would be released. Most important of all was the news that the long-awaited elections will take place for a provincial council in the north and east, to go halfway towards meeting Tamil demands for self-rule there.

So, the Indo-Sri Lankan agreement is moving again politically, after it had failed to meet its deadline of elections by the end of last year. The wrecking of the timetable can be blamed on the armed resistance of the main separatist group, the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam. Nearly a year after the Indian peace-keeping force, now more than 50,000-strong, began its

first offensive to try to make the Tigers surrender their weapons, they still have not been tamed.

Because the Tigers can still draw blood, the feeling among the other Tamil groups, many inhabitants of the north and east, and even some Indian officers is that this is no time to call an election. They argue that candidates could be killed and voters frightened away from the polling booths if the Tigers are not first decamped or brought into the political process. But the Indian commander, General A.S.Kalkat, disagrees. He argues that the Tigers have been weakened enough to let elections go ahead.

The general is part of an Indian lobby pressing President Jayewardene to hold the provincial elections by early December at the latest. **The Indians want the local polls squeezed in before Sri Lanka's presidential election later that month. They fear it may throw up a new leader hostile to the accord and to the Indian presence.** By mid-week rumours were thick that Mr. Jayewardene, 83 on September 17, had decided not to run for a third term. If so, the prime minister, Mr. Ranasinghe Premadasa, will presumably take his place against the leader of the Sri Lanka Freedom Party, Mrs. Sirimavo Bandaranaike. Both oppose the Accord.

The various Tamil groups are likely to be further prodded towards contesting the provincial polls by the five-day unilateral ceasefire that India declared on September 15. This will not guarantee peace; but it will give the Tigers one last chance to put down their guns and try for power through the hustings.

Significantly, there have been no official announcements by the government about the latest moves to carry out the agreement; all this information has been leaked by Indian sources. The reason is the unstable situation among the majority Sinhalese population elsewhere. **The accord has led to an explosion of support for the extreme anti-government organisation known as the Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna (JVP), or People's Liberation Front. The JVP, which sees the Indian peace-keeping force as foreign invaders, appeals to Sinhalese chauvinism.**

The death on September 3 of one of the JVP's top leaders while he was in police custody has led to a campaign of strikes and killings. The government reckoned this was not the moment to announce concessions to the Tamils. **On the island riven by five years of communal conflict, one man's peace is another man's war!** By courtesy - 'The Economist' - Sept. 17, 1988

A NAME FOR YOUR DAUGHTER

By Rohini

Not long ago, a friend of mine requested me frantically to help her find a name for her new-born daughter. Both she and her husband were so sure that their first arrival was going to be a son that they had completely neglected having some suitable girls' names ready. A sad reflection on how unwelcome girls are!

Her request was for a crisp Tamil or Indian name which would blend with names of other girls, when her daughter started schooling, and not one of those long five or six syllable monstrosities, with which we, and especially our parents, had been saddled at the time of our birth - Vallinayakiammal, Vijayalakshmi, Gnanambikai, Thiyalmuttunayaki, Thiripurasundari, Annapooranam, Kirupainayaki, Gnanasikamany, Manimekalai,

Sivapakiyavalli, and so on.

I was requested to find a name of five or six letters and meaningful as well. I consulted a handbook of 'Baby Names' and quickly read out the ones I thought would please her, as well as her young husband. These are some of them, which might be useful to others as well, in a similar position:-

ANJELA	-	unscorched
ANUJA	-	a younger sister
AJITA	-	unconquerable
AMIRTA	-	nectar
ASHA	-	desire
ANUSUYA	-	wife of sage Atri
BINA	-	harp
CHITRA	-	artist
GAYATRI	-	Goddess Durga
HEMA	-	Parvathi, golden one
ISHA	-	night
LALITHA	-	lovely, graceful
LEKHA	-	destiny

MALA	-	Garland of flowers
MANJU	-	sweet speaking
NITA	-	grace
MENAKA	-	Parvathi's mother
NIRUPA	-	formless like God
NEERA	-	pure
PRIYA	-	beloved, lovely
PRITI	-	beloved
PAMELA	-	all honey
PREMA	-	an epithet of Lord Indra
ROSHINI	-	eye-sight
RITA	-	season
SALOMI	-	peace
SABINA	-	a sublime woman
SHOBA	-	beautiful
SHANTI	-	tranquil, peace
SUBITA	-	comfort
SAPNA	-	dream
TRIPTI	-	satisfaction
TANU	-	beautiful, excellent
VANITA	-	a beloved woman
USHA	-	early morning
YASMIN	-	flower

Many months later I learnt from my friend that she had chosen Pamela as her daughter's name.

DIARY OF EVENTS IN EELAM - AUGUST, 1988

5-7.8.88 - Madras LTTE responded to a malicious propaganda campaign unleashed against the LTTE by the Indian government and its Prime Minister: viz., (a) The Indian government had claimed that foreign powers were assisting the LTTE, by pointing to the SAM missiles discovered in LTTE's arsenal. LTTE (Madras) pointed out that the former knew all along of LTTE's possession of SAM missiles and even provided training to LTTE cadres on the use of these missiles. (b) In Madras Rajiv Gandhi accused the LTTE of withdrawing from 'commitments' undertaken. Madras LTTE argued that the Accord was imposed on the LTTE and the Tamil people, and was not intended to safeguard Tamil interests. Nevertheless, the LTTE pledged to co-operate with the implementation of the Accord if it protected Tamil interests. Subsequent events clearly show the lack of goodwill towards the Tamil people of Eelam by the two parties to the Accord - an Accord which the LTTE never signed. (c) The Indian government, although anxious to delay elections in Tamil Nadu state in India, had accused the LTTE of being frightened of facing the Tamil people of Eelam. Madras LTTE pointed out that the problems facing the Tamil people could not be solved by the LTTE laying down arms and contesting elections. The LTTE had earlier urged the Indian

government to declare an unconditional ceasefire and resumption of talks but to no avail. The Indian government was challenged by the Madras office to hold a free and fair referendum in Tamil Eelam to determine the following issues: i) Whether the Tamil people accept the Indo-Sri Lanka Accord. ii) Whether the IPKF should be replaced by an International Peace Keeping Force. iii) Whether LTTE are the representatives of the Tamil people.

8.8.88 - In a move to clamp down on LTTE political activities, 150 LTTE members including handicapped boys and girls in Tamil Nadu were arrested and the LTTE political headquarters in Madras closed down by the Indian government. Those arrested have been detained for one year under the Indian National Security Act.

19.8.88 - The third phase of the 'Operation Checkmate' commenced with the arrest of over 300 male civilians in Eelam. The IPKF launched a massive attack on a LTTE jungle camp in Mullaitivu but suffered heavy casualties. 10 Indian soldiers were killed and several weapons captured by the LTTE.

21.8.88 - In a skirmish at Odaveli between the LTTE and IPKF, 10 Indian soldiers were killed and many weapons captured by LTTE.

22.8.88 - An Indian jeep travelling to

the IPKF camp at Vannerikulam Irrigation department was ambushed and 5 soldiers killed by LTTE cadre. An IPKF patrol that 'pursued' the cadres ran into a LTTE booby trap and a further 3 soldiers were killed.

23.8.88 - Over 3,000 people in Jaffna, including old folk, were made to sit in the hot sun to identify LTTE supporters.

24.8.88 - The IPKF pursued and killed 9 civilians who had fled during a round up in the Nedunkerni area. 60 people were detained and taken to the IPKF Nainamadu camp.

