

# TRIBUNE



27TH YEAR OF PUBLICATION





# MINISTRY OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT, HOUSING & CONSTRUCTION

## NATIONAL HOUSING DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY VACANCIES

Applications are invited for the following posts in the National Housing Development Authority, from citizens of Sri Lanka:-

### I. SUPERINTENDENT (ENVIRONMENT UPKEEP)

#### Qualifications :

The prospective candidates should have one of the following qualifications:

(a) Technical officers who have completed N.D.T., J.T.O. or equivalent examination with 6 years experience in supervision of building maintenance and civil construction work,

OR

(b) GCE (O/L) qualified Technical supervisory personnel with 12 years experience in supervision of building maintenance and civil construction work.

The prospective candidates should have a minimum of 5 years experience in Landscape Maintenance/House Keeping/Garbage Cleaning, etc.

### II. SUPERINTENDENT (CONTRACTS)

#### Qualifications :

The prospective candidates should have one of the following qualifications:

(a) Technical Officers who have completed N.D.T., J.T.O., or equivalent examination, with 6 years experience in supervision of construction work and maintenance of buildings/Housing Schemes.

OR

(b) Inspectors of Works or Technical Supervisory Officers with a minimum of 10 years experience in supervision of construction and civil maintenance work.

The prospective candidates should have a minimum of 5 years experience in Contract work such as drawing up of specifications, preparation of Bills of Quantities, Organising Contractors, Supervising and Certifying of maintenance work.

**Salary :** Negotiable within the Grade VI(a) and Grade VI(b). Other allowances<sup>s</sup> approved by the National Housing Development Authority will also be paid.

**Other Benefits :** Medical Benefit Scheme, Annual Bonus and Payment for unavailed of Medical leave.

**Age Limit :** Applicants should not be less than 30 years and not more than 50 years of age. The maximum age limit will not apply to those in the State service.

**NOTE :**

1. Appointment on contract basis will also be considered.
2. Selected applicants should be prepared to serve in any part of the Island.
3. Applications giving full details of qualifications and experience should be forwarded to reach the undersigned on or before 25th March, 1982.

**CHAIRMAN**  
NATIONAL HOUSING DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY,  
National Housing Secretariat  
5th floor,  
Sir Chittampalam Gardiner Mawatha,  
Colombo 2.  
5th March, 1982.



# TRIBUNE

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## LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

THE PRESIDENT has turned the spotlight on corruption especially in high places. The *Ceylon Daily News* of March 4, reported the previous day's Cabinet decisions: "President Jayewardene cautioned all Ministers to be mindful of allegations being made of bribery and corruption in government departments and corporations. He himself received frequent complaints and all these matters had to be investigated. The President said that he proposed to do so himself whenever he thought the matter important enough. He proposed to continue such investigations and intensify them in the future. He referred to the need for being careful with regard to purchases and tenders, a vital area of corruption." Though this drive to root out corruption comes a little late in the day, we still have faith in the old tag "better late than never". *Tribune* has at all times spotlighted corruption and also everything that might lead to corruption. This week in the *Confidentially* column we have drawn attention to rumours floating around town about the tenders for some additional gas turbines for thermal generation of electricity. If some attention had been paid to what we had said in regard to the gas turbines tenders in 1980 (vide *Tribune* Vol. 24 Nos. 25 and 26 of 29.12.1979 and 5.1.80, and Vol. No. 25 Nos. 1 and 2 of 19.7.80 and 26.7.80) the country would not have suffered the losses due to the delayed installation of the turbines (even after the stipulated dates had been extended more than once) and also because of the non-functioning of two turbines of French origin. We do not know whether the present allegation and rumours about the latest gas turbine tenders are based on fact or whether interested parties have set them in motion to lay a smoke-screen for nefarious manipulations to channel the tender to a particular firm. These are matters for investigation. It would be useful, therefore, to cite brief extracts of the questions we had raised in the *Confidentially* column on July 19, 1980 on *Gas Turbines—Why Delayed?* We had wanted to know why the gas turbine plants the Cabinet had decided to order in April 1978 had not been installed without delay. The money for the same had been allocated immediately, but instead of calling for tenders on specifications drawn up locally by our technical experts (some of whom are as good as any in the world), it would appear, that the Cabinet, out of an abundance of caution, had wanted a foreign firm of consultants to check on the recommendations of the local committee of experts. Although the prestigious foreign firm only confirmed the recommendations of the local committee, this process took very nearly six months and more. "That in this case Delay No. 1 had fatal consequences? That, thereafter, came Delay No. 2 because designing individuals endeavoured to chop and change the specifications agreed on for certain ulterior and sinister motives? That it is here that the various local Tender Lobbies and 'Connections' came into operation—and there were further unnecessary delays before "International Tenders" were called from a few pre-selected firms which are known to be able to cope with a tender of this magnitude? That just before Tender Forms were issued, it is alleged, that there were manipulations by certain persons and groups to monkey with the specifications no doubt to help certain manufacturers?" The story of how the specifications were tailored was told in earlier issues of *Tribune*. We shall refer to the skulduggery that delayed the turbines—in due course. But for the present the President should find out if the fears entertained in responsible commercial circles about "tailored specifications" in respect of the present tender have any basis.



## Can the UNP Make It?

*ON THE COVER we have a young charmer playing with his snake. It is not everybody who can play with snakes. Nowadays tourists are the main customers of our snake charmers. According to news reports, cobras have begun to appear in plenty in important places including our High Courts. Newspapers have reports of how a brood of ten little baby cobras had a home under the platform of the Judges' table and chair and that in another court there was a large ant-hill behind some woodwork in the Judges' Chamber which had an army of nearly thirty' cobras of all sizes and age. Sothsayers and those who are immersed in traditional lore make interesting pronouncements when snakes appear in this fashion, but we are not concerned with such prognostications based on extra-sensory perceptions that impinge on the occult. But contingents of cobras entrenched in the high seats of justice remind us of the venomous stories about politicians and political parties now floating around in Sri Lanka today. The question that everyone is asking is when will the next election be held and what will be its outcome?" There is also a spate of sensational predictions that a snap election will take place in August this year. This is not as important as the question that our indefatigable correspondent R. Kahawita has raised in an article entitled CAN THE UNP MAKE IT?—and we cannot do better than publish the article below:*

In a news item, *Ceylon Daily News* says: "There are 7.2 million people receiving food aid stamps, and the Government has spent 820 million rupees to give this 'Drip'. The number of people on 'the drip' is a little over fifty percent of the population. With this percentage of the people on the starvation line can we catch up with our four development programmes, to lift these people even a wee-bit above the starvation line during the next eighteen months, when the UNP will have to render an account of its stewardship? Eighteen months is not long time to prove our worth. As the President said once, the twelve months prior to a general election will be lapped up in getting ready for the elections. That was the reason to extend the life of a Parliament from five to six years. However other political parties are aware of the situation and have started alerting the people. They are pinpointing the UNP's shortcomings and are telling the populace of the mistake they made in choosing the UNP as their representatives and about the blunders the UNP committed in running the country. That their term was "ruining the country". The average man believes this, without question, because he feels this in his "inards" Their number is 7.2 million according to our own estimating.

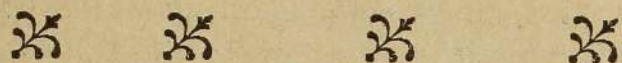
When our Finance Minister said that no Government could run this country hereafter without aid, massive loans, and a large begging bowl, he described the true situation and we should be prepared to face our "Karma" with "stoic resignation". But even those in distress hope for a cure. That is why, the opposition political parties are now in the forefront adding fuel to the consuming hunger of the afflicted people. This has perturbed some of our politicians who, the other day, sheepishly complained to the President that a particular political party was out in the field canvassing votes for the elections next year. To us it is a stupid complaint and the President treated it as such in his reply to them. But to those who complained the matter was all important. They see their life of luxury fast fading away. The President's reply was "why don't you all do likewise as I did in 1976-1977, go house to house and explain to the people what you have done during the last five years". This is easily said than done. UNP members will require an "armoury of battle dresses" to face the voters whom they have betrayed and deceived. What can the UNP say to the 7.2 millions to win their support for their cause? Their hope is in changing the physician and the opposition is just offering that. Their arsenals are full of ammunition to attack the UNP and its policies, and they say "Their policies are ours but during the last five years they have messed up everything". So the next Parliament will also repeat the traditional denunciations of "the previous government"—as a matter of defence. This is a pet phrase in our parliamentary excuses. They will also sit back, once in the lap of luxury and say: "What can we do, the previous government has messed up our economy, we cannot put it right in six years—give us another chance."

This is also our swan-song today. The voter has no more patience for this type of dirge. He wants quick relief. Yes to give him quick relief there was suggested a high powered committee to stabilize the price of rice, bread, flour, baby milk food, onions, chillies, dry fish and pulses. The efforts of the committee have only sent the price of these basic needs of the average man a couple of steps higher during the last few weeks—our average man is the starving man on "the drip". And to make matters worse, there has come, in the wake of the current drought, seventeen districts as "disaster areas" with priority claims for relief. What it is going to cost and how that relief is to be given, the Establishment has perhaps not worked it out yet. Our VIPP are quite happy to be received with the "magul bera", damsels blowing the trumpets and beating the drums, Kandyan dances and belly dancers, whips cracking, garlanding etc. Every device is intended to create false values and to mislead the powers that be. How can we encourage and participate in these tamahas when 7.2 million are on the "drip" and peasants in seventeen disaster areas are selling off their poss-

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essions to purchase that morsel of food to keep them above the sod they valued so much to keep alive. Everybody, and everything, including nature, has failed them. **Can the UNP make it? Does it not pin its faith on the current political disarray in the opposing parties? Call off the tamshas, get on our knees and work hard with the people who put us in power. This is the need of the moment.**



EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK

## Sycophancy

IN RECENT WEEKS, *Tribune* has drawn attention to the fact that many Ministers, MPs and other VIPs in the Establishment have been entombed in silken cocoons spun by flatterers, "catchers" and contact men we had who pointed out that unless they break out of their luxurious prisons, discard the parasitic vermin that surround them and reach out to the grassroots in their constituencies, they should say goodbye to politics. What has happened to a large number in the present ruling party is exactly what happened to the ruling elite of all political parties since Independence. This is one reason why political parties were thrown out of power with a regularity that has surprised many.

Such sycophancy which destroy "elites" is not peculiar to Sri Lanka alone. "Elites" are really necessary evils in every age and clime and so do sycophancy. In this connection our attention was drawn by a reader to a scintillating piece in the *Times of India* of February 12, 1982 under a heading entitled ACUTE AND OBTUSE—"YOU ARE THE GREATEST". We are reproducing the article that was by "R. G. K." in full because the same can be written about present-day Sri Lanka with a few terminological variations.

Here it is: "... I do not know if there is a 'thin line', as Mr. Rajiv Gandhi says, 'between sycophancy and political support'. All I know is that sycophancy is an essential part of the power structure. The power structure is not confined to the exercise of political authority but embraces all human activity. Love, for example, is power in disguise and the endearing words exchanged by lovers are, to speak the truth, the language of sycophancy. It's a suppliant swain who tells his love: 'When you are at the window, the moon hides her face in shame under a cloud'. Even a child is a centre of power and super-brats are known not only to tennis but to other fields. also Many of our political leaders are super-brats grown in years and in dimensions.

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"One remembers the archetype of sycophants: the *pan-box* carrier who was a familiar character in some parts of the country in the old days. He attached himself to the local zamindar or mugwump and was the village "fixer" who could get things done by singing the extravagant praises of his master. It was he who built up the local leader and he was both trouble-maker and trouble-shooter. He wormed his way into the zamindar's household and gained the confidence of his wife and mistresses. Nothing happened in the village without his having a part in it and his presence was felt as much in the temple festival as in the panchayat proceedings.

"The *pan-box* carrier would go up to his master after the latter had a belch-producing meal and, with the smoothness and suavity of an abundant flow of viscous oil, tell him: 'You aren't like others, sir. To look upon you is to be blessed. Who in this world has your wisdom and looks and courage? There is a new-comer, sir, who wants to buy up all the land in our village. He seems to have a lot of money which he has brought from Singapore. But I can take care of him. All I want is one word of encouragement from you.' The big man is without the *pan-box* carrier. Today we have substituted one set of feudal masters with another and the *pan-box* carriers of old handle other objects of their political bosses.

"Sycophants are the profane or secular counterparts of priests. They burn incense and light camphor before visible gods and goddesses. The working of the power structure depends on the egos of the men who control it. When honeyed words are poured into the ears of a leader, changes take place in his inner chemistry and he expands and becomes bigger than he is. Flattery is the sunshine for the nursery of political growth. The sycophant perhaps does a useful function in society. It's the art of sycophancy that makes a panchayat president feel he is as important as the president of the United States: I think the difference between the two offices is one of degree and not of kind. Worked upon by a flatterer, a village munsif or magistrate is blown up into a high court judge and a taluqa clerk, similarly treated, is bloated into a collector or chief secretary. As a matter of fact some of our country's most powerful men, assiduously cultivated by sycophants, are taluqa clerks.