25.8.88 - 3 young girls were brutally raped by IPKF personnel in Sastri-Vellankulam (Vavuniya).

27.8.88 - An LTTE commando unit attacked a well-fortified IPKF camp in Nithikaikulam (Mullaitivu) and destroyed two military helicopters.

29.8.88 - In response to a devious attempt by the Sri Lankan and Indian governments to discredit the LTTE, the latter categorically denied reports that the Tamil organisation was planning to bomb major Indian cities.

31.8.88 - The LTTE dismissed as baseless a recent IPKF report that an LTTE gunboat was destroyed and 35 cadres killed off the Mannar coast, as part of a recent propaganda campaign by the IPKF.

News in brief

EELAM TAMILS WILL NOT BE SENT BACK : RESOLUTION PASSED BY 12 NATIONS

According to latest reports from the British Refugees Council, 12 European nations meeting in Norway have agreed not to repatriate the Tamil Refugees from Sri Lanka, in response to a request made by the U.N. Refugees High Commission.

It was decided at this meeting that even the refugees whose appeal for extension of stay had been rejected should not be repatriated, in view of the insecure conditions prevailing in Sri Lanka at present, until and unless normalcy is restored there.

These 12 nations have been considering financial assistance too to these refugees as an incentive for schemes of self-rehabilitation.

In Switzerland, Sri Lankan Tamil refugees numbering more than 4,500 have applied for Refugee status in that country. 1,500 of them have already been rejected by the Swiss Government; 1,300 more are being investigated. Rejected applicants would be permitted to remain

in that country for a period of 9 months and would not be forcibly repatriated. It has been Swiss Government policy that only refugees who happen to break the law of the land would be repatriated forthwith.

S.L.GOVERNMENT TRIES TO DELETE 'DISAPPEARED' FROM UN FILES

It is reliably learnt that the Sri Lankan Government has been making frantic efforts at international level to get the provisions regarding 'Disappearances' in Sri Lanka deleted from the records prepared by the U.N.H.R.C.

The relevant provisions state that 'Disappeared' persons could be considered as dead and their files closed by the UNHRC only after obtaining full acceptance and agreement from the next of kin of those persons concerned (E/CN.4/1988/9).

In support of its effort, the Sri Lankan government has urged that by retaining those provisions,

- * no useful purpose would be served;
- * whereas international laws lay down

that if a 'disappeared' person cannot be traced within a period of seven years such person could be considered as untraceable, these new laws framed under the UNHRC would be redundant;

- * the new laws would be an unnecessary burden on the Executive in their implementation;

- * and therefore the connected files could be deleted from the list of files in the agenda.

It will be noted that majority of the 'disappeared' persons in Sri Lanka are Tamils. It is also crucial to note that the Sri Lankan Government recently passed a law by which any 'disappeared' person who cannot be traced within a period of one year would be considered as 'dead'. In many countries this tracing period is 7 years.

A public Association of Jaffna has requested the UNHCR not to implement the suggestion made by the Sri Lankan Government, stating that it would make it difficult to continue the search for such 'disappeared' persons and to pursue legal action on their behalf, and that their families would be affected detrimentally.

88 LTTE PAYS HOMAGE TO THEIR MARTYRS AND REJECTS P.C. FRAMEWORK

The Political Committee of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE), in a statement issued from its headquarters in Jaffna, called upon the Tamil people to reject the Provincial Council framework since it has serious limitations and has no substantial powers of autonomy. **Criticising the Government of India for attempting to super-impose a defective political model on the Tamil people by means of military terror, the political committee states that the proposed elections to the provincial council in Tamil areas will not solve the agonising problems of the Tamil masses.** "The provincial council election is a calculated conspiracy hatched by both the Governments of India and Sri Lanka to stifle and stamp out the Tamil aspirations for self-rule and self-determination", the statement said. Calling upon the Tamil people to be vigilant about those who supported the provincial council elections for their personal political ambitions, **the LTTE warned that "such traitors will not be forgiven."**



Lt.Col.Kumarappa

The Political Committee of the LTTE issued the statement marking the anniversary of the twelve LTTE senior members who attained martyrdom by swallowing cyanide capsules on 5th October, 1987. The twelve LTTE leaders, who were in the custody of the Indian Peace Keeping forces, sacrificed their lives when they were about to be forcibly taken to Colombo for interrogation, torture and possible death at the hands of Sri Lankan security forces. Paying homage to the martyrs for their supreme sacrifice and deep dedication to the cause of Tamil National Libera-

tion, the LTTE's statement pointed out that **this tragic incident was a typical case of betrayal of the pledges given to the Tamils under the Rajiv-J.R peace accord.**

"When these senior LTTE leaders were arrested in the coastal waters of Point Pedro by the Sri Lankan navy and handed over to the IPKF, they sincerely believed that they would be released in accordance with the amnesty granted to all LTTE cadres and others under the Accord. But both Sri Lanka and India, totally disregarding the pledges given under the Accord, wanted to utilise the incident to secure their own designs. Sri Lanka government, which had spent so much of money, time and effort to hunt down these heroes of the Tamil national liberation war, wanted them in their own custody to torture them, extricate information and execute them. **The Sri Lankan scheme was also aimed to cut a wedge between the LTTE and India and to satisfy the Sinhalese population who are opposed to the presence of the Indian troops in the Island.** The Government of India wanted to use these arrested LTTE leaders as hostages to pressurise the LTTE to accept the Indo-Sri Lanka Accord unconditionally", the statement said.

"The LTTE leaders, who sacrificed their lives in that tragic incident, are great national heroes, loved and respected by the Tamil people. **Lt.Colonel Pulendran was the regional commander of Trincomalee district. He was a brilliant commander of the Tamil Resistance Movement, who fought and won several battles against the Sri Lankan security forces.**

Lt. Colonel Kumarappa was the Jaffna regional commander and the former regional commander of Batticaloa district. He was a heroic fighter with wide experience in guerrilla warfare and fought in several fronts. Major Abdulla, Captain Rahu, Captain Nalan, Captain Mires, Captain Palani, Captain Karan, Lt.Anpalagan, Lt.Thavakumar, 2nd Lt. Reginold, 2nd Lt.Anandakumar - all these magnificent freedom fighters contributed immensely to the cause of national freedom. It is to be pointed out that Lt.Colonel Pulendran was married for six months, and Lt.Colonel Kumarappa was married only for two weeks when they died."

"We pay our homage and respect to these great heroes and in memory of their supreme sacrifice we resolve to carry on our struggle towards the

goal of Tamil National Freedom."

The LTTE's statement says that 319 freedom fighters have been killed in the war with India since the hostilities broke out on the 10th of October, 1987, to 4th October, 1988. In the Tamil Eelam liberation war, which includes armed struggle with Sri Lankan security forces, a total of 950 LTTE fighters attained martyrdom. Out of the total casualties, 400 freedom fighters have sacrificed their lives taking cyanide capsules with the noble aim of protecting the secrets of the movement and the lives of their compatriots.



Lt.Col.Pulendran

The statement further states that tremendous sacrifice has been made by LTTE fighters for the noble cause of freedom of the Tamil homeland. "But the Governments of Sri Lanka and India, along with our fraternal mercenaries, are determined to wipe out the Tamil freedom movement in its embryo. The Government of India, which supported the Tamil freedom movement at one stage, is now offering the provincial council elections as a panacea for all ills, for a permanent peace. But this provincial council which has no substantial powers will not provide a permanent solution to the Tamil problem; it is rather aimed at putting an end to Tamil aspirations for self-rule and national freedom. **Under its defective framework Sinhala colonisation of Tamil homeland will continue, the national identity and culture of our people will be systematically destroyed and eventually our freedom will be lost",** the statement said.