"India's tradition of sycophancy is preserved in the genre of poetry-called *peashasti kavya*. The royal courts attracted versifiers who sold their talents for gold. The poet would address a ruler whose domain was no bigger than a present-day district: 'Your imperial majesty, your toe-nails are so beautiful. They reflect the lustre of the jewels in the crowns of your subject kings as they place their lowly heads at your lotus feet. And the beauty of your empress, the cow-buffalo of them all, has spread its radiance into the far corners of the earth'.



"Today's flatterers are prosaic men but they are far more influential. This is perhaps one of the gains of democracy for the choice of masters and *pan-box* carriers are now more plentiful. The fortunes of India are governed by sycophants who have appointed themselves advisers to chief ministers and lesser men clothed in brief authority. They invent tales to nourish their heroes' vanity and sense of self-importance. They tell them: 'You are the greatest. Your opponents tremble when they hear your name mentioned'. Flattered into a bigger size (which sounds a phonetical contradiction), a minister feels he is good enough to be chief minister—and a chief minister gets ideas."

**No further comment is needed. What is said of India can apply to happenings in this little emerald isle.**



FILM FOCUS

## Adults Only

REVIEWED BELOW are three films, Sinhalese, English and Tamil, two of which have been given an *Adults Only* rating while the other has not been rather surprisingly. Nudity in films has been the main criteria which has hitherto governed the *Adults Only* tag being hitched on the English films, Sinhalese productions have been free of nude scenes until recently. Now nude scenes have proliferated, no doubt to meet the TV challenge and to boost the box office. Though Tamil films have had the females well covered some have veered towards pre-marital pregnancies, illegitimacy and other sexual aberrations. It must however be said for nudity in film is harmless if relevant to the story and is presented in good taste—clear examples recently being in *Ashanti* (English) and *Mahagedera* (Sinhalese), but the suggestively spoken word could germinate into saucy saluciousness, which only the mature and discerning picture-goer can take in without much harm being done.

The Tamil *Thani Maram*, in light sequences, were full of it, and was permitted for general viewing, while *Bambara Geethaya* overplayed nudity to nauseating levels and restraints had to be imposed to protect the young. This column notes that certain Tamil films are being passed by the Censor Board and this may be because the majority of the Board may be ignorant of the Tamil language. This is all the more reason, that the Tamil representatives on the Board should keep their ears and eyes turned to prevent suggestive films like *Manmatha Leelai* creeping in whatever the star or box office values may be. Switching back to Sinhalese films, this column vehemently opposed *Karumakharayo* as the morality behind it, steeped in incest, went against the grain of our rural folk, and raised many eyebrows in anger. Extreme sex, violence

and horror themes should be taboo especially for the immature at any cost, and the censors have a sacred duty to act. Let it not be said of the Board, that being awake to Nudity alone, they remained blind to the moral values and religio-cultural ethics of our people in the dialogue and the script. Values that debase and demoralise must be discouraged at any cost.

*THE FURY* (English) : If you have never seen a human being exploded physically into smithereens in a film sequence—it was the first for me—and if your stomach can take it, then make a beeline for this 20th Century Production, directed by Brian de Palma, who is being hailed as the new Hitchcock. The tension runs even throughout the film with nail biting suspense in a story that spreads out from a Middle East seaside in 1977 to Chicago in 1978, with veteran actor Kirk Douglas, putting across all he could muster in histrionics and as a man of action while on the trail of a gang which kidnaps his teenage son for a secret agency doing experiments in para-psychology embracing Telekinesis, Extra Sensory Perception (ESP) and the whole gamut in this film. While the chase is on, a link is established with the missing youngster through a pretty teenager inmate in the same Institution. She is also full of the para mental powers that have gone beserk beyond her control, and come into full play in a crisis, when her victims bleed profusely and suffer levitation at her command. Many of the horror sequences are captured in slow motion by the camera to maximise the terror effects. This shocker is certainly not for squeamish and timid hearts, but a must for Kirk Douglas fans, even if they love to close their eyes for a few sequences, to see their favourite actor at his very best. In his distinguished and varied screen career, Kirk has been beaten up (*Champion*), shot (*Detective Story*) and even crucified (*Spartacus*), but few of his performances have been as physically demanding as his role is *The Fury*. Need I say more about this Film for *Adults Only*?

*THANI MARAM* (Tamil) : Directed by Durai, this film is yet another new wave production from Tamil Nadu that claims to be "realistic". It is the story of a virtuous young woman (Sathayakala—a new starlet) who braves the toughs and the lecherous in her village and treads the straight and narrow path until she takes a fatal step at an indiscreet moment. Two men enter her life, one an extortionist (Vijayan) whom she reforms by precept, and the other a handsome stunt (Rajesh) who worms his way into her heart. At the apex of this triangle she becomes entangled in gossip. Running parallel is a humourous skit where the late Surulirajan who used looks and words to bag every belle who crossed his aged and affluent path—the ensuing dialogue and his domestic life revealing a way of life that should have brought an *Adult Only* rating for the film. Though the film may be good entertainment for adults, it is best that children



are not exposed to this story. It is surprising that the Censor Board has not affixed the *Adults Only* tag to this film.

**BAMBARA GEETHA** (Sinhalese): A Sunil Ariyaratne creation that has come to town with Nudity to expatiate clinicially on the story of a twilight woman (Malini Fonseka). The stark naked stils give the film an erotic start. But the inevitable formula took over soon after, with one of the prostitutes' regulars, a motor mechanic (Ravindra Randeniya), striking a chord of sincere love for the "fallen", without sufficient money to support his proposal. Between them stands a pimp and a call-girl operator (Robin fernando) resolutely determined to prevent his

prize catch being ensnared away. Further gimmicks like boat racing and platform pclitics are thrown in for good measure; you also will see the faces of a few past Prime Ministers; The film fortunately runs only for 90 minutes, surprising for a Sunil Ariyaratne creation. The oldest profession triumphs at the end, striding resolutely over true love, without sufficient money to fortify it. Malini shone in her role, but the same could not be said for the others who helped the Director along, as he had his eyes firmly fixed at the box office, with nude exposures. Perhaps he succeeded, but the film clearly deserved its *Adults Only* rating.

JAMES N. BENEDIEST.

Govt.



Notice

**Notice under section 7 of the Land Acquisition Act (Cap. 460) amended by Land Acquisition (Amendment) Act, No.28 of 1964.**

Reference No. 3/2/1/16/287

It is intended to acquire the land described in the schedule below. For further particulars, please see the Gazette Extraordinary of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, No: 181/5 of 25.02.1982.

**SCHEDULE**

*A.G.A's Division* :- Gampaha.  
*Situation* :- —  
*Village* :- Bendiya-mulla.  
*Name of Land* :- Madatiyagahawatta, Assmt. No.88 Sri Bodhi Road.  
*Lot Nos.* :- 01.  
*Plan No.P .P.Gam* :- 164

**A.L.S. Malwenna**

District Land Officer of Gampaha District.

Kachcheri,  
 Gampaha  
 Date:- 23.02.1982.

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**The Land Acquisition Act. (Cap 460) as Amended by the Land Acquisition (Amendment) Act No. 28 of 1964. Notice under section 7**

Reference No. 3/61/205

03J. 76 L.358

It is intended to acquire the Land/Lands described in the schedule below. For further particulars, please see the Gazette Extraordinary of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, No.181/ of 26.02.1982

**SCHEDULE**

*Name of Village etc* :- Udumulla village in Udukaha East Korale Dambadeni Hatpattu(West) D.R.O's Division, Kurunegala District.  
*Name of Land* :- 1. Narangahakotuwagoda Pillewa  
 2. Gallindhahena  
 3. Habahena  
 4. Korossagollahena  
*Plan and Lot No.* :- Lot Nos. 81, 82, 83 and 84 in Supplement No. 5 in F.V.P.416

**A. George**

District Land Officer Kurunegala District.

The Kachcheri,  
 Kurunegala,  
 Date:- 28th February, 1982.



## US Claim in Doubt

By Harold Jackson

*Washington:* Mr. Haig's charge that the Soviet Union has engaged in chemical warfare in South East Asia—the "yellow rain" reported to have fallen in Laos and Kampuchea—has started a fierce controversy in the United States. A State Department witness recently told a Congressional committee of four samples which he said showed "conclusively" that Russia has supplied a fungus-based poison for use in Laos and Kampuchea. He describes the finds as a "smoking gun", but the evidence has failed to convince many scientists working in the field. Their reservations were explained by Professor Douglas Lackey of Baruch College in New York. The State Department based its charges on a contaminated leaf and stem found in Kampuchea and on two samples scraped from rocks in Laos. But the samples had been "collected under unspecified conditions and transported without proper precautions against contamination," Professor Lackey noted. He added "No scientist independent of the Government would consider such a specimen to constitute scientific evidence for Haig's hypothesis." The poison alleged to have been used in Asia are from a group of mycotoxins known as trichothecenes, extracted from the Eusarium fungi by fermentation. The State Department samples contain three of the toxins—nivalenol, deoxynivalenol, and T2—about which the State Department said: "Those mycotoxins are not native to warm climates such as South East Asia." The statement was withdrawn after expert evidence was given that fusaria are extremely common and found all over the world. More to the point their toxins can be generated naturally.

The State Department's samples showed levels of contamination of between 22 and 66 parts per million. A recent research paper by a team from university of Maryland reported that natural contamination of 200 to 300 parts per million had been found on a Brazilian shrub. An additional complication in that natural production of toxins is accelerated at low temperatures. A naturally contaminated sample could, if stored for any length of time in a refrigerator carry for greater amounts of poison by the time it was analysed.

The State Department has given no details of the circumstances in which its samples were obtained or how they were subsequently handled. There have also been some puzzling details in the officials' accounts.

—Courtesy: *Guardian Weekly*, 3/1/82.

## Grass Roots

You've come a long way,  
From the grass roots  
Of your village birth.  
And this is what  
The sacrifices we so gladly made  
Have done for you  
My son - Made of you a slave  
To city lusts.

The years you spent,  
Within the portals  
Of that famed Academy,  
We thought would bring  
You learning,  
And the wisdom  
Of us grass root folk—  
The gift of true humility.

And you so you brought  
Your city wife today—  
To see the source  
From which you sprang;  
To speak with accent  
Which we could not understand.  
And your visit  
Had the briefness of a passing shower.

Have we erred?  
We thought we did our best  
For you, my son,  
But grass roots will not mix  
With city dreams.  
Yet, if the life you've chosen  
Makes you happy, then,  
We've really won our goal.

Although perhaps you'll rarely see,  
The glory of the lotus blooms,  
We take for granted  
In the pond beyond your village home.  
And you will never see, nor comprehend  
The tears I shed for you—  
The grass roots in my blood  
Will make me glad  
You're happy in  
The life you've chosen  
For yourself—  
My son.

LORRAINE.

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# On Watching T.V

By Dmitry Kiyansky

The TV set has almost become a member of the family in all developed countries, yet it may adversely affect your health if watched continuously for hours. This, anyway, was the conclusion reached after research at the Kiev Institute of General and Communa! Hygiene—one of the leading USSR centres for studying the influence of the environment upon man.

## What exactly is the influence of the TV set upon human health?

THE ANSWER was provided by Yelena Savitaskaya, a researcher at the Institute. First, 1,200 Kiev families were polled. Next Savitaskaya chose the 40 families who most typically represented various age-groups living in average buildings. The components of the physical environment were thoroughly tested in every apartment—the temperature, humidity, oxygen content, etc. The nerve processes, industriousness and general health condition of the apartment's occupants were examined with a similar accuracy. The nature of the experiment required that its participants, should be healthy people (at least in their age brackets) so they all went through a special medical checkup.

The data was processed by a computer and these are some of the conclusions reached from results obtained. The electromagnetic field created by the TV set is below the maximum permissible level. As to the electrostatic field of a black and white and especially of a colour TV set, it is above normal at a distance of 50 cm, so one should watch it from a distance of 2.5 to 3 meters. The TV set adjustment should be made promptly, without any delay and it is better to use remote control. *Electric lights should be on when watching the TV.*

For how long may one watch? Not longer than half an hour, says Savistaskya, then take a break of 30 to 40 minutes. After 3 or 4 hours spent before the TV screen the power of perception goes down, the eyes get tired and headaches appear. Very often the TV watcher feels jaded the day after, without realizing that the TV is the cause of his condition. *The viewing time for children should be limited*

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*with particular strictness, insists Savitskaya. It has been established that for pre-schoolers it should not be more than 15 to 20 mimutes a day and for junior school pupils should not exceed one hour at least two or three times a week.*

—Moscow News.