SRI LANKA ELECTION PLAN RISKS TAMIL BLOODBATH

Bruce Palling

India and Sri Lanka are pressing ahead with plans to hold elections in the troubled North-East Province, which could trigger bloody confrontation with the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam. The week-long nomination period for candidates for the 71 seats opened yesterday, but so far no names have been put forward because of fears of assassination by Tamil militants who have called for a total boycott of the election.

The Sri Lankan electoral commission has no clear picture of what is going on in the Province, because most government offices have been forced to close by the Tamil Tigers. An estimated 70,000 members of the Indian Peace Keeping Force have confined the armed remnants of the Tigers to remote jungle areas, **but all observers agree that the Tigers still enjoy strong support among the Tamil population.**

This election is necessary to complete the devolution package promised under last year's Indo-Sri Lankan Accord. The North-East Province was created last month by a merger of the Tamil-dominated Northern Province with the Eastern Province, which is 40 per cent Tamil with the remainder roughly split between Sinhalese and Muslims. The merger will not be permanent until a referendum is held in 12 months' time.

The Indian and Sri Lankan governments mistakenly thought the merger would appease Tamil demands for Eelam - a separate state. The ruling United National Party is expected to announce its candidates later in the week for next month's elections, and other candidates are likely to be from rival Tamil militant groups which rely on the Indian armed forces for their security in the province. A spokesman for the Eelam People's Revolutionary Liberation Front (EPRLF) announced it would participate in the election because everyone "from thieves to political parties claim to represent the Tamil people, and the poll will show who truly represents them."

While the government-dominated press has been highlighting the EPRLF's proposed participation as a positive development, the real test will be whether the Tamil United Liberation Front (TULF) takes part. This moderate party has been marginalised in recent years by the growth of militant Tamil separatist groups, but it is thought to have considerable support among the professional and business classes. The Indian High Commission has been trying to encourage the TULF to take part in the election, to enhance its legitimacy, but it is extremely reluctant to do so.

"It may not be political suicide to participate, but it will certainly be physical suicide", A.Amirthalingam, Secretary-General of the TULF, told 'The Independent'. He said the TULF would prefer the provincial elections to be postponed until some time after the presidential election, scheduled for mid-December. However, it is widely believed the TULF has already decided not to participate, but has not announced it yet because it does not want to embarrass the Indian Government, which provides TULF leaders with facilities in the neighbouring Indian state of Tamil Nadu. (The TULF has today - Oct.7 - announced that it will NOT field candidates at this election. But, it is learnt that India has successfully staged a coup in getting EPRLF and ENDLF to field their candidates. Ed.) Despite the large number of Indian troops in the North-East Province, they could not ensure the safety of candidates if these campaigned out of sight of Indian garrisons. However, *the Indian government is anxious for some sort of election to be held so that it will be more difficult for the next president to dismantle last year's Accord.*

The Tigers are demanding a Tiger-dominated interim council for the province, while the TULF would prefer an advisory council to the province's governor. Indian High Commission officials here reportedly oppose both options, because it would be

easier for the next Sri Lankan President to abolish them. However, should the Tigers succeed in enforcing a boycott of the majority of the 1.36 million voters, it will be a further blow to the credibility of the shaky Accord.

What concerns some officials even more is that if the TULF and the EPRLF do take part - and the Tigers fulfil their pledge to eliminate them - this would remove the last remaining moderate Tamil groups from the scene, strengthening the hands of the separatists. (By courtesy: *The Independent* - 4 Oct 1988)

OXFORD TO OPEN NEW COLLEGE IN JAPAN

Oxford University is negotiating to set up a College in Japan, the University's first College outside the Oxford City limits since its formation about 800 years ago. Discussions are under way between St.Catherine's College, a Japanese industrial firm, and Kobe where the College would be established. It would provide a one-year course for Japanese graduates, who could then move to Oxford to read for a two-year post-graduate course.

SPORTS DRUGS INQUIRY

The Canadian Government reacting to a "clear public concern" has established a Commission of Inquiry into drugs in sport. The inquiry comes after the Canadian sprinter, Ben Johnson, won and was later stripped of the 100-metre sprint title and the gold medal at the Seoul Olympics because he failed a drug test. He may be forced to appear at the Inquiry Commission which will be headed by Judge Charles Dubin, Associate Chief Justice of Ontario.

LABOUR WILL SCRAP THE HOUSE OF LORDS

The abolition of the House of Lords would be the priority of a future Labour Government, Mr.Hattersley, Deputy Labour Leader, told the party Conference in Blackpool on 5th October.

Extracts from Exchanges in the Indian Parliament

Shri V.Narayanasamy: I am very sorry, Sir. The LTTE took asylum in Tamil Nadu. Some of them started looting banks.

Shri V.Gopalsamy: Even the local police officers have confirmed that the LTTE had no connection with these incidents. You kindly be careful in using your words. It is highly unfair. Deliberately this canard is being spread by vested interests. It is an utter falsehood. You have become neo-Nazis. In the name of national interest, do you want to annihilate those Tamils? I have to speak for those people, not for you. You have become butchers. They are committing genocide.

Sir, about 200 persons of the LTTE are detained in various prisons in Tamil Nadu. First of all, the orders under NSA were not served on them. They were arrested under the Passports Act. But when the Sessions Court was moved for bail, anticipating that they may be released on bail - it is an after-thought - these NSA detention orders were served. How could they suddenly turn into a security risk for this country? Not only that, Sir, one incident of a bank robbery was reported in Madurai but the local Superintendent of Police made a statement to the press that the LTTE had nothing to do with that robbery. It is a sinister conspiracy of stepping up the operations in Vavuniya jungles in Sri Lanka, and at the same time arresting and detaining the members of the LTTE under NSA in Tamil Nadu.

Detaining them under NSA is an unpardonable crime committed by this Government.

First there was Operation 'Pawan'; then Operation 'Virat'; and now Operation 'Checkmate'. It is a move to liquidate Prabaharan. This militancy is your bargaining point with Jayewardene. You are not permitting the International Red Cross and the international press to visit the northern and eastern parts of the Island. Are you prepared to allow them?

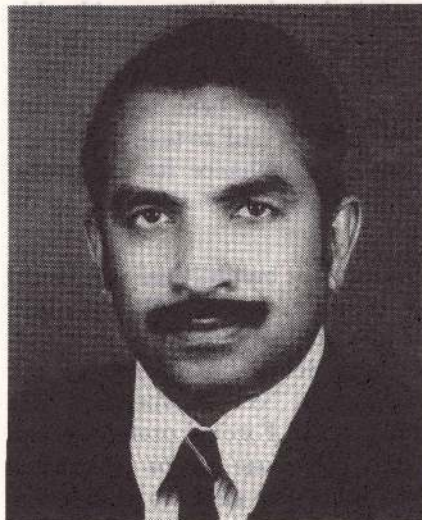
SUBRAMANIAN SWAMI SHOWS HIS TRUE COLOUR

Shri Subramanian Swami: They should prevail upon the LTTE not to bring out publications attacking Indian politicians.

Shri V.Gopalsamy: They have got every right to criticise the agents of the Government.

Shri Subramanian Swami: In that case you should take due action on that basis.

Shri V.Gopalsamy: Now the cat has come out of the bag. Who is the agent of the Government? It has been proved!



Shri V.Gopalsamy M.P.

Shri V.Gopalsamy: Sir, the situation in Sri Lanka is very grave. Blood-and-tears-soaked tragic history of Tamils in Sri Lanka continues without an end in sight. Death is parading in the streets of the North and the East of the island, concealed in the mask of peace. Valiant youth of Tamil race are striving and struggling in the middle of a conflagration, continuing to fight for the cause of their race, standing at the precipice of imminent death. Our own soldiers are getting killed, and our own kith and kin are being liquidated, brothers fighting brothers, brothers killing brothers. They are confronting the onslaught and pressure of an army and weaponry which is a hundred times greater than their numerical strength and weapons.

But we should not forget the big lesson of history that the thirst of a race for its liberation or the spiritual aspirations of a people cannot be contained or crushed by the use of weapons. In this fateful hour of wailing and weeping, sorrow and suffering, struggle and sacrifice, pain and pathos, the song of the school children even in the Tamil areas is this: "This moment we go together into

death and disappearance, but with courage and confidence, joy and ecstasy. Now, we die for our race, for our motherland, alive or dead, in our journey, we shall destroy, create and preserve. In this cycle, there is no cause for sorrow, but for great dedication."

Even on 9th March, 1988, Mr.Prabaharan, the supremo of the LTTE, who has become a living legend among the Tamil masses, who is standing on the precipice of death even today, sent a letter to the Hon.Prime Minister expressing his willingness for unconditional talks and appealing for an immediate cessation of hostilities. On behalf of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, he stated that the present confrontation between the LTTE and India is a forced one and there is an immediate need to put an end to this conflict and alleviate the sufferings of the Tamils.

They were willing to hand over 700 usable small arms at pre-designated places to the authorities concerned. As a first step they will hand over 300 arms on a date mutually agreed to facilitate declaration of ceasefire which will end all armed hostilities between the IPKF and LTTE. But, following the first hand over, the remaining 400 arms will be handed over in due course. Therefore, they asked five months' time-frame. But, anyhow, when they were persuaded to accept the time-frame of five weeks, they agreed for this also. I understand the LTTE expressed their willingness to join the electoral processes and contest in the envisaged provincial elections provided for.

Why have the talks failed? This is the crucial question. When the Government of India also agreed to their demand for rehabilitating the Tamils in the North-East as well as the LTTE, their hospitals, schools, factories, LTTE stressed that they should be in charge of the Committee for the Rehabilitation Work. Then, the Government of India insisted that there should be representatives from the Government of India side. Ultimately the LTTE agreed for inclusion of the representatives of the Government of India. Suddenly, the Government of India imposed a new condition saying that representatives from the Government of Sri Lanka

side also should be included in the Committee. For this the LTTE objected. This is the major point where the talks failed. Why did they object to the inclusion of the representatives from the Sri Lankan side? Because it will be suicidal for them. Mr. Gamini Disanayake has stated that Israeli forces will stay on in Sri Lanka and they will get logistic military support from other countries also. Colonisation was geared up by the State-aided machinery in the North and the East to change the demographic and ethnic structure. They offered a price of one million rupees on the head of Mr. Prabakaran. Seventeen LTTE men were arrested by the Sri Lankan Navy. Are all these not assaults on the Accord? I quote the Agreement between Mr. Dixit and Mr. Prabakaran in which the First Secretary of India, Mr. Puri, and the deputy leader of the LTTE, Mr. Mahathaya, did put their signatures on 28th September 1987. This is the Agreement between the LTTE and the Government of India. *"It was agreed that the establishment of interim administration would facilitate the fulfilment of the five demands put forward by the LTTE in its resolution conveyed on 13 September 1987, to the High Commissioner."*

Sir, I quote again Clause 8:

"Mr. Prabakaran said that the LTTE would surrender the remaining arms, that is other than the personal arms meant for security of their leaders, once conditions of security for their leaders and cadres are created."

Only after constituting the interim administration, elections to the Provincial Councils could be held.

Sir, today, in the Vavuniya jungles, what the IPKF today is engaged in is 'Operation Checkmate' - Stage III. The targets are Prabakaran and his deputy, Mahathaya, and the key figures of the LTTE. They could be eliminated. They could be liquidated. Strafing is going on. Bombardment is going on. Our helicopter gunships are pouring bombs. You could destroy them. But for what gain? They are not your enemies! You are destroying the only shield of protection the Tamils have developed over all these decades. You are destroying the only bargaining point you have had with

the Sri Lankan Government, that is Tamil militancy.

Sir, I appeal to this Government from the core of my heart. Stop this war. Don't believe this canard being spread by the Sri Lankan government and the Sri Lankan press that the LTTE is planning to bombard Indian cities. I cannot imagine this. I swear on my conscience. This is a crucial hour.

Even this minute they have been encircled. They could be wiped out. They could be killed. **Chemical bombs and napalm bombs are being used. But there are no circumstances that warrant such an offensive to be carried out with International Red Cross, Human Rights Group and independent observers excluded from the area of conflict.** These boys and girls, whom you are now in the process of liquidating, are the sons and daughters of the people of the North and East.

About two hundred people have been detained under the NSA in Tamil Nadu. When they were arrested on 11th August under the Passport Act, the Advocate moved the City Civil Court for getting bail for them. But on 16th August one top commander of IPKF, Col. P.S. Hudo, came to the court. On 18th August orders were served under the NSA; and seventy in Madras and seventy-two in Madurai, including eight girls, have been detained under NSA. Most of them are immobilised. They were mortally wounded in the war with the Sri Lankan army and they were receiving treatment. Some of them have undergone plastic surgery. They could not move out of their beds. It is these people against whom NSA has been used.

Whoever is concerned about human rights will shudder to read the report of Amnesty International of August 1988. Many of those who were taken for interrogation were shot dead in cold blood; many girls were raped. But I do not blame the entire IPKF. One General Pande of IPKF said that ninety per cent of the Tamil population support the LTTE and in every house there is one member of the LTTE.

Sir, they are our natural allies. When China invaded India, it is the Tamils

who offered to join the Indian army. Even at this moment you stop the war; you declare an informal ceasefire. Sir, this is the land of Mahatma Gandhi. The world witnessed the assassination, the murder, of Mahatma Gandhi at the hands of Nathuram Vinayak Godse.

Sir, what sin have they committed against the Government of India? Is it a sin to take up arms in their own soil? Is it a sin to enter into a struggle to enable themselves to liberate their race from the shackles of slavery? What moral right have we got to dictate terms like this when we are championing the cause of the Palestinians, the cause of the African National Congress and when we are condemning the West Bank colonisation? We are committing blunder after blunder on the Sri Lankan question.

Sir, if they are liquidated, with all sincerity I would say here - I want to register my point of view here and now - that the process of liquidating the spirit of unity and integrity will start not only in Sri Lanka, but also in India. Sir, if they liquidate the greatest emancipator of the Tamils in Sri Lanka, if they eliminate him, then hundreds of Prabakarans will be born, thousands and thousands of new Tigers will be born and the flame of liberation will be lit in every home, in every house, in every hut, in every hamlet, of the Tamils, and the flame of liberation will be lit in the heart of every Tamil. The sin of the Government of India will never be forgiven, not only by the Tamils but also by those people who are concerned about the human rights.