## FOR THE RECORD

# The Next Elections

While the number of members which each Electoral District is entitled to return totals 196 altogether, the number of candidates required to be set out in each nomination paper totals 270 for all districts. Under the proportional representation system nomination papers will be submitted by any recognized party or independent group in respect of each electoral district and not as previously in respect of each electorate.

<i>Electoral District</i>	<i>No. of Members</i>	<i>No. of Candidates</i>
1. Colombo	21	28
2. Gampaha	17	23
3. Kalutara	11	15
4. Kandy	12	16
5. Matale	5	7
6. Nuwara Eliya	6	8
7. Galle	11	15
8. Matara	9	12
9. Hambantota	7	10
10. Jaffna	11	15
11. Wannai	5	7
12. Batticaloa	4	6
13. Digamadulla	6	8
14. Trincomalee	4	6
15. Kurunegala	16	22
16. Puttalam	7	10
17. Anuradhapura	7	10
18. Polonnaruwa	4	6
19. Badulla	8	11
20. Moneragala	5	7
21. Ratnapura	10	14
22. Kegalle	10	15
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# February 21 - 27

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

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

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 21:** Sri Lanka's tourist industry has grown by 25 percent every year since 1977—record by world standards, said Mr. Sarath Amunugama, Secretary to the Ministry of State; he however, warned against any complacency; tourist marketing activities would have to be constantly reviewed and "remember you cannot sell it mainly on the scenic beauty", he said. Mr. Ernest Corea Sri Lanka's Ambassador in Washington signed an agreement with the World Bank for a loan of \$ 26 million for the development of medium and small industries in Sri Lanka—**SO**. The Japanese Government has formulated a master plan to develop the port of Colombo; this includes making the entrance to the Port and the depth sufficient to take in the largest vessels—in shipping jargon called "third generation container vessels". Finland has decided to increase aid in the form of outright grants by 70 percent—from 70 million Finnish francs during the past three years to 120 million Finnish—**ST**. Watch committees are to be set up in each district as a prelude to the establishment of the Home Guard units which are to become functional by May 1; the committees comprising the District Minister, the Government Agent, the Chairman of the Development Council and the senior police officer of the area are to immediately prepare the blue prints for the formation and functioning of these units which will be a voluntary auxiliary of the Police. The government is now considering the introduction of amendments to the Provisions of the Prevention of Terrorism Act to enable the authorities to detain under army custody, any person who commits an offence under this act—**WK**. Sixty-five thousand poverty-stricken persons in the Colombo North who depend on the food-stamp scheme of the government for their provisions of essential food items through the sixty seven branches of the Colombo North Cooperative Society will all face starvation next month if already dwindling stocks are not replenished. Most Sri Lankan women are content with two children even if they are both girls and so are their spouses,

according to a survey of contraceptive prevalence amongst married women in Sri Lanka—**IS**. Ministers have come forward to extend their support to the District Development Councils with a view to helping them to find resolutions to problems on a district basis—**VK**.

**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 22:** Prime Minister R. Premadasa, who underwent gall stone surgery in San Francisco, returned home after a two-month absence yesterday; present at the airport to welcome him was a large gathering including cabinet and other ministers, parliamentarians, officials and members of the public. Some persons fired several shots at an army patrol opposite St. Theresa's Convent Atchuvely, around 11.30 p.m. on Saturday; one person in the group died when the soldiers in the jeep returned the fire. The Urban Development Authority has earned over Rs. 200 million last year on the sale of State land. President J. R. Jayewardene has ordered that the award of a Rs. 30 million tender by a state agency be stopped following representations that proper procedures had not been followed—**CDN**. Water and trees, Sri Lanka's most vital commodities which need protection as never before, will figure prominently when the country's Government Agents meet in Colombo on Thursday and Friday; The GAs who will be addressed by a number of Ministers will be asked to work out the strategy to get encroachers out of forests, enhance the tree planting campaign and give better protection to the country's forest cover—**CDM**. Security forces currently deployed in anti-terrorist operation in the North have established a close link between a militant political group and northern-based terrorists; the breakthrough came several days after they mounted surveillance on the political group's activities. An official committee that probed payment of compensation to victims affected by the incidents in Jaffna between May 30 and June 2, last year, has recommended payment for 365 persons—**SU**. President J. R. Jayewardene has given strict instructions to the TV authorities that his face should not appear on TV screens for more than five seconds when an event in which he is participating is telecast, according to Rupavahini sources; the cameras thereupon must be focussed on the interesting features of the event itself, the President has said—**IS**. Doctors yesterday decided to go on strike if they do not get all their salary increments—**ATH**.

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 23:** The Government has decided that all existing universities or those that would be built in the future be national universities and none would be developed as regional institutes of higher learning. The deal between the Ceylon Petroleum Corporation and the giant US based company, Coastal Corporation of America to build an international oil terminal at Trincomalee has been called off, official sources said yesterday. Finance Minister Ronnie de Mel, has urged qualified Sri Lankans



to, return to their home country and help rebuild a stable and prosperous nation. "The country needs you NOW, and if you can come without too much disruption to your homes we'll welcome you with open arms" he told a large gathering of Sri Lankans at a cocktail party given in his honour at the Jansa Sri Lanka restaurant in Melbourne—*CDN*. Major changes in the proposed White Paper on Education Reforms are likely; the highpowered team now examining the proposals in the light of islandwide criticism and prospects have decided to do away with the unitary schools and instead create a new grade of schools called All-Island National Schools, which would admit all talented students from all over the island; these national schools would be set up in all the 22 revenue districts and will include all Colombo's big schools—*CDM*. The recent crackdown on the cultivation and illegal export of cannabis has resulted in local narcotic rings turning to trafficking in harder drugs; members of these rings who have massive sums of black money and international connections in this illegal trade, are said to have found that the smuggling of hard drugs such as cocaine, heroin and hashish is more lucrative than the smuggling of the bulkier cannabis—*SU*. An agreement was reported on February 23 between the Governments of Japan and Sri Lanka under which the Government of Japan will be providing the Government of Sri Lanka a grant of Y. 154,800,00 (approx Rs. 13.9 million) to be used for the economic development of Sri Lanka—*IS*. Only 75 students will be admitted to the Batticaloa University; until sufficient arrangements are made admissions will be limited to this number said the Chairman of the University Grants Commission and Secretary to the Ministry of Higher Education Professor Stantley Kalpage—*VK*. The Sri Lanka government has made a statement at the Havana Conference held on the 15th that all employees who lost their jobs in July 1980 after the strike will be taken back immediately.—*ATH*. Due to many losses in the Ayurvedic Corporation the Corporation will not be able to function for a long time—*LD*. Due to the lack of staff and Doctors at the Lady Ridgeway Hospital, Borella the patients there are put into great inconvenience.—*DI*.

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 24:** The Social Services Ministry is hopeful that the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) will assist the drought relief effort in parched Dry Zone; representatives of USAID, headed by the agency's director Miss Sarah Jane Littlefield, yesterday met Mr. T. G. Gunasekera, Secretary to the Ministry of Social Services, to discuss possibilities. The Ceylon Electricity Board warned yesterday that if the drought continued and the monsoon broke later than may, a power cut of at least two hours a day was inevitable. The large majority of the unskilled workers leaving the country for employment abroad are women and in 1979 almost as many women as men left the country to work

abroad, a survey completed by the Plan implementation Ministry reveals. The request by the Conference of Public Service Independent Trade Unions to establish a statutory National Wages Council is receiving wide acceptance among a variety of organisations, associations and trade unions in the public sector—*CDN*. Legislation to prevent legal proceedings against Ministers, Deputy Ministers state officials or personnel of the armed services and the Police over communal incidents in August/September 1977, will be introduced in Parliament shortly. The Ceylon Electricity Board has come up with a novel innovation in its continuing battle against the power crisis; its solar-powered system was displayed yesterday at an exhibition—*SU*. The first branch office of the department of Immigration and Emigration will be opened at Galle on March 1; this office will deal only with the issue of passports to West Asian countries for residents of Galle, Matara Hambantota districts—*CO*. Directors and Deputy Directors in the Janawasama who have been given bungalows for residence in the upcountry areas like Nuwara Eliya, Bandarawela, Badulla, etc., are said to be renting out the bungalows to tourists and making money—*DI*.

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 25:** A substantial capital investment on technical education recommended by President Jayewardene was adopted by Cabinet yesterday. Trade and Shipping Minister Lalith Athulathmudali has obtained governmental authority to enter international shipping markets to buy a medium sized tanker for Sri Lanka; government sources said yesterday that the world tanker market was depressed and the time was right for buyers interested in tankers. The Government yesterday approved a scheme of rewards for public servants and corporation employees following a memorandum submitted by Major Montague Jayewickrema, Minister of Public Administration. The Export Development Board plans to invest rupees 10 million in making outright cash grants to selected exporters as part of its strategy to ginger the growth of the country's exports. The prevailing drought is the worst since 1974, Director of Meteorology, Ian de Mel said in a statement issued to the press yesterday; the cause of the drought is a dry air stream which originated over the Asian Continent, according to Mr. de Mel—*CDN*. The Cabinet yesterday decided to reward public servants who helped prevent and minimise thefts, frauds and pilferages, waste, damage, misappropriation misuse of public funds and property and other similar offences in the public sector—*CDN*. TULF and the UNP leaders yesterday reached agreement on the contents of a circular on the setting up of Home Guards. A sum of 116 million rupees has been allocated for the development of technical education with an intensive capital investment programme—*SU*.

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 26:** A new drought relief scheme designed to eliminate corruption and



misuse of funds begins on March 1, Social Services Minister Asoka Karunaratne said yesterday. The National Food Policy Council has been summoned to an emergency meeting today to decide whether the country should import rice this year to hold a buffer stock against drought damage to the domestic crop; this meeting has been convened following reports from the districts that the drought had caused extensive damage to paddy cultivations. Sri Lanka's January tea crop has dropped by 1.5 million kilos from the comparative period last year, Eastern Brokers, the firm of Colombo tea brokers have reported. Only officials will accompany the Duke of Edinburgh to Wilpattu which has been hit by the prevailing drought, Mr. Lyn de Alwis, Director of Wild life Conservation, said yesterday; the Duke who arrives here on March 2 will travel to Wilpattu soon after arrival. As President of the World Wild Life Fund, he is here to back Sri Lanka's fund-raising effort to save the wild elephants. The Taj Lanka share issue has hit the Rs. 50 million mark 16 days after the list opened p.r. Khurshed, Y. Panthaki a director of the company said yesterday—*CDN*. Sri Lanka, India and Kenya, the World's largest tea exporting countries, will meet in Colombo next month to work out the strategy to be adopted at the next UNCTAD meeting on an international tea agreement. Railway security personnel are to be given police powers, shortly; government is to amend the Railway Ordinance for this purpose, following a series of attacks on railway stations, by armed youths; most of the stations have been found to be vulnerable to attack. The National Food Policy Commission will today decide whether it is necessary to import rice in view of the prevailing drought, and if so finalise the quantum needed. The Government Medical Officer's Association yesterday decided to resort to strike action in protest over their revised salary scales—*SU*. The Valaichenai Railway Station was robbed of Rs. 35,000 by four masked men after having locked up the Station Master and his assistant and other workers in a room; the robbers escaped; this robbery took place just after 48 hours after the Paranthan Railway Station was robbed of Rs. 75,000; as a precautionary measure railway security men will be given police powers—*DP*. The President Mr. J. R. Jayewardene has received petitions from reliable sources that the National Housing Department was taking commissions and that it was guilty of corruption in allotting the newly constructed houses; the President is now investigating into this matter; the President is also reported to have received information about the Building Materials Corporation—*ATH*. Yesterday Mr. Lakshman Jayakody told the Parliament that the Coconut Plantation industry would be a failure due to the high costs of fertilizer the drought and rates and taxes—*DI*.

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 27:** The multi-national Guthrie Group will soon sign an agreement with the Sri Lankan Government to undertake a 40 million

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Ringgit (about US \$ 17 million) oil palm plantation project in that country. The National Food Policy Committee yesterday decided to postpone a decision on rice imports this year for two or three weeks; the Committee met to decide whether drought damage to the domestic crop necessitated imports. The GMOA staged a 2-hour work stoppage between 8 a.m. to 10a.m. yesterday pushing a salary increase demand—*CDN*. World Bank funds will be available to the Export Development Board for equity participation in export-oriented projects; the Ministry of Trade and Shipping has finalised arrangements for this purpose with the World Bank which will channel its resources through the second small and medium industries agreement. Sri Lankans wishing to make purchases from the duty free shopping complex will be called upon to make their payments in travellers cheques from March 1; this follows several instances of persons producing forged foreign currency and also passports other than their own—*SU*.