I remember once, in the 1983-84 period, Mrs. Indira Gandhi saying that mine was a lone voice in Parliament. I said that circumstances would come when they will have to send out Indian troops. Now these troops have gone. I was demanding that these troops should go to Colombo, and not to Jaffna. We only requested that the Indian troops should be pulled back to the October 9th position in Sri Lanka. That is our stand.

Shri Subramanian Swami: *Who is an agent, who is not an agent; everybody is confused. We in Parliament should not be LTTE agents.*

continued on page 18

CHUNDIKULI OLD GIRLS - ST JOHNS OLD BOYS

The Annual Reunion took place on October 2 in Sutton Coldfield, West Midlands, attended by nearly 200 members. Miss. Edith Kelk and Mrs. Lily Jesudasan - both distinguished old teachers of Chundikuli - were honoured guests.

The President Mr. Sathiamoorthy outlined the difficulties that both schools are now facing, because of the extensive damage to school property, in the aftermath of the IPKF offensive in October last year, emphasized the urgent need of funds for rehabilitation and appealed to all members to contribute a minimum sum of £50 as a 'life membership fee', to set in motion the "Chundikuli Trust Fund", the target for the coming year being £10,000. Mr.Sathiamoorthy was re-elected President for the ensuing year.

Members and friends of the association living in the West Midlands and the North entertained the gathering to lunch.

President: Mr. C.Sathiamoorthy
Registrar/Treasurer: Mr.S.Sivasubramaniam, 148, Green Lane, Leigh-on-Sea Essex, SS9 5QW (Tel. 0702 524661) Joint Secretaries : Mrs. Kanthy Ariarajah : Mr.Mahen Sebaratnam

OBITUARY



Vethaparanam Tharmaseelan, retired Principal, Karainagar Hindu College and eldest son of the late Mr & Mrs. A.T.Vethaparanam (Vaddukodai) died 30 September 1988. Cremation took place at the Croydon crematorium on 4 October. He leaves behind his wife Thabo, brothers Anantharajan (Canada), Manoranjan (UK) and sisters Oppilla, Amirtharatham and Aruljothy.(94, St.Peters Street, Croydon, Surrey)

Here and There HARTLEY COLLEGE CELEBRATES 150th BIRTHDAY

On the 2nd October 1988, the Hartley College Past Pupils Association (U.K. Branch) celebrated the 150th year of their Alma Mater in a fitting manner at the Lola Jones Hall, Tooting, London, SW17.

The President, in his address, paid tribute to the outstanding and dedicated work of the Principals and teachers of Hartley, in particular Mr.C.T.Sherrard, Mr.C.P.Thamotheram and Mr.K.Pooranampillai who respectively pioneered, expanded and energized Hartley College and her students. The Hartleyites owe a great deal to the above three principals and their gratitude was shown by a standing ovation and garlanding of Mr.C.J.T.Thamotheram, son of the late Mr.C.P.Thamotheram, and Mrs. Shanthi Arulanantham, daughter of Mr.K.Pooranampillai.

The President went on to say that though the Hartleyites had some happy and nostalgic memories of their old school, they also had some sad ones of fellow students who, though academically brilliant, had to drop out of school due to financial difficulties.

He recounted some experiences of his time and of friends who had suffered in this way and asked the Hartleyites present to think of the many potentially brilliant professionals and academics lost in this way.

"We are justly proud to call ourselves Hartleyites. We had got so much from the College; she made us what we are today. All our success today is due to the dedication and sacrifice of our families, teachers and principals. Now it is time we thought of ways of giving back a small fraction of what we got from them. What better 150th birthday present could we give to Hartley than to help present needy Hartleyites?"

So saying, he launched "The Hartley Foundation", a Trust which would be used for the welfare of young Hartleyites. The aim of this Trust would be to ensure that no Hartleyite, who displays great potential and determination, should be prevented from

achieving his educational goals because of financial hardship. He invited all Hartleyites to contact him if they are interested in joining this Foundation.

For further details of this foundation, please contact the President Mr. A.T.S.Ratnasingham, 123, Effra Road, London SW19 8PU. Tel No. (01) 672 0303 or (01)946 1140.

HIGHGATE MURUGAN TEMPLE CELEBRATES NAVARATHRI

There will be a Carnatic Vocal Music Recital by Mrs. Mathini Skriskandarajah on Wednesday 19th October 1988 at 8 pm. She will be accompanied by Dr. (Mrs) Luxmi Jayan on the viloin and Mr. Sivarasa on the Mridangam.

LONDON'S FIRST FEMALE MRDANGIST



Viputh Rasapalan

Viputha's Samarpanam (Arangetram) on 9th October, at the East Ham Murugan Temple was truly a historic occasion. As the first female mridangist of London, she has blazed a trail for other aspiring musicians. Viputha is a promising girl of many parts; a dancer, vocalist and mridangist rolled into one.

She learnt mridangam under the tutelage of Mr. Balasri Rasiah and lately under Mr. R. Sathyanarayanan of Erode, Tamil Nadu.

Vocal music for the occasion was superbly provided by Mrs. Mathini Sriskandarajah accompanied by Dr. (Mrs) Luxmi Jayan on the violin.

EELAM NEWS

MANAL-AARU NOW WELI-OYA

Manal-Aaru has been re-named Weli-Oya by the Sinhalese government recently. Manal-Aaru is situated in Mullaitivu District and has been a Tamil area throughout. This area lies between the Northern and Eastern Provinces and thus it connects both provinces. Recently the Sri Lankan government has brought this area, which is 16,000 acres in extent, under the Mahaveli Development Scheme and started colonizing it with Sinhalese after evacuating the Tamils who had lived there for centuries. Nearly 4,000 Sinhalese families have already been settled there and their names are being registered in the Voters' Lists. Government has provided funds and security to these settlers.

TRINCO KACHCHERI AT STANDSTILL !

Public servants attached to the Trincomalee Kachcheri have once again refused to go to work due to the failure by the IPKF to provide them with adequate security, as agreed earlier. Earlier, they had been accompanied by Indian forces to and from work. This was stopped suddenly for no reason; and checking the passengers in the buses that carried officers to work and back by the Sri Lankan forces has caused offence to the officers. The Kachcheri is functioning in premises within the Fort, and thousands of Sinhalese have been accommodated inside the Fort. Their presence is a threat to the Tamil officers and the devotees of Thirukkoneswaram.

STARVING FISHERMEN OF KALMUNAI

"Thousands of Fishermen at Kalmunai are on the verge of starvation as they have been deprived of their only means of livelihood by the unjust laws of the Government. Fishermen are not allowed to go for deep-sea fishing, and fishing during the night is prohibited. This has caused great hardship" states Mr.M.H.Raja Mohamed, Secretary of Kalmunai Muslim Welfare Association and

Tamil Muslim Unity League, in a letter to the Sri Lankan President. He has requested the President to provide immediate relief to the fishermen who are starving to death.

JAFFNA FISHERMEN COMPLAIN

Poompuhar Fisheries Development Union in Jaffna has echoed its grievances in their meeting conducted recently under the Chairmanship of Mr.T.Sivalingam. In a memorandum to the Sri Lankan and Indian Governments, the Union has stated that curfew during nights should be lifted and fishermen allowed to fish. Or else, government should provide relief to the suffering fisherfolk. Fishermen at Kaddaikkaadu complain that the stoppage of issue of relief stamps and fishing permits has caused severe hardships to them. Neither the Indian government nor the Relief Agencies have paid attention to their grievances so far.

SHOT DEAD

Velan Yakko, aged 56, was shot dead by the Indian armed forces, while he was fishing near Gurunagar dockyard. This happened on 14th Sept, a day before the ceasefire.

VIOLATION OF CEASE- FIRE - PLOTE ACCUSES

Indian armed forces have surrounded a PLOTE camp in Mullikulam, Mannar, and attacked them ferociously on the day after the declaration of ceasefire. PLOTE fighters returned fire.

ENGINEERING FACULTY IN KILINOCHCHI

Courses in Marine Engineering and Coastal Engineering will be conducted in the Engineering Faculty of Jaffna University that will be established in two years' time at Kilinochchi. Fifty students will be admitted to the Engineering Faculty at the beginning and this will be increased to 150 later. In addition to Marine and Coastal Engineering, there will be Civil, Mechanical and Electrical Engineering courses as well at this Faculty.

TAMIL PATIENTS ATTACKED

Tamil patients warded at the Anuradhapura General Hospital were attacked by unidentified thugs who intruded at midnight. At the time of this incident four of the patients were receiving treatment after operations. Periya Alagu (34), S.Mahenthiran (23), A.Ayub (32) and S.Benedict, who received severe injuries, are now being treated at Vavuniya General Hospital.

CEASEFIRE, NOT FOR ELECTIONS - EROS

Declaration of ceasefire should not be for the sake of holding elections only. Indian Government should declare a ceasefire and, with the consent of the LTTE, they should have proper talks with them, states Mr.Balakumar of EROS, in his recent statement to 'Uthayan', a Tamil daily in Jaffna. He states further that last October Indian Government was requested by EROS to declare a ceasefire. Subsequently EROS conducted several mass protests in support, but the Indian government failed to accede to their request.

FISHERMEN OF MYLIDDY TAKE TO FAST

Over one thousand fishermen, staged a fast in front of the Indian army camp within the Myliddy fisheries harbour premises. They demanded that they be allowed to fish in the nights, normalcy be brought in by negotiating with the Tigers, and be permitted to fish in waters around the 'islands'. On an assurance given by the Indian army officials that they would come back with a favourable decision after contacting their top ranks within one week, the satyagrahees agreed to give up their fast.

64 YEAR-OLD DIES OF STARVATION

64 year-old Ramiya of Olumadu who became a refugee in consequence of the continued curfew in Mullaitivu district died due to starvation in the refugee camp at the Paddy Marketing Board, Nedunkerni.

AMIR IN TWO 'HIT' LISTS ?

Amirthalingam, General Secretary of the TULF, has told pressmen in Colombo that, according to the C.I.D., his name appears in the 'hit' list of the JVP.

Readers may be aware that Amirthalingam said in Madras sometime back that the LTTE had decided to kill him. He has further told the press that it was a problem for him as to where in Sri Lanka he could live, and that people are afraid to rent out a house for him in Colombo.

Amirthalingam's interview to the BBC on 5th October has, according to Tamil opinion, put him under high risk. By referring to the Tigers, "Today they are the rulers but under any democratic set-up, whether it be the provincial council or anything else, the people will be the rulers. I am afraid they are not in favour of a set-up in which the people are the rulers and not their guns". He has really betrayed the Tamils, knowledgeable sources in London indicated. "He should seek political asylum and move out of Sri Lanka if he is to save his own life as he has no more place in Tamil politics. He should not be allowed to play into the hands of J.R. and Rajiv any more", these sources added.

SINHALESE HOME GUARDS IN TRINCO

His Excellency the President of Sri Lanka agrees that the Home Guards would be disbanded. This was mentioned in the annexure to the Rajiv-JR Pact. But Sinhalese Home Guards are parading in the streets of Trincomalee together with Sri Lankan armed forces. They are particularly seen in Vilgam Vihare, Abayapura, Mahindapura and Thaniyagama, wearing sarong and shirt and holding guns. Their presence has caused panic among the Tamils in these areas.

PALMYRAH FIBRE STORE BURNT

Palmyrah fibre, kept ready for export in a store belonging to the Palmyrah Development Board in Talaimannar, has been burnt down. Mr.K.Nadara-

jah, Chairman of the Board, has expressed his condemnation by telegram to the IPKF Commander in Mannar.

He has pointed out that the Fibre Production Centres were established jointly by the Rehabilitation Society and the Board to provide employment to refugees who have returned to their homes. He has also complained that palmyrah trees are being cut down by the IPKF under the pretext of establishing 'sentries'.

SCHOOL CHILDREN JOIN THE FAST

As part of the first anniversary of the attainment of martyrdom by Thileepan, thousands of school children joined the marathon fast in front of the Nallur Kanthasamy Temple. Students from Kopay Christian College, St.Patrick's College, Vembadi Girls' College, Tellippalai Mahajana College, Tellippalai Union College, Puttur Somaskantha, Jaffna Central College, Nayanmarkaddu Maheswary Vidhyalayanm and some other colleges joined in their thousands.

READING OF NEWSPAPERS PROHIBITED

Detainees in the Kankesanthurai 'Rehabilitation' Camp are prohibited from reading newspapers despite representations made by their parents and People's Committees. Even food taken by visiting parents is not allowed in, if they are wrapped in newspapers, according to reports from parents.

PEOPLE MOVE OUT

People living in Mullaitivu and Nedunkerny in the Mullaitivu district have moved out in large numbers to avoid continuous shell attacks by the Indian forces. There is acute shortage of food, medicine and fuel, and the prices of essential foodstuffs have soared - Rs.16 a kilo of Rice, Rs.12 per kilo of Flour. Kerosine is difficult to obtain, even at Rs.25 per bottle. The food store belonging to the Multipurpose Society and a few buses belonging to the CTB have been damaged.

JOINT APPEAL FROM TRINCO

Six organisations from Trincomalee have jointly appealed to the Sri Lankan President, Mr. Jayewardene,

Mr.Athulathmudali, the O-I-C, Boosa Camp, the Indian Commander of the IPKF and others, to respect the democratic fast undertaken by the detainees of Boosa Camp and release all Tamil political detainees. These organisations are Mothers' Front, Hindu Youth Council, Provincial Development Union, Women's Welfare Association, the Rotary Club and the Union of non-Governmental Employees.

DEMONSTRATIONS DESPITE BAN

More than four thousand men and women and students in Puthukkudiyiruppu went out in procession in spite of a ban on processions, and amidst shell fire from the IPKF guns. The Mothers' Front and Citizens' Committee have submitted a memorandum containing five demands, viz., 1. Not to hold elections until peace and normalcy return permanently. 2. India to negotiate with LTTE after declaring ceasefire. 3. To withdraw all Sinhalese people already colonised in the North and East and to stop further colonisation. 4. To declare a permanent merger of the North and Eastern provinces. 5. To release all Tamil political prisoners and provide them rehabilitation.

IN MEMORY OF MARTYRS

Foundation for a 50-foot Tower was laid at Valvai Thiruvil in memory of the 12 martyrs, comprising Pulentran, Kumarappa and 10 others, who sacrificed their lives by taking cyanide, when they were about to be taken by force to Colombo on October 5, last year. Valvai Citizens' Committee Chairman, Mr.Selvendra, said that the 'flame of sacrifice' lit by the Tamil freedom fighters would never be extinguished.

Foundation was also laid for a hall in memory of Thileepan by the Urelu Citizens' Committee and the general public at a grand function. A road in Urelu has also been renamed "Thileepan Veethy."

TVI salutes the Martyrs and the people of Eelam who continue to fight against heavy odds and have never failed to pay due homage to the Martyrs - Ed.