## WORLD NEWS

# February 20-26

## ASIA

**INDIA:** India will produce energy from the sea and undertake mining for minerals in Ocean depths. India will soon undertake another Antarctic expedition and carve out for herself a research area. The secessionists in Manipur State were still active and ambushed and killed 20 soldiers. The South-South Conference of 44 countries to deal with North-South dialogue had its three day sessions in New Delhi. Indian Premier Indira Gandhi accused the industrial nations of dragging their feet in the relations between rich and poor. Tanzanian President Nyerere was awarded the Third World Prize worth 100,000 dollars for the year 1981 in New Delhi. This was offered by the London-based Third World Foundation. **PAKISTAN:** India has called off the no-war talks with Pakistan scheduled for March 1 at Islamabad. This was a sequel to Pakistan's attempt to highlight the Kashmir issue at the UN Human Rights Commission in Geneva. President Zia said that there will not be any compromise on Kashmir. Pakistan military authorities have intensified their search for subversive elements. nearly 3,000 persons had already been arrested. **JAPAN**—Japan announced new curbs on credit facilities, trade consultations and technological and science meetings between Japan and Soviet Union and Poland. **CHINA:** Chinese have denied rumours that Party strongman Deng Xiaoping had planned to give way to another as Vice-Chairman



Kampuchean leaders Khieu Samphon and Norodom Sihanouk have appealed to the third leader Sann to join them in Peking to plan a strategy to fight Vietnamese forces. The New Chinese News Agency praised the Western European countries for acknowledging the inter-dependence between the rich north and poor south and castigated the US for sticking to its inherent position of Supremacy. Chinese do not expect Son Sann to join the anti-Vietnamese front immediately. Son Sann was still suspicious of a coalition with Marxist oriented Khmer Rouge. In the meantime, Prince Sihanouk said Chinese have provided 3,000 of his supporters with light arms to fight the Vietnamese in Kampuchea. **NORTH KOREA:** According to diplomatic sources President Kim Il Sung who is 70 now would make his son Kim Jong Il as vice President to succeed him later. **SINGAPORE:** Yet another ASEAN group member following Indonesia and Malaysia ordered two Soviet nationals to leave the country within 24 hours. They have been accused of attempting to obtain "sensitive military information". There will be no severance of diplomatic relations. Singapore is fast developing into a supplier of military equipment in South East Asian region. Singapore now manufactures M16 rifles, Sterling Machine guns, mortars, bayonets, ammunition and explosives. **INDONESIA:** The recent furore over Soviet spying in Indonesia has brought to light that an Indonesian Lt. General has supplied the Soviet Union with valuable research materials. The information provided by this leakage on the hydrographic research undertaken by US-Indonesian scientists would help Soviet submarines to pass through between Indian and Pacific Oceans without being detected. Vietnamese Ambassador Trinh Xuan Lang briefed Foreign Minister Dr. Mochtar on the latest policy of Hanoi towards Kampuchea. Dr. Mochtar said ASEAN would devise a strategy to woo Vietnam away from Soviet influence. **SAUDI ARABIA:** On the initiative of Saudi Arabia, Arab nations have agreed to set up a Standing Council to monitor subversion in all forms. **IRAN:** A bomb explosion in Teheran killed 15 people, wounded 60 and caused damage to vehicles and buildings. Terrorists also attempted to kill the Police Chief. All this show that guerillas of the Mujahideen faction were still very active in Teheran. **SYRIA:** Syria has described the Iraq-Iran war as an American inspired war and called upon all Arabs to end the conflict. It also warned the Arab nations not to open up new lines of defence and help Iraq. **ISRAEL**—The intensity of the arms build up of the PLO may provoke Israel to strike at Lebanon at any moment, warned the new Israeli Ambassador to US. US special envoy Philip Habib was already in Lebanon having talks to stabilise the cease-fire agreement he helped to negotiate last year. In an interview with French weekly *Paris Match*, Defence Minister Sharon said that Israel would not permit Arabs to build atomic bombs, nor would threaten her territorial integrity. Egypt would not be permitted

to militarise Sinai after Israeli withdrawal; Israel also would not allow US to sell arms to Jordan.

## EUROPE

**FRANCE:** French President Mitterand and West German's Chancellor Helmut Schmidt meeting at the 39 bilateral Summit of the two countries agreed their policy was crucial to Western Europe's future. Former President Valery Giscard d'Estaing was staging a come back to politics through local government elections. **GREAT BRITAIN:** Britain has stopped the use of X-rays to determine the age of visa seekers to Britain. The British doctors considered this to be unethical and abuse of medical practice. Premier Thatcher told British businessmen not to expect any drastic tax deductions in next month's budget. **CZECHOSLOVAKIA:** Prague received 18.5 tonnes of gold in return for promises to pay compensation for property it nationalised when the Communists took over power: France, Britain and United States had held back the gold which fell into their hands from Nazis during the second world war to compel Czechoslovakia to guarantee compensation for nationalised property. **POLAND:** Polish news agencies have turned their attack on Solidarity leader Walesa and blamed him for betraying the workers. Polish Central Committee leaders want Poland to return to Marxist orthodoxy. **BELGIUM:** ECM countries may soon impose restrictions in imports from Soviet Union as a protest against its interference in Polish affairs.

## AMERICA

**UNITED STATES:** US Secretary of State Alexander Haig told a Belgian journalist that US and her European allies were not drifting apart and that Soviet Union had over-stepped the line of tolerance. He also predicted that 1982 will be a year of confrontation on economic issues between US and European Common Market. The authenticity of US journalism was becoming suspect as a result of an article that appeared in the *New York Times*: a free-lancer Jones wrote about a trip with Khmer Rouge soldiers to see Pol Pot in Kampuchea, which was a total fabrication. US has started its *Operation Caribbean* in order to demonstrate its awareness of the alleged communist instruction in the area. US and her NATO allies have planned a naval exercise in the region: the immediate provocation being the alleged supply of sophisticated Soviet arm supplies to Cuba and Cuban interest in El Salvador, Reagan in his policy speech to the Organisation of American States assured the Caribbean States 410 million dollar aid grant for 1982. This is in addition to the 586 million dollar aid passed by the Congress earlier. This aid would cover both military and economic aspects. Reagan charged Cuba of tightening its grip over Nicaragua and Grenada. It is said that Reagan has excluded these three countries from the

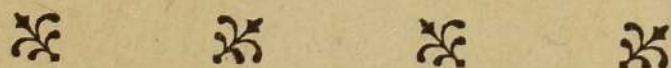
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additional aid. **CUBA:** In a letter to Mexican President Jose Lopez Portillo, the Cuban President Fidel Castro has said that Cuba's attempt to strengthen her defences was prompted by increasing US threats and was solely for defence of his country. **UNITED NATIONS:** UN Secretary General has appointed Diego Cordovez as his personal representative to deal with the Afghan problem. He will visit the region to prepare an agenda for the UN. The Security Council will add another 1,000 men to its force in Southern Lebanon.

## AFRICA

**EGYPT:** President Mubarak has been gradually releasing all those who were detained by the late President Sadat just before his assassination. This was seen as an attempt to consolidate his position. Nearly 923 millionaire tax evaders have been caught by the tax authorities. **LIBYA:** Libyan leader Col. Gaddafi identified EL Salvador, Guatemala, Chile, Namibia, Southern Africa, Palestine and Western Sahara as places where national liberation forces were fighting imperialism and called for support for the national liberation forces. Col. Gaddafi met Tunisian President Bourguiba after 8 years. This was his first meeting since the proposed Union of Libya and Tunisia failed to materialise in 1974. According to *Washington Post* US will impose a ban on the import of oil from Libya and ban the sale of oil production equipments to Libya. **TANZANIA:** President Nyerere said that developing countries should not attempt to catch up with rich countries. Instead they should be more self-reliant and less dependent upon other countries. **UGANDA:** As the Tanzanian troops have now been completely withdrawn Dr. Milton Obote's Government was facing the challenge of guerillas. Nearly 300, heavily armed guerillas attacked and killed several people near an army barracks. **SOUTH AFRICA:** Premier P. W. Botha's own party men numbering 20 voted against a confidence motion on him. These members were opposed to Botha's "liberal" race policy.



JOURNEY TO AFGHANISTAN—12

## Continuing War

By S. P. Amarasingam

OF THE TWO PAKISTANI PRISONERS questioned, the self-proclaimed professional killer Nizar was the more voluble. He was ready to talk and kept on repeating himself and switched from one topic to another, but all the time with himself as the megalomaniac hero. I wondered whether he was not protesting too much in order to win the sympathies of the Afghan authorities. I found it difficult to believe

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ninety percent of what he said, but even the ten percent was bad enough. The other Pakistani, the Jamaat-i-Islami priest turned police (secret) officer was reluctant to talk. This was understandable. He answered in monosyllables and when pressed he confined his answers to short crisp sentences. He had a ready smile and ignored embarrassing questions and tried to get time to think up evasive replies by asking for a cigarette or a glass of water. The two young Afghan students, however, were full of rhetoric about what they had done in their anger against the Amin regime and what they wanted to do now to help the country especially to prevent youth like themselves from being misled by the false propaganda of the enemies of the new Afghanistan.

I must say that so far as we were concerned the Afghan authorities did not attempt to minimise the damage being done by the "counter-revolutionaries" and the agents of "imperialism". They told us, for instance, that on or about July 14, three prominent supporters of the newly formed Fatherland Front had been assassinated in Kabul city itself by terrorists. In an official statement issued shortly before we arrived, the Interior Ministry had detailed some of these subversive and terrorist activities and reiterated that the counter-revolutionaries, operating from about 50 bases and camps in Pakistan, were being trained by American and Chinese instructors. Several instances of such anti-government operations were cited. Among them was an attempt to set the famous Mazare Shariff mosque in the North on fire. The arson was prevented, but the Mullah of the mosque was badly burnt and died later. Another case was the destruction of 7,000 tons of chemical fertilizer meant for distribution to peasants in the Helmand province. A third was the burning down of a girls' school in the Parwan province. Many other instances were also referred to. We asked many questions about such terrorist activities, not only from the prisoners but also from government officials.

So far as the "rebel" movement was concerned, the government said it had information that there were 10 to 20 persons claiming to be leaders of the "mujahideens" in the Pakistani camps. The most important of these leaders were said to be seven—the Big Seven—counting without one Rabbani who was caught and executed recently. One of them was Mohammad Yunus Khanis with the reputation of a being ruthless killer. Another was Abdul Rasool Saif with formal training in the USA to his credit. A more prominent figure was Sayyed Ahmed Gilani who claimed to be a "wali" or a "seer" in addition to being the top leader of an organisation called the National Islamic Revolution in Afghanistan. He had once owned a lot of land and had operated a big private business enterprise in pre-revolutionary Afghanistan. Another known as Ikhmatiyar was a guerilla leader "with Maoist and Zionist links



besides imperialist ones." The leader of the "Gulbahar II" camp in Pakistan was Maulana Mohammed Nabi, a senior Mullah, who was a Member of Parliament in Zahir Shah's time and was then found guilty of taking bribes. The last, but not the least of the seven, was the former king Zahir Shah himself whom the present Government accused of taking a sizeable part of the "nation's wealth" abroad in the same way as the late Shah of Iran had done.

ACCORDING TO THE AUTHORITIES besides acts of sabotage and regular terrorist attacks, the most difficult counter-revolutionary activity was an unceasing rumour campaign. This was difficult to deal with because the rumours were "hydra-headed". A few weeks ago, an official told us, a Western broadcasting agency had "reported" the dismissal of Armed Forces Chief Badajan, by hinting that he was away in Moscow under treatment for cancer. But he was very much in his office and in Kabul, and had made at least two television appearance since then. Rumours, have now been floated about a top leader of the security forces having been killed right in the capital. But the authorities assured us that there were no signs of the rumours shaking public confidence in the government's stability. Nor had they shattered the morale of the governmental agencies charged with the revolution's defence. But it was admitted that the sabotage campaign had caused production shortfalls of significance in the production of local food crops (23.4 percent short of the plan target), Naphtha (50 percent) Salt (48.1 percent) cement (20.5 percent) and cotton textiles (44.6 percent). The State Planning Committee authorities explained that these shortfalls were due to counter-revolutionary sabotage but they took justified pride in the instances of increased production performances registered regardless of negative factors. In the recently ended Afghan year, for example, the volume of woollen products went up by as much as 77 percent compared to the previous year. Even more significantly, the natural gas production showed a rise of 14 percent in the same period. The volume of exports went up by 6.6 percent. A field of crucial significance to the development plans, in which the counter-revolutionaries had considerable potential for disruption, was road and air transport. Official recognition of its importance was shown by the fact that the sector has been allocated as much as 22.3 percent of the total developmental outlay for the current Afghan year. The target is a 17 percent increase in the total volume of transport, and the State share in the total outlay will be less than 67.5 percent.

BESIDES an international context, there was a seasonal pattern as well in the activities of the Afghan counter-revolutionaries. A spurt in their activities could be expected with the end of winter. The Government, however, set great store by the "qualitative change" represented in the formation of voluntary

revolution defence groups composed of young people. In the Kabul and Balkj provinces over 600 are reported to have joined such groups in the few days before our arrival. Young men in mufti, posting themselves singly or in pairs in Kabul streets with rifles in hand, were a familiar city sight. This was one of the things that struck all of us as something extraordinary. The youth mainly in the age group 17 to 30 had been armed. We saw hundreds of them in Kabul and also in Mazar Shariff. The Government was obviously assured of the support of this key sector of the population and were not afraid to come them.

We asked the young Afghan prisoners at the press conference, who said that they had no more use for the foreign interventionist organisations whether the rebel groups could ever unite. They said that such unity was not possible. We asked this question in view of a report some of us read in Delhi when we were on our way to Kabul: a *Reuter* report from Peshawar dated August 17, that had stated: "Five-Pakistan-based Afghan guerilla groups today formed a new alliance to fight against the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan. The announcement said the groups formed a 50-member "Majlis Shoora" (Advisory Council) that will elect a leader of the alliance tomorrow. Afghan resistance sources said the groups merged into one alliance under pressure from about 300 Afghan Mullahs (religious scholars) who crossed into Pakistan five months ago. The sources said the Mullahs told the groups that they would have no say in Afghanistan if they did not unite. The announcement of the alliance was made by the leader of the Mullahs, Mian Gul Sahibzada and he claimed to be the head of the five groups consisting of groups led by the Hezbe Islami of Gulbudeen Hekmatayar, the Jamait Islami of Professor Burhanuddin Rabbañi, of Mohammad Nabi Mohammadi, of Hezbe Islami (Khalis group) of Moulvi Mohammed Yunus Khanis and Jubba Nijaat-i-milli, of Pir Sibghatullah Mujaddadi. Resistance sources said another group, Mahas-i-Milli led by Said Ahmad Gailani, which had earlier decided to join the alliance, backed out when it came to the formation of the Advisory Council which has 10 members from each group. The sources said the new alliance would try to bring all Afghan guerillas under one leadership and one flag for a more effective fight inside Afghanistan against the estimated 85,000 Soviet troops there. Several past attempts to unite the Afghan resistance groups failed because they insisted on maintaining their separate identities". Such an alliance has however not yet been forged in spite of the exhortations and the concrete efforts by the US, Pak, Chinese, Egyptian and Saudi Arabian 'advisers' looking after the rebels and refugees.

THE FOUR AFGHAN prisoners we questioned were emphatic that these groups could not unite because each pursued selfish, and intensely personal



objectives. I referred them to enthusiastic reports in the foreign press that the rebels were rallying support for a final offensive against the Babrak Karmal government, but they laughed and told us "wait and see what happens". I had with me Della Denman's report in the British *Guardian Weekly* of August 14, 1981 from the town of Parachinar in the North West of Pakistan. She described the scene in this outpost in this way: "As the Muezzin's call to prayer echoes around Parachinar Valley in North-West Pakistan, a line of buses and lorries strung with green Muslim flags winds through this frontier town. The Afghan insurgents on board chanting 'Allah o Akbar', 'God is Great', get off at their gleaming new office. After evening prayers the turbanned and a bearded man discusses tactics for the next day's raid into Afghanistan. Pakistan has consistently refused to have anything to do with the Muslim resistance fighting the Soviet-installed and Soviet-backed Afghan Government for fear of antagonising Moscow and Kabul which accuse it of aiding and arming the guerillas. But Islamabad is powerless to stop the insurgents taking refuge and running campaigns from its tribal belt bordering Afghanistan. This semi-autonomous area is outside the control of the central government. Parachinar, a favoured spring-off point for guerillas, five miles from the Afghan border, houses most of the main insurgent groups. Most of the fighting men settled their families in nearby refugee camps, sign on for relief supplies and return to their Jihad—of holy war."

BUT NOT ALL THE "DEFECTORS" from Afghanistan, said Della Denman, join the resistance. Some, sickened by the civil war, wander lost and still uniformed around the frontier towns. In recent weeks many have been taken away for questioning by Pakistan's intelligence agency which suspects the infiltration of Kabul Government spies among the constant influx of Afghan soldiers entering its territory". And Della Denman also referred to the strategic imperatives that the rebels were now compelled to follow. "The insurgents have learnt in the last year that there is no point in surrounding military posts and garrisons they are unable to hold. They now concentrate on selective sabotage, ambushes of army convoys, and assassinations of high-ranking Government and army officials. In the country, there has been a steady erosion of district officers and police and military commanders. In the Kabul area a police report last month listed 21 party members murdered since May."

Journalists writing in the foreign press (e.g., Ian Hamel in the *Guardian Weekly*) had begun asking the question "Can the Afghan resistance hold out much longer?". He asked this question early in 1981. The rebel and terrorist activity still no doubt goes on. It will go on as long as the USA, Pakistan, China, Saudi Arabia and other countries continue to pour money and arms to help the rebels.

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But as far as we could see or find out the rebel and terrorist movement were nowhere near dislodging the Barak Karmal Government.

But the undeclared war goes on. And so also the propaganda war. The West cannot hope to win the war in Afghanistan on propaganda, but they keep on trying. Nor can the mujahideen win the military war. And the Soviets will not leave Afghanistan until the threat of armed subversion from Pakistan is ended.

*To be continued.*



CONTRACEPTION

## Through Diet Control

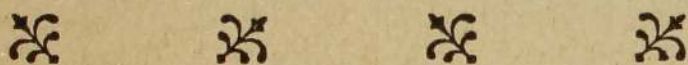
By Horst Zimmermann

AN AACHEN RESEARCH TEAM is developing a method of birth control involving diet. The researchers think that contraception by this method, avoiding certain foods, might even be acceptable to the Vatican. World Health Organisation officials are checking regularly, and with growing urgency, on the experiments. Head of the team is anatomist Hans-Werner Denker. Success would mean that the team had found a solution to one of the world's most pressing problems, population growth in the Third World. Professor Denker and his associates have been probing a secret of procreation for the past 15 years. It is what makes a fertilised ovum settle down in the wall of the uterus. Conversely why is that it sometimes fails to do so and that some women are permanently sterile as a result? In laboratory experiments with rabbits was shown that enzymes control the process, special proteins that govern chemical reactions in the body, such as digestion. There is a special enzyme in charge of each reaction. Aachen scientists have checked the process by which the ovum is found a home in the wall of the uterus. If specific enzymes were inhibited, the process was aborted and the rabbits failed to become pregnant. "Enzymes ensure that nutrients are drawn off", Professor Denker explains.

THE CRUCIAL DISCOVERY was that signal substances prompt the mother-to-be's body to prepare to host the fertilised ovum. Unless the signal is given, the ovum will fail to take root because preparations have not been made by the body. American scientists plan to synthesise blastolemmase, the enzyme that gives the body the tip off, as discovered by Denker in Aachen, by genetic manipulation. All methods of contraception so far known have their problems. They are either too unsafe or too complicated or affect the body's hormone balance (as, for instance, the Pill does). The contraceptive



pill is felt to be unsuitable for use in the overpopulated Third World countries because experience has shown that women with little education fail to grasp that it must be taken regularly to work. If proteinase inhibitors successfully prevent the creation of the enzyme that makes it possible for the ovum to settle in the wall of the uterus, a new method of birth control without side-effects would have been devised. Contraception by means of a specific diet steering clear of certain foodstuffs is method that might even be acceptable to the Vatican. Research urgently needs to be intensified, but funds are strictly limited. "We are only getting 50 percent of the allocations applied for," says Professor Denker. Further laboratory experiments were due to be carried out with monkeys in Aachen, but for the time being research has ground to halt for lack of funds.—*German Tribune*.



FROM THE "WASHINGTON POST"

## Walesas of Guatemala, Philippines

By Colman McCarthy

*Washington:* **Some hypothetical questions on human rights:** (1) What if Lech Walesa of Poland were Lech Walesa of Guatemala, a union leader risking his life to free Guatemalan workers from government death squads? Would the Reagan administration be hailing Walesa of Guatemala as a champion of freedom? (2) What if he were Walesa of the Philippines, held in jail since 1972 when martial law made union organizers defenseless against government charges that they were "public order violators"? Would his cause prompt the Reagan administration to impose economic sanctions against the Marcos government? (3) What if he were Walesa of El Salvador (where murders of two American labour organizers remain unsolved) or Chile or Brazil, or Turkey? Would his calls for rights of workers he heard in high places in Washington?

These are not questions that strain for answers. The spirit of terror and violence by which a Gen. Jaruzelski of Poland locks up a Lech Walesa is shared by a Gen. Garcia of Guatemala and President Marcos of the Philippines. The difference is that the Polish government's war against its people is denounced by the Reagan administration while the other government find that their brutality is supported. The support can get ludicrous, as in the new famous toast that George Bush gave to Marcos last July. "We love your adherence to democratic principle—and to the democratic processes." "This

to a corrupt, gangsterish tyrant who only a few days before the Bush toast was condemned by the Roman Catholic cardinal of Manila for conducting a deliberate, finely orchestrated campaign to throttle the freedom of the church to speak in matters of Catholic morality." The Philippines labour organizers, labelled subversives by Marcos, could have tutored, Lech Walesa. In 1975, which was the third year of martial law, the government's ban against strikes was defied by thousands of Philippines workers. Repression followed. A Philippine secretary of defence defined subversion in terms that would find no dissent among fellow dictators in Poland or Moscow: "Anybody who goes against the government or who tries to convince the peoples to go against the government, that is subversion. With no martial law for a year, after eight years of it, Marcos warned three months ago that he might return to his iron rule. "Labour is getting restive" he said "I'm going to pick them up if they keep on causing trouble."

In the absence of moral consistency the Reagan protests against Jeruzelski are hollow. Who is Reagan to be condemning one repressor while supporting so many others? The administration runs low on political consistency too. With Poland, quiet diplomacy has been pushed aside for the moment. No Gen. Verdon Walters, the former CIA official turned ambassador at large, has been quietly dispatched to talk general-to-general with Jeruzelski, as he was sent last May to the murderous Gen. Garcia of Guatemala. The administration's siding with Lech Walesa might be more inspiring if the world's other jailed labour leaders were to find themselves befriended by Reagan. But it won't happen. The President said on public television the other night that his foreign policy is retaining "quiet diplomacy"—getting things done not by challenging someone and then putting his back up in the other country because politically he will look like a weakling if he agrees with you. This is the sharpest definition of quiet diplomacy to date. It's the delicate feelings of torturers and bullies that Reagan is worried about: What if Gen. Garcia decides to stop sending out death squads to gun down priests and word spreads among the peasants that he is a weakling? How could Marcos see himself as the strong man of the Pacific if it were known that George Bush was pushing him around with cumbrous talk of democratic freedom?

For human rights advocates, it's a low moment when an American President says that he must be silent about freedom and justice lest he creates weaklings. But the victims of the Marcoses, Garcias and Jeruzelskis know the truth: the weakest leaders are those who coweringly hide behind martial laws and death squads.



# National Unity

By A. C. Nadarajah

IT WAS REFRESHING to read in the *Tribune* of the 9th January an article by Mr. R. Kahawita on "National Unity and Discrimination". It was a sober sensible and balanced approach to the Tamil Problem. He feels sorry that with all our boastful heritage 2,500 years old, culture etc., "We have not yet learnt to understand the other man's point of view". This is the main reason for a lot of Anti-Tamil feeling today. So long as this attitude continues there can be, and will be, no unity in this country. Our country is steadily declining in every walk of life for this reason. Mr. Kahawita rightly and boldly asserts that 'in this work of unification, the politician has no place'. Unfortunately in this country nothing moves without the politician having his finger in it. There was nothing wrong with the ordinary people of the country either in the North or South till their thinking was poisoned by the politicians after independence. Mr. Kahawita says "Alas! What is troubling everybody is the language issue". This is quite correct. It is the Sinhala Only Act No. 33 of 1956 that divided the country. In this connection it may be useful refer to the gradual evolution of this problem, some aspects of which are not known to the public.