Sri Lankan News

HOME GUARDS

The security build up goes on apace. Government M.P.s have been asked to select 75 persons each from their electorates to be trained as Home Guards. This is expected to boost the Home Guard strength by an additional 8,000. There are already about 15,000 Home Guards supplementing the regular police force. The M.P.s' nominees will be put through a special three weeks training course in camps at Pannala, Kumbuke, Mihintale, Amparai and Bandarawela. They will then be supplied with weapons.

NOT A SRI LANKAN

Brigadier Manjid Singh of the IPKF was not a Sri Lankan public servant, Additional Solicitor General Sunil Silva informed court when a habeas corpus application was taken up for hearing. The Court of Appeal, however, ordered that Brigadier Singh, Commanding Officer of the IPKF camp at Vavuniya be informed that the application against him would be taken up again on August 22. The Brigadier was not present in court when it was taken up on August 22. The IPKF officer had been cited as respondent, along with the Attorney General, in a habeas corpus application filed by the sister of 22-year old Parameswaran Kenga of Vavuniya. The application said that Kenga was taken into custody by the IPKF on April 5, 1988, and that his whereabouts since then were not known. As the IPKF officer was not a Sri Lankan public servant, the Additional Solicitor General told court that the Attorney General did not appear for such persons. Whereupon, Mr. Kumar Ponnambalam, the senior counsel for the petitioner, moved for the deletion of the Attorney General as the Second Respondent. The application was allowed and the Additional Solicitor General left court. The Court of Appeal ordered that the first respondent, the IPKF Brigadier, be informed that the case against him would be taken up again on August 22.

POLITICAL DETAINEES IN BOOSA CAMP

The detainees in the Boosa Camp, Galle, in Sri Lanka, believe that their

release could be effected only through mass agitation and other means of protest. This opinion was expressed by Mr. Krishna from Jaffna, one of the detainees released recently from the notorious camp. Krishna was arrested on 27.9.86 by the Sri Lankan Navy while he was fleeing in a boat with 23 others to India as refugees. According to him all of them were taken to the army camp at Thallady and, as usual, subjected to torture. Later five were taken by C.I.D. accusing them as terrorists, and the remaining 18 were taken to the Boosa Camp.

"At this camp we were again tortured. Urine was given to us to drink. If we did not drink it was poured on our heads. We underwent immense suffering that cannot be described in words. We thought that we would be released immediately after the Rajiv-J.R. pact, but our hopes were shattered, and we remained cheated."

MIRJE Appeals

Mr. Charles Abeysekara, the President of Movement for Inter Racial Justice and Equality has written to the Sri Lankan President requesting him to release all detainees in the Boosa Camp. Referring to the Rajiv-J.R. Accord, President of MIRJE has appealed to Mr. Jayewardene to release the detainees on humanitarian grounds.

Fasting Stopped

The fast-unto-death undertaken by the Tamil detainees in stages from 14th August was temporarily stopped on 3rd September. Detainees acceded to the wishes of the representatives of MIRJE who met them at the Boosa camp and requested them to call off their fast.

Pilot Released

Air Lanka Pilot, Mr. S. Kumarasamy, has been released from the Boosa camp on 15th September. He was arrested immediately after the blowing of the "Tri-Star" plane at Katunayake Airport in 1981. He said that he had no connection with the Tri-star incident and he was arrested just because he was a Tamil.

SELF-RULE, THE ONLY SOLUTION TO TAMIL ISSUE - Ronnie de Mel

Self-rule with adequate devolution of power to the satisfaction of the Tamils is the only permanent solution to the Tamil problem, Ronnie de Mel is reported to have said, at an interview to the 'Times of India', recently. He further said that he was prepared to talk to the LTTE leader, Prabhakaran, to bring peace to the North and East. He continued that, had the Government conceded the Provincial Councils with reasonable powers for self-rule in 1977, which the TULF was prepared to accept, the problem would have been solved. But the Government went back on its promise, the TULF lost its credibility, and the LTTE gained prominence.

SINHALESE OPPOSE MERGER

Hundreds of Sinhalese civilians and a large number of Buddhist monks demonstrated in the Trincomalee town on Sept. 30, protesting against the merger of the Northern and Eastern provinces and the Government's proposal to hold provincial council elections in these provinces without resettling the thousands of Sinhalese displaced from their homes by 'terrorist' violence.

SOLDIERS INJURED

Three Sri Lankan soldiers were injured when a grenade accidentally exploded at an army detachment in Palaly, army reported on 1st October.

INDIAN SOLDIERS ATTACKED

While Indian generals are talking tall and hollow, the LTTE gunmen are reported to have attacked Indian soldiers at Irdayapuram within the Batticaloa city limits on the night of September 30, killing 3 IPKF soldiers and injuring several others. As a sequel the IPKF has detained several men after destroying shops and houses in the area.

GRAMASEVAKAS ABDUCTED

IPKF sources have alleged that LTTE gunmen have abducted the Gramasevakas of Thambyveli and

suppressed the rightful aspirations of the Tamils of Sri Lanka.

INDIAN FORCES KILL POST-MASTER

The sub-Postmaster of Kattankudy Post Office was killed by Indian troops when they opened fire on some suspected persons believed to be Tigers, sources in Batticaloa said.

I.G.P. WANTS C.J. TO DEAL WITH CHOKSY

Inspector General of Police, Earnest Perera, has requested the Chief Justice to take appropriate steps in accordance with the provisions of the Judicature Act, against K.N.Choksy, (President's Counsel), for refusing to appear on behalf of police officers in two fundamental rights applications filed in the Supreme Court.

learnt that revolvers will initially be provided to 5000 policemen.

**JVP WILL BE IN
SLFP GOVT.!**

There will be no need for the JVP to continue being an armed organisation if Mrs. Srimavo Bandaranaike is elected President, as the JVP would then become part of the government, Leader of the Opposition, Anura Bandaranaike, has said. He has said that there would be total peace in the country once the eight party alliance is voted into power.

SRI LANKA IN REPEAL SPREE!

The Business Enterprises Acquisition Act is to be repealed. A Bill for this purpose is expected to be presented in Parliament shortly, according to informed sources. It may be recalled that the government has already drafted a Bill for the abolition of the Special Presidential Commission Act which it had enacted to wreak vengeance on its political opponents.

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continued from page 13

haran comes here, discusses with the Prime Minister of India, raises doubts, those doubts are met. Now how can anyone say that he did not accept the Accord?

Shri V.Gopalsamy: Why was he kept incommunicado? On August 4, when he made a speech in Suthumalai (in Jaffna) before a mammoth gathering, he categorically stated that the Accord had been thrust on them by a super-power against whom they could not take up arms. He said that they had been compelled.

Shri P.V.Narasimha Rao: We are also not fully satisfied with the devolution package that has been announced already. We are requesting President Jayewardene, we are urging him, to improve the package. He has agreed to do so after the Councils come into being. The IPKF has gone there for a mission. They would be called back to India. They did not go there to wage a war. A kind of fight was imposed on them. They went there for a political solution. We cannot think of calling them back before the political solution is complete. We expect that conditions will be made congenial.

Mr. Jaswant Singh asked as to what the diplomatic aim was. The diplomatic aim is to see that India and Sri Lanka help each other in

maintaining their unity and non-aligned status and that it does not lead to a situation where third powers come in and start meddling with this.