The QUESTION OF THE OFFICIAL LANGUAGE was first raised in the State Council in about 1944 when Mr. J. R. Jayawardene introduced a resolution to make Sinhala Only as the official language. An amendment to this resolution was proposed whereby Sinhalese and Tamil were to be made the official language. The council accepted the amendment. Mr. D. S. Senanayake, the Premier, approved it as he knew that Sinhala only would have divided the country. Thereafter the U.N.P. Government appointed the official languages Commission in 1951 on the basis that Sinhala and Tamil were the official languages. On January 21st 1954 the U.N.P. at its annual party conference reiterated its decision to make Sinhalese and Tamil official languages throughout the country. When later it was announced in the press that the Commission on higher Education had decided to submit a report on the basis that Sinhalese should be the sole official language, His Excellency the Governor-General sent a communication to the Commission stating as follows "You are no doubt aware that it is the accepted policy of the government that Sinhalese and Tamil should be the official languages of this country, and any examination of this policy would be contrary to the terms of reference".

WHEN MR. S. W. R. D. BANDARANAIKE formed his Sri Lanka Freedom Party (of which I

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was a founder member and a vice president) our manifesto printed in 1951 had the following: "*National Languages*: It is most essential that Sinhalese and Tamil be adopted as official languages immediately, so that the people of this country may cease to be aliens in their own land, so that an end may be put to the iniquity of condemning those educated in Sinhalese and Tamil to occupy lowliest walks of life, and above all that Society may have the full benefit of the skill and talents of the people. The administration of government must be carried on in Sinhalese and Tamil".

It is obvious the two languages were the official languages till about the middle of 1955. What happened to change this state of affairs? About the early part of 1955 Sri John Kothalawela, the then Premier, made a tour of the North and he was given a grand reception. At the last public meeting held at Kokkuvil the principal of the Kokkuvil Hindu College suggested to the premier that Sinhalese and Tamil should be given a place in the constitution as official languages. The premier agreed to it, as the Government policy was that both were official languages.

Thereafter two senior politicians in the South started criticising Sri John for what he had agreed to at Kokkuvil at every public meeting at which they spoke. Thereafter one day Mr. Bandaranaike asked me to stay back after a committee meeting of the Party, as he wanted to speak to me on some matter. He referred to the trouble that was being created by the two politicians and stated that we should not keep silent over it. We agreed that a language sub-committee should be appointed to report on this matter. The language sub-committee should be appointed to report on this matter. The language sub-committee, of which Mr. Bandaranaike was president and Mr. Colvin de Silva was the Secretary, heard many depositions and drafted the following report: "The language sub-committee resolved that the Sinhalese language be declared the official language of the country with recognition accorded to the Tamil Language in the Legislature, Administration and Education in terms of the statement below, and that proper legal provision be made for this purpose.

## Statement :

1. *Legislature* : Tamil may also be used in the Senate and in the House of Representatives, and all laws will be promulgated in that language as well.
2. *Administration* : Sinhalese will be the language of administration in all courts, government offices and local bodies, provided that in the Northern and Eastern Provinces the Language will be Tamil.
3. *Education* : The medium of instruction shall be Sinhala, provided that in the Northern and Eastern Provinces it shall be Tamil.



*Proviso 1:* Every pupil should be encouraged (but not compelled) to learn the other language as a second language and, if the parents of one-third of the pupils in any school desire to do so, the school shall be compelled to provide the necessary facilities.

*Proviso 2:* If in any school, in the Northern and Eastern Provinces the parents of two-thirds of the pupils desire that the medium of instruction shall be Sinhalese or in the case of a school in any of the other seven Provinces that the medium of instruction should be Tamil, this shall be allowed. But in such a school Tamil or Sinhalese as the case may be shall be taught compulsorily as a second language to all the pupils in that school.

*N.B.*—A parent for this purpose shall be a registered voter for Parliamentary Elections.

4. *General:* All citizens shall have the right to transact official business in Sinhalese or Tamil in any part of the island.

*Transitory Provisions:* There should be an immediate declaration of the official language, but in the transition period, until the above policy can be implemented, English may continue to be used. A Commission shall be appointed forthwith to draw up a time-table setting out the dates for the change-over and to what extent, if any, English may continue to be utilised, and also indicating, where necessary, the steps to be taken to give effect to this time-table''.

**When this report was presented to the Executive Committee three well known fanatical members objected to the adoption of the report as it stood. To satisfy them Mr. Bandaranaike suggested a compromise whereby Sinhala was to be made the official language with reasonable use of Tamil. The reasonable use was the use mentioned in the report, but it was not to be published. This meeting of the Committee held on 24th September 1955 was the last meeting I attended and I sent my resignation from the Party, as what was being done unfair to the Tamils. Apart from being discriminatory against the Tamils, it affected their self respect. From the above it is evident that Mr. Bandaranaike's sudden change of policy was purely to enable him to capture power in the approaching elections. What happened to the country was of secondary importance. That the country called for it is untrue.**

SOON AFTER the Sinhala Only Act No. 33 of 1956 was passed many Tamils, including me, got

letters from Malaya stating that legal opinion of English Lawyers was that the Sinhala Only Act was invalid under section 29 of the Soulbury Constitution, and called upon us to challenge it in a court of law. One does not know why the Federal Party did not challenge its validity at that time. However the validity of this Act was challenged in the famous Kodeswaran case, and the District Court held in case No. 1026/Z D.C. Colombo that the Act was invalid under Section 29 of the Soulbury Constitution. The Crown appealed to the Supreme Court which set aside the judgement on the preliminary point that a government servant had no right to sue the Crown in a court of law for salary or increment. The Court did not consider the Constitutional point, namely, the validity of the Act. However the Court stated that if it became necessary to consider that point, the Chief Justice would place the matter before a fuller bench of five judges. Kodeswaran appealed to the Privy Council which set aside the judgment of the Supreme Court, but as the other points (including the constitutional point) had not been considered by the Supreme Court the Privy Council directed as follows: "The case should be remitted to the Supreme Court for further consideration of these other issues." (Vide 72 NLR 337). This judgement was delivered on 11.12.1959. It was generally believed in legal circles that the Privy Council would uphold the finding of the District Court, if the matter went back to them.

Mrs. Bandaranaike won with a big majority in the 1970 elections. Her government did not place the case before the Supreme Court for the consideration of the constitutional and other issues, but took steps to substitute the Soulbury Constitution with another Constitution. But before doing that, appeals to the Privy Council were abolished by Act No. 44 of 1971. It was obvious her government did not want the validity of the Sinhala Only Act to go before the Privy Council. The 1972 Constitution was introduced and the Sinhala Only Act was specially referred to in that Constitution, apparently with the idea that the Sinhala Only Act placed on the shelf of the constitution would be preserved, even though it was invalid according to a court of law. Mr. J. R. Jayewardene however appears to have realised the weakness of that view, and he introduced the 1978 constitution which has provisions for making Sinhala the only official language without reference to the Act No. 33 of 1956. The position seems to be that the Sinhala Only Act is invalid according to the decision of the court, but it is the official language under the 1978 constitution. It would have been proper and honourable if Mr. Bandaranaike's government placed the appeal before the Supreme Court for its decision on the constitutional issues.

WHY DID MRS. BANDARANAIKE introduce the 1972 constitution? It was purely to protect the

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Sinhala Act, and to get rid of Section 29 of the Soulbury Constitution, which was the only protection provided for the minorities. If in 1947 the State Council refused to accept Section 29 of the Constitution there would have been no independence in 1948. Having accepted the section which was regarded as an entrenched section, Ceylon could not have withdrawn it even by a two thirds majority. If a part could not have been withdrawn, it follows the whole constitution could not have been withdrawn. The Soulbury constitution did not provide for a new constitution. **Mrs. Bandaranaike's government had no power to introduce the 1972 constitution. She and the others elected to the House of Representatives in 1970 has no right to call themselves a Constituent Assembly, which must be elected by the people as such an assembly, only for the purpose of framing a constitution, which it was not. Fundamental rights cannot replace section 29 of the Soulbury constitution. Besides what one section of the fundamental rights gave was nullified by a subsection and or a following section.**

Apart from these matters, as the District Court judgement was not challenged after the Privy Council judgment, the fact remains that the Sinhala Only Act No. 33 of 1956 was and is an invalid Act. What justification was there at least morally and ethically to include an invalid law into the 1978 Act ?? Things have been done on the principle "Might is right." So long as Sinhala stands as the only official language there exists no basis for unity between the two major communities. Mr. Kahawita having established in his article that Sinhala Only does result in discrimination against the Tamils, has suggested in the name of national unity and progress that Sinhala, Tamil and English, be statutorily declared official languages of Sri Lanka, Others too have suggested the same thing. Will the President do it ? I wonder !

Hultsdrof,  
23.02.1982.



A FURTHER OPEN LETTER

**To**  
**Mr. Anton Wickremasinghe**

Dear Mr. Wickremasinghe,

This letter really serves as an addendum to my open letter to you dated the 6th January 1982 which was published in the *Tribune* of the 30th January 1982.

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In that letter as well as in my previous article. Point of View—Film Corporation and the Industry which had been published in the *Tribune* of the 5th September 1981, I had drawn your kind attention to the predicament of the small cinemas in the outstations which have to cater to a preponderance of Tamil—speaking audiences due to the acute paucity of Tamil (imported) films, and I had pointed out that thereby certain cinemas had to screen and re-screen stale films imported by the private distributors a quarter of a century ago. **Today the plight of these cinemas is more precarious than it was ever before as you do not have a single Tamil (imported) film in hand, and according to the information I have had, the chances of even a few films trickling in the near future is also far remote.**

Hasn't such a state of affairs created an opportunity for the previous distributors to resurrect their age old films like PALLUM PALLAMUM and PATTI-KADA PATTANAMA and screen them at their cinemas at Colombo. and Jaffna, where they would pay the Corporation only 10% of their takings ? Hasn't such a state of affairs created a situation where these films would thereafter be shuttled down the line to the small cinemas in the outstations where audiences are limited, and where perhaps these films have been screened and re-screened several times before ? Hasn't such a situation created an unprecedented demand by the small outstation cinemas for the Western films of the previous distributors where these cinemas are called upon to pay 50% or 55% of their meagre earnings as film hire, and where the Corporation earns only a distribution commission of 5% or 10% ? **It was to tide over this exasperating situation that I appealed to you through the courtesy of the Opinion columns in the ISLAND to use your powers under section 57(1) of Act No. 47 of 1971 and allow ONLY the opening release centres for Tamil (imported) films at Colombo to import one Tamil film each. I do hope you will realise the gravity of the present situation and accept my suggestion seriously.**

There is also another matter regarding which I would wish to draw your kind attention to. It is in regard to the type and quality of Tamil (imported) films selected by your Films Purchasing Delegation. This I believe is also the view of the vast majority of your exhibitors, and the Tamil-speaking audiences in this country. According to my information your Films Purchasing Delegation is largely dependant on a middle man in India who advises them on the selection of films. If this information is correct, what is the need for a middle man when up to now your Delegation has been the sole bidder for the Sri Lankan market, and when India has such a vast and fascinating range of Tamil films to offer ? It would, I think, be far more effective and far more realistic, if in future, Tamil films



hits in India are viewed over the video cassette by a committee in Sri Lanka, consisting of Corporation officials and exhibitors from the predominantly Tamil-speaking areas. Thereafter the films selected by the committee could be negotiated for either by the Cor-

poration itself, or by capable persons selected by you.

Asoka Cinema, Puttalam.  
25.02.1982.

**Asoka David**

Govt.



Notice

**Notice under section 7 of the Land Acquisition Act (Chapter 460) as amended by the Land Acquisition (Amendment) Act, No. 28 of 1964**

**Notice Under Section 7 Of The Land Acquisition Act (Chapter 460) As Amended By The Land Acquisition (Amendment) Act No. 28 Of 1964**

Reference No :

My No: 3/4/557

It is intended to acquire the land/Lands described in the Schedule below for a public purpose. For further particulars see the Gazette Extraordinary No: 182/13 dated 04.03.1982 of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka.

It is intended to acquire the land/lands described in the Schedule below. For further particulars see the Gazette No: 183 ( Part III ) dated 05-03-1982 of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka.

**SCHEDULE**

*Situation* :- Aluvihare village falling within Ward No.2(Aluvi-hare) of the Matale Municipal Council and Gampahasiya Pattuwa, Matale Divisional Revenue Officer's Division, Matale District, Central Province

*Name of Land* :- Nikakotuwawatat and Ehelagahamulayaya

*Extent* :- 54 Acres 3 Roods 28 Perches

*Plan & Lot No./Nos* :- 1 to 17 in Surveyor General's Plan No.PPMa/602

**SCHEDULE**

*Situation :* In the Village of Dangedara in ward No. 8 within the Municipal limits of Galle, in the D.R.O's Division of Four Gravets in Galle District.

*Name Of Land :-* Higgahaliadda  
Madawatha  
Bataliyadda  
Lindagawakumbura  
Bataganwilawatta

<i>Plan &amp; Lot No.</i>	Lot	1
	"	2
	"	3
	"	4
	"	5 - 12
	"	all of P.P

**W. Abeywickrema.**  
Acquiring Officer /  
District Land Officer.

The Kachcheri,  
Matale.  
2nd March 1982.

**S. K. Annaraj**  
District Land Office  
Matale District

The Kachcheri,  
Galle,  
08.02.1982.

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# MINISTRY OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT HOUSING & CONSTRUCTION NATIONAL WATER SUPPLY & DRAINAGE BOARD

## Tender for Installation of Service Meters at Existing Commercial and Industrial Service Connections within Colombo

*North Electoral District—Contract No. C/24/1*

1. The National Water Supply & Drainage Board invites sealed Tenders for the installation of Service Meters at existing commercial and industrial service connections within Colombo North electoral district.
2. The number of water meters to be installed under this contract will be as follows:-

12mm. ( $\frac{1}{2}$ " )dia. meters	200
20mm. ( $\frac{3}{4}$ " )dia. meters	1700
25mm. (1" )dia. meters	1100
32mm. ( $1\frac{1}{4}$ " )dia. meters	10
38mm. ( $1\frac{1}{2}$ " )dia. meters	20
3. The meters will be supplied by the National Water Supply & Drainage Board.
4. The tenderers shall be competent and experienced in the above work. Prospective tenderers shall produce proof of experience prior to issue of tender documents.
5. Tender documents will be available for inspection or purchase on normal working days of the Board between 9.00 a.m. and 2.30 p.m. at the office of the Deputy General Manager (Project), National Water Supply & Drainage Board, Ratmalana from 01/03/82 onwards up to 10.00 a.m. on 01/04/82.
6. All tenders shall be prepared in accordance with the conditions of tender and conditions of contract which are attached to and form part of the tender document.
7. A set of tender documents may be obtained on payment of a non-refundable fee of Rs. 300/- to the National Water Supply and Drainage Board. Additional copies of tender may be obtained on payment of a non refundable fee of Rs. 200/-
8. Foreign tenderers who wish the Board to dispatch the documents direct should forward in addition air mail charges amounting to Rs. 400/- per set of documents. Tenders will be accepted only from countries which are members of the International Bank of Reconstruction and Development and Switzerland.
9. Tenders will be received by the Chairman, Tender Board, National Water Supply & Drainage Board, P. O. Box 14, Mount Lavinia, up to 10.00 a.m. on 01/04/82.
10. Tenders will be opened immediately after 10.00 a.m. on 01/04/82 at the National Water Supply & Drainage Board Office, Galle Road, Ratmalana. Tenderers or their accredited agents may be present at the time of opening of tenders.
11. The tenders should be valid for a period of 90 days from the date of closing of tenders.
12. Any further particulars may be obtained from the Deputy General Manager (Project).

N.W.S. & D.B.  
P. O. Box 14  
Mt. Lavinia.

**N. D. Peiris,**  
CHAIRMAN

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# TRIBUNE SPORTSCOPE

## SPOTLIGHT

### Cricket & Cricketers

The Sri Lanka Cricket Team now touring Pakistan had a wet start. In normally dry Pakistan—*dry* in every sense—our team ran into a wet patch in Rawalpindi where they were scheduled to play a three-day match to loosen their muscles and have a preliminary encounter with Pakistan's cricketers. But this was not to be.

In the meantime in Pakistan, ten of Pakistan's best cricketers who had only recently returned from a tour of Australia, refused to play under Captain Miandad. They had written to the Board that they were "not available" to play under Miandad whom they alleged had put up the Manager of the team to Australia to include a complaint in this Report that the Captain had not received the co-operation of several members of the team. The President of the Board of Control for Cricket in Pakistan had threatened to resign himself if Miandad did not continue to be captain in spite of this boycott cum blackmail by ten of the best. The dissident cricketers were told that they stood in the danger of losing their registration if they persisted in their refusal to play under Miandad. Two of them then retracted and at the time of writing eight were still adamant.

In the team selected to play under Miandad against Sri Lanka in the first Test in Karachi starting on Friday March 5, the eight have been omitted. The teams chosen were **SRI LANKA:** Bandula Warnapura, Sidath Wettimuny, Roy Dias, Ranjan Madugalle, Duleep Mendis, Arjuna Ranatunga, Anura Ranasinghe, Mahes Gunetilleke, Somachandra de Silva, Ananda de Mel, Ajith de Silva and Ravi Ratnayake. **PAKISTAN:** Javed Miandad, Mansoor Akhtar, Rizwan uz Zaman, Saleem Malik, Wasimf Raja, Haroon Rashid, Iqbal Qasim, Salim Youse (wicket-keeper) Tauseef admed, Thair Naqqash

and Rashid Kahn. Reserves: Iqbal Skander, Shoaib Mohammad and Ejaz Faqih. Pakistani cricketing sources have said that the replacement for the eight "boycotters" were adequate.

Two pacemen have been included in the Sri Lanka team, Ravi Ratnayake and Asantha de Mel. The inclusion of Ratnayake has kept out left off-spinner Lalith Kaluperuma and the slow bowlers will be D. S. de Silva and Ajith de Silva. The decision to play two fast bowlers was taken after an inspection of the Karachi stadium wicket. Sri Lanka will play this Test without any match practice but the players were at the nets for two days in Karachi. Sri Lanka cricket teams have toured Pakistan on three previous occasions and the unofficial Tests were played at the Stadium in Karachi. In the first two encounters in 1950 and 1966 Sri Lanka was completely overwhelmed, but in the third in 1974 Pakistan was able to romp home to victory with just 17 runs.

Whilst the storm in Pakistan about Miandad's captaining was making headlines in that country and its immediate cricketing neighbours, the tour of the "Dirty Dozen" of English cricketers in South Africa has made world headlines and may have far reaching repercussions on international cricket and also the Commonwealth (and may be the Olympic) games. Graham Gooch, captain of the rebel team of English cricketers whose tour of South Africa set off an international furore, defended the visit but refused to comment on its political implications. He told *Reuters* at the Johannesburg hotel where the team was staying. "I am here to play cricket because it is the way I earn my living. I haven't broken any law. All of us came here with our eyes open. We each made our own decisions." Gooch was elected captain by the other 11 players in the party touring white-ruled South Africa. England captain Keith Fletcher and former captain Ian Botham and David Gower and Bob Willies have stated they were approached to join the tour but turned down the offer. Each player had been guaranteed \$ 40,000 (it can be more) and that is a lot of money even for a professional. The matter was raised in the British Parliament and Premier Margaret Thatcher had refused to interfere.

In the first day's play (Friday, March 1) of the Test match at Karachi, Pakistan won the toss and elected to bat. After a rather shaky start with 6 wickets down for 126, a 105-run stand for the seventh wicket between Haroon Raschid (66 not out) and Thair Naqqash save Pakistan from a dramatic collapse and at close of play Pakistan was 240 for 8. Asantha de Mel took 3 fr 86 and D. S. de Silva 4 for 74. Mahes Gunatilleke dismissed four Pakistan batsmen from behind the stumps.

*Allrounder*

March 2, 1982

TRIBUNE, MARCH 13, 1982



## Feb - 26 - March 4

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 26:** In *School Cricket*, Mahinda College, Galle, defeated St. Sebastians Moratuwa by an innings and 41 runs in the cricket match at the Tyronne Fernando Stadium, Moratuwa yesterday. St. Peters "A" declared at 235 for 8 and Ananda Sastralaya replied with 132 for 3 at stumps in a one day encounter at Matugama yesterday. St. Sylversters held Isipatana to a draw at Police Grounds, Kandy yesterday. Mahesh de Mel's 100 was the highlight of Sri Sumanagala's drawn match against Dharmasoka, Ambalangoda at the Panadura Esplanade yesterday. The D. S. Senanayake MV—Ananda cricket encounter ended in a tame draw on the NCC grounds at Maitland Place yesterday. St. John's Nugegoda were 86 for 3 at the close in reply to Piliyandala MMV 141 at the Colts grounds yesterday. In *Chess*, A. J. Samuel joined Lakshman Wijesuriya at the top of the Table with 8 points out of a possible nine after the Ninth and Penultimate Round of the Major (Colombo Division) chess championships. The tournament sponsored by Brooke Board Ceylon Ltd., is now on at Methodist College. The Sri Lanka team for the *Queen Sirikit Cup* which will be played later this month on the Nuwara Eliya Golf Course has been selected. The Captain and first reserve Mrs. Suwaneetha Selvaratnam, and Sri Lanka will be represented by Meera Lobo (handicap 3), Yvonne Abhayaratne (handicap 6) and Oosha Chanmugam (handicap 9). Six boys between 16 and 18 years have been offered a fellowship by UNESCO to undergo training in *Table Tennis* in Peking by Chinese International Coaches for a period of 3 months. India's Test Captain Sunil Gavaskar hit a career-best 340 in Bombay in their *Ranji Trophy Cricket* tournament quartely match against Bengal. He hit 46 fours and two sixes in this frist triple century and associated in a 421-run opening stand with Gulam Parkar who made 156. China moved one step closer to the final of the inaugural Jawaharlal Nehru invitation *International Gold Cup Football* Tournament at Calcutta, when it edged past Italy 1—0 in a rough tie, marred by poor supervision. China is now at the top of the table with six points from four encounters followed by Uruguay with four points from three matches. Vijay Amritraj was in sparkling form on the second day of the *World Championship Tennis* tournament on Tuesday when he defeated Italian Paolo Bertolucci 6-2, 6-2. Votaries of Volley ball in India in the city had an insight into the style and system perfected by Japan in the thrid and final Test at the Egmore Statium last night.

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 27:** In *Club Cricket* on a day of tall scoring, Vinodhan John's bowling in the Sara Trophy Final Round devastated the Saracens batting line up to take a season's best 8 wickets

for 28 for Bloomfield. His superb performance beat the previous best return for the season, which ironically was held by a Saracens player—7 for 69 by Tony Opatha against Police at Rifle Green on January 22. Openers Mithra Wettimuny and Dhammika Ranatunge hit centuried to enable SSC run up the highest total of the day—382 for 5. The match at Moratuwa is evenly poised between Moratuwa SC and Police: Moratuwa were bowled out for 207 and Police replied with 34 for 2. NCC's bowlers were clobbered to the tune of 321 runs by CCC at Maitland Crescent. CCC lost only six wickets batting the whole day as NCC sent down 105 overs. An opening stand of 121 in two hours by skipper Nirmal Hettiaratchy and Hemanatha Devapriya ensured that CCC got within a reasonably good score. Then Leicestershire professional Tim Boon struck his best form of the season with 63 in 165 minutes. Off spinner Ranjan de Silva was the best at the NCC bowlers finishing the day with 3 for 37 off 19 overs. Rohan Jurampathy hit the highest score of his Sara Trophy career when he scored an unbeaten 168 against Tamil Union at the Sara Stadium. Jurampathy's five hour innings enabled Air Force to end the day on 313 for 7. He has so far hit 24 hours but is lucky to be still batting today. Moratuwa SC were all out for 207 but hit back to take two Police wickets for 34 at close of play at the Tyronne Fernando Stadium here yesterday. Moratuwa SC 207: Police 34 for 2 wickets. In *School Cricket* Royal ended the first day of their match against Wesley for the Sir Frank Gunesekera Trophy in a strong position at Reid Avenue. They dismissed Wesley for 164 mainly through off spinner Rochana Jayawardene (6 for 63 in 24 overs) and hit up 138 for one by the close. Chulaka Amerasinghe and skipper Sumithra Warnakulasuriya put on 71 in an opening stand followed by an unfinished second wicket partnership of 67 by Amerasinghe and S. Nithiananda. The match will be continued today at 10 a.m. Wesley 164: Royal 138 for 1 at close. St. Joseph's were 51 for one at close of play after dismissing St. Anthoy's Katugastota for 177 at Darley Road. The Antonians who were well placed at 137 for 5, lost their last five wickets for 40 runs. Dasantha Gunawardene (52 with 8 fours) was the top scorer while Sanath Jayanetti took 6 for 32. St. Anthonys 177: St. Joseph's 51 for 1 at close. St. Thomas, Mount Lavinia look set for a big total today in their match against Trinity at Mount Lavinia. Yesterday the dismissed the Trinitians for 125 and raced to 205 for 5 in 167 minutes at close of play. Trinity 125 and S. Thomas 205 for 5 at close. Maliyadeva went on a run-spree to pile up 306 for 9 declared against Dharmaraja at Lake View yesterday. The Rajans were 75 for 1 at close of play. Maliyadeve 306 for 9 declared. Dharmaraja 75 for a at close. D. S. Senanayake MV were 35 for 3 when bad light stopped play at 5.15 p.m. in their match against Kingswood on the Police grounds yesterday Kingswood were all out for 176. Kingswood 176: D. S. Senanayake 35 for 3 at close of play. St. Johns Panadura were placed



in a comfortable position at the end of the first day's play of their match against Tissa Central, Kalutara at the the Panadura esplanade yesterday. Having dismissed Tissa Central for 89 runs St. Johns had scored 153 for 5 at close. Holy Cross were 79 for 3 at close of play in reply to Wadduwa MMV's first innings total of 139 in their match at Esplanade here yesterday. Benedictine openers Maurice Joseph (44 with 8 fours) and Bernard Shanmuganathan put on 71 in 100 minutes at the close in reply to St. Peters 227 for 7 declared at Bambalapitiya yesterday. *The Netball Federation* of Sri Lanka is going ahead with extensive preparations to send a Sri Lankan team to participate in the World Tournament in Singapore in May/June 1983. Korea kept its chances of qualifying for the final of the inaugural Jawaharlal Nehru *International Gold Cup Football* Tournament alive as it edged past Italy 4-2 in a mediocre encounter at the Eden Gardens in Calcutta. A characteristics double century by skipper Sunil Gavaskar, a workmanlike "ton" by Ghulam Parkar and their best ever opening stand for Bombay of 374 runs without being separated, put Bombay in an impregnable position at close of play on the second day of the four day *Ranji Trophy quarter-final* match against Bengal at the Aankhede Stadium today. Bombay's score of 374 for no loss surpassed the 279-run opening stand between Gavaskar and Ashok Mankad against Rajasthan in 1969.