Shri P.V.Narasimha Rao: I would be appealing to him to convince the LTTE to please accept the Accord first, and on the basis of the acceptance of the Accord, as a natural corollary, lay down arms. If you ask how long it will take to hold elections, it is not possible to answer these questions in a curt and right manner. Our pressure is there. Our persuasion is there. But conditions have to be made congenial. They must become congenial enough to have fair and free elections which are credible elections and not otherwise.

Shri Anand Sharma: I still say that the IPKF has protected the Tamils in Sri Lanka. It cannot be accused of committing any violence against the Tamils. The skirmishes between the LTTE and the IPKF cannot be termed as a war between the Tamils and the Indian Army. LTTE is not and cannot be the sole discretion of the Tamils of Sri Lanka. **There have been other Tamil groups who have also been making sacrifices.**

Sri V.Gopalsamy: Some quisling groups you have found. Rajiv Gandhi has become a neo-Fascist.

AMIRTHALINGAM ON BBC WORLD SERVICE (October 5)

Q. Do you agree with the Tigers that the new council wouldn't be powerful enough?

A. "On the 29th of September last year they signed an agreement with the High Commissioner for India for them to play a role in an interim administration which should be under their control. So that was based on acceptance of the Provincial Council set up. Unfortunately they went back on that agreement and are now taking the stand that they are totally rejecting the provincial council and of course there are shortcomings in the powers of the provincial council and we have taken them up with the government of India. Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi has got a firm assurance from President Jayewardene that immediately after the elections of provincial council these will be put right.

Q "Why do you think the Tigers went back on their agreement with India?"

A "No, in fact it is a mystery as to what made them go back on their agreement with the Indian High Com-

missioner."

Q "Do you think perhaps it was because they are militarily in a stronger position now than they were a few months ago?"

A "Possibly so, because the acceptance of the provincial council and the interim administration would have made them depend on the support of the people. Today they are the rulers. Under any democratic set-up, whether it be the provincial council or anything else, the people will be the rulers. I am afraid that they are not in favour of a set up in which the people are the rulers and not their guns."

Q "Will other Tamil groups, including your organisation TULF, be prepared to take part in the provincial elections?"

A "We have not yet made up our mind. I think tomorrow we will be taking a decision as to whether we are going to participate in the provincial

council elections or not, but we are fully supporting the decision to go ahead and hold the provincial council elections. No reasons of the availability of candidates and other things in the present context have to be considered."

Q "What is your own feeling about that? What would you expect the outcome of the talks to be?"

A "I think some of the groups like the EPRLF and the ENDLF have decided to field candidates and contest the elections. I think they will go ahead and do that."

Q "But given the fact that the Tigers are to boycott the elections do you think they can have any credibility?"

A "You see the call for boycott of the elections by the Tigers and the decision of EPRLF and the ENDLF to contest the elections are, I think, likely to lead to a great deal of violence and escalation of the conflict between these groups in Tamil areas."

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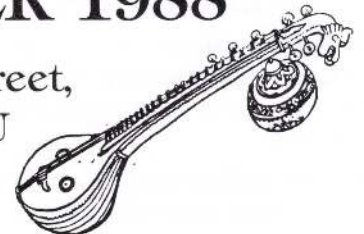
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LATE NEWS

BBC WORLD SERVICES - WORLD TODAY

Presented by Owen Bennet Jones

Mr Amirthalingam feels the consequences, should the Indians decide to withdraw:

"I am sure the Government of India will realise that they will be letting down the Tamil people of Sri Lanka if they pull out at this juncture because they will be totally exposed and there will be massacre of Tamils in certain parts like Trincomalee. I don't expect that Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi will agree to pull out in this situation.

The Sinhalese people have no valid reason to complain about the presence of the IPKF because they are only doing the work that the Sri Lankan armed forces were doing in trying to disarm the Tamil militants. They are not in any way interfering with the Sinhala population".

Anil Munasinghe, SLEP MP: "We have made it clear that we are against the Accord because it was imposed on the Government of Sri Lanka. The majority of Sinhalese are opposed to the Accord and to the IPKF coming here. It is a misnomer. It is an Indian army here and we want it to withdraw immediately. Even the Tamil Tigers are quite firm about that".

PROVINCIAL COUNCIL ELECTIONS

Dr Michael Moore, Fellow of the Institute of Development Studies in Sussex University and a specialist on Sri Lanka:

"It seems unlikely that they are going to contribute anything positive because none of the main actors are actually contesting the provincial elections in the North and East. It seems quite likely that these provincial elections will become an irritant to the peace process rather than a healing process on their own right.

There will be considerable resent-

ment particularly in the north, that all the positions have been captured, by default, by the very small militant groups who are opposed to the Tamil Tigers and will, therefore, feel very resentful that these particular groups have taken advantage of the situation, and this will probably worsen relations between the Tamil militant groups to a greater degree in the near future.

The governments of Sri Lanka and India are very keen to hold these elections and to show the outside world that they are successful. Therefore, I think that they will do their very best to make sure that reasonable looking elections are held, if they possibly can".

INDIA TO WITHDRAW ?

N. Ram is an Associate Editor of 'The Hindu' newspaper in Madras:

"We have to demonstrate political results because we have lost close to 700 soldiers. Unless a minimum framework is constructed for the demilitarisation of the ethnic conflict, and the other objectives that led to the shaping of the Indo-Sri Lanka Accord, there is prospect of risk or danger of the IPKF leaving without achieving the minimum objectives. But if, for example, after the presidential elections Mrs Bandarananike wins, it is extremely conceivable, that she will ask the IPKF to leave. She being a realistic politician, she should not ask them to leave overnight. But if that is really the position of the Sri Lankan government, India would of course respect it. But if somebody unreasonably asks India to withdraw, it cannot be unilaterally enforced. I don't think these policy makers or the people here would be insistent, or would be happy to go against the wishes of the sovereign government and the people there".

SEPARATION

Michael Moore: "It is quite likely that, whatever happens we are going to see the de facto separation of the island into two separate states in the future. It is very difficult to get out of

the current situation. We now have two states, one controlled by the IPKF and one partly and rather weakly controlled by the Government of Sri Lanka in Colombo." (*Extracts from the Programme of October 11, 1988.*)

LTTE CONDEMNS

According to BBC World Service, "at least 45 people were killed near the holy city of Anuradhapura. The victims, men, women and children had their throats cut as they slept. A military spokesman believes that the Tamil Tiger guerrillas were responsible."

The Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam has denied categorically that it was in any way involved in the alleged massacre of Sinhalese civilians in Northern Sri Lanka.

In a statement issued from its headquarters in Jaffna, the LTTE accused the Government of Sri Lanka for implicating the LTTE in the killing of civilians. "The aim of this malicious report is to discredit the organisation", LTTE said. While condemning such killings as a naked form of terrorism, the LTTE suspected that "it could be the dirty work of Tamil terrorist groups operating with the help of the Indian Peace Keeping Forces."

KITTU RELEASED IN JAFFNA

In order to prevent Kittu from commencing his fast-unto-death in Madras Central Jail, he was taken by the Indian authorities to Palaly Army camp in Jaffna and thereafter released, in the presence of the leading citizens of Jaffna, it is reliably learnt. Along with Kittu six others are said to have been released. More than one hundred members of the LTTE who were in Madurai and Madras jails, kept under National Security Act too, were taken to Palaly, but their fate is not yet known.

NOMINATIONS

India is believed to have staged a coup by getting three quisling groups to submit nominations for the North-East provincial council, carving up the seats among them on a no contest basis.