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 28:** In *School Cricket* Royal scored a glorious eight wicket win over Wesley to retain the Sir Frank Gunasekera Trophy for the 13th successive year at Reid Avenue yesterday. A well hit 129 with 20 boundaires and 3 towering sixes by 16-year-old Chandana Mahes, his fourth century for the season helped Moratu Vidyalaya to score 263 for 7 wickets declared against Mahanama MV at Moratuwa yesterday. Earlier Royal continuing their first innings from their overnight score of 138 for 1 declared after batting for only 40 minutes this morning with the score at 179 for 5. Wesley, who made 164 in the first innings were out for 141 in the second innings. Wesley 164 and 141. Royal 169 for 4 declared. Holy Cross College, Kalutara created a ground record for the Kalutara Esplanade when they hit 311 for 8 wickets declared in their match against Wadduwa MMV. The match ended in a draw, as Wadduwa MMV who made 139 in their first innings, made 161 for 7 wickets at close of play yesterday. St. Benedicts had the better of the exchanges in their drawn match against St. Peter's at Bambalapitiya yesterday. Even exchanges ceatured the first day's play in the match between Maris Stella and St. Anthony's Wattala at Negombo yesterday. The inter-school cricket match between St. John's Nugegoda and Sr. Jayawardenapura MV played at Kotte ended in a draw, S. Thomas scored a good win over Trinity College by seven wickets to boost their morale for the big match against Royal in the second week of next month. Josephian skipper Ashley de

Silva 134 highlighted their drawn interschool cricket match against St. Anthony's Katugastota at Darley Road yesterday. Rahula made a spiited reply of 98 for 3 wickets in reply to Royal "A" total of 200 in their Inter-school cricket match, which began yesterday at Uyanwatte Esplanade. *In Club Cricket* Sinhalese Sports Club, sars several of their stars who are in Pakistan, swept to their season's highest score of 497 in their *Sara Trophy final* round match against Nomads at Maitland Place yesterday. SSC 382 for 5: Nomads 238 for 8 at close. Bloomfield too rang up a score of over 400 in their game against Saracens at Reid Avenue yesterday. Bloomfield 232 for 4 wickets overnight—all out 426. Saracens 98 for 8 wickets. Colombo Cricket Club were closer to first innings points that the NCC after yesterday's play in their final round match at Maitland Crescent. CCC 321 for 6: NCC 225 for 7 at close. Moratuwa Sports Club took first innings points yesterday their Sara Trophy final round game against Police at the Tyronne Fernando Stadium. Moratuwa SC 207 and 119 for 3: Police 34 for 2 overnight—all out 147. India proved that it is a better team than Yugoslavia when it beat the latter by 2-1 to record its first and only victory in the inaugural Jawaharlal Nehru invitation *International Golf Cup Tournament* in Calcutta.

**MONDAY, MARCH 1:** Of the five *Sara Trophy Final Round matches* completed yesterday, CCC scored the most stunning upset when they beat NCC by four wickets. Four matches ended in outright wins for CCC, SSC Bloomfield and Moratuwa SC while Air Force had to be content with first innings points over Tamil Union. NCC dismissed for 236 in their first innings. followed on and were bowled out for 225 at 4.10 p.m. CCC 388 for 9 declared and 78 for 6. NCC 225 for 7 contd. 236. Bloomfield fast bowlers Vinodhan John and Susantha Karunaratne captured 18 of the 20 wickets to fall in the match as Saracens crumbled to an innings and 80 runs defeat at Reid Avenue. Saracens 64 and 282 and Bloomfield 426. SSC wrapped up their match against Nomads by an innings and three runs with nearly an hour to spare at Maitland Place. Tamil Union gave a much improved batting display in their second innings to score 357 in their game against Air Force at the Sara Stadium. Air Force won on the first innings. Moratuwa Sports Club wrapped up their match against Police at 4.30 p.m. yesterday with a 121-run victory at the Tyronne Fernando Stadium. Set to make 258 for victory, Police were all out for 136. *In Pakistan* overnight rain washed out the first day's play today in Sri Lanka's three-day match against the Cricket Control Board Patrons XI the first of their seven match tour of Pakistan. *England cricket captain* Keith Fletcher said today that if he remained skipper for this years' Tests against India and Pakistan he would have controversial opener Geoff Boycott in his team.



**TUESDAY, MARCH 2:** *In School Cricket* D. S. Senanayake MV replied with 36 for 3 at the close to Ananda's first innings score of 205 for 7 declared at the NCC grounds yesterday. Top Seed Nirahan Casichetty will meet unseeded Ganendran Subramaniam in the under 18 Singles Finals of the Dehiwela-Mt. Lavinia Cosmopolitan Sports Club *Open Tennis Tournament* now on the club courts at Dehiwela. Anandian Laksman Wijesuriya moved a step closer to the *Major Chess Title* when he beat Nalandian Dinoo Dharmaratne in the Eighth Round. The first ever Janatha Estate Development Board (Hatton Region) *Inter-Estate Track and Field Meet* will be held at Darrowela Grounds, Dickoya on March 6 and 7. Over 2,000 workers from the 45 estates in the Hatton Region will compete at this meet which will also include a beauty contest and a contest for the best hut. *In Pakistan* the second day's play between Sri Lanka and Pakistan Cricket Control Board Patron XI in a three day match here was cancelled today because the ground was unfit for play due to rain last night. Mr. Abraham Ordia President of the Supreme Council for Sports in Africa, said today Africans would take a very serious view of the decision of *English International Cricketers* to tour South Africa this month. The Nigerian Sports leader learned of the surprise announcement that a team of 12 English players had arrived in South Africa while in transit in Zurich after a meeting last week in Addis Ababa of the Organisation of African Unity of which the Supreme Council is a specialist body.

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 3:** Italy won the last match of the league stage of the Jawaharlal Nehru invitation *International Gold Cup Football* tournament overcoming Yugoslavia 2-1 in a rough match. A storm of protests has broken out over the defection of 12 top English cricketers—five of them had recently played in India—to the controversial *Tour of South Africa* beginning this week. There is also concern in sporting circles that the Test cricketers' action could put into serious doubt next summer's tours of England by India and Pakistan and also provoke many withdrawals from the Commonwealth Games in Australia. A bright knock of 71 by C.B. Selvakumar was the feature of Reserve Bank's innings against Indian Overseas Bank in the senior division cricket league on the University Union ground on Tuesday of afternoon. Put in to bat, RBI made 191 for eight. Selvakumar hit nine 4s and a 6 out of the 69 balls he faced.

**THURSDAY, MARCH 4:** Lakshman Wijesuriya and A. J. Samuel tied for top sport in the Colombo Division of the *Major Chess Championship* at Methodist College yesterday. But only one of them will qualify for the Premier championship, said a Federation official. The Federation will decide this at their next committee meeting. Fifth seeded Suresh Subramaniam entered the men's Open Singles.

TRIBUNE, MARCH 13, 1982

Final of the Dehiwela-Mount Lavinia Cosmopolitica Sport Club *Open Tennis Championships* played on the club courts at Dehiwela. *In School Cricket* Royal made a spirited 92 for one in reply to Trinity's 240 for 8 declared in their cricket match at the Campus grounds, Peradeniya, yesterday. Trinity scored their runs in 294 minutes. Royal were on 91 for one when bad light stopped play at 4.30 p.m. The Piliyandala MMV—St. John's Nugegoda match at the Colts grounds ended in a draw yesterday. Replying to Piliyandala's score of 141. St. Johns declared at 229 for 7 with Chandimal Jayasuriya scoring 119 Piliyandala 141 and 138 for 5 at stumps. St. John's Nugegoda 229 for 7 declared. *England's Cricket authorities* said today they made a last-minute appeal to the rebel players to call off a private tour of white-ruled South Africa and cut short an international row. The Test and County Cricket Board, Governing Body of the Sport in England said it sent a letter last night to the 12 who began their first match in Pretoria today. The team of England cricketers making a controversial tour of South Africa were 61 for three at lurch on the first day of their opening two-day match against an under 25 South African side today.



LEARNING TO PLAY

## Test Cricket

By C. J. Anandappa

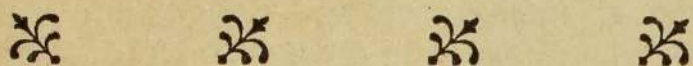
"The only way to learn to play the fiddle" a wag once said "is to play the fiddle". Likewise, the only way to learn to play test cricket, is to play test cricket. Losing may not warm the cockles of cricket lovers hearts. So quite naturally all Sri Lanka cricket fans would have wished a Sri Lanka victory in the inaugural First Test. The prospects were promising. We had notched an exciting win in the second one day international after many losing the first one day game in a memorable finish. Many would have poo-pooed the idea of a Sri Lanka test victory as mere wishful thinking.

On the first three days of play it looked no easy pushover for either side. Apparently the seeds of defeat were sown by the Sri Lanka cricketers during the first half hour of play on Sunday morning. We consoled ourselves that our spinners would hit back. But did we have an Underwood and an Emburey in the team? This defeat is no disgrace. Neither is it the opportunity for those cynics who blocked Sri Lanka's entry to ICC to nod their heads gleefully with "I am not surprised I told you so" Australia defeated England in the first ever test in 1877; South Africa, West Indies New Zealand, India and Pakistan suffered convincing defeats in their test debuts. We would have been overjoyed



if Sri Lanka won the inaugural test. But that was not to be.

There will be many points of view as there are cricket pundits. But one thing was too clear. On that Sunday morning many spectators could not help thinking that Sri Lanka Cricketers were taking the field with Saturday night's hangover; or that had all reached the end of the road after four days of cricket against top notch professionals to whom the playing area is a massive chess board and who won't let up even if it meant another three gruelling days under the fierce tropical sun. As I said earlier the only way to learn to play test cricket is to play Test Cricket. Our Cricketers should learn a little more in Pakistan. That itself is justification for the tour..  
255, Station Road,  
Kandana.



LETTER

## Cricket Souvenir

Sir,

RE the article "Sportscope" by Allrounder in the Tribune of 27th February, I would be grateful if you will publish this note. I am sending you the Souvenir publication with everything written out on the contents page so that you can check my statements. This Souvenir is the 25th in which my name has appeared as Editor. I also wrote "The 100 Years of Rugby Football In Sri Lanka (1879-1979) for the Ceylon Rugby Football Union; the History of The CR and FC "Four Score and Ten", History of Royal-St. Thomas (1880-1979), The Royal College Old Boy's Union has now entrusted me with the writing of the History of Royal College.

It is not easy to collect past material. For me it has meant hours and days for about 20 years in the dusty rooms of the Archives and at the Museum Library—it has been hard work collecting all this. *Allrounder* refers to father and son domination. A count of the articles (including Reminiscences of Past Captains and Statistical Survey) show 20 in all. Of which 13 are by different writers (of the other 7 five are by me as Editor and one by my son Mahinda). I don't think this is domination. I know, it is easy to add, subtract and divide what appears in English cricket publications and publish them. It is the shortest cut to statistics. To collect and work out figures in Sri Lanka's FC cricket is not easy. For nearly 40 years I have collected material which is extensive.

You will note 82 photographs on the publication (small and groups). I had started collecting these photographs from my school days. Of these 52 photographs are from my collection. In this I admit I dominate as no one has taken the trouble to collect any items, Mind you these 52 refer only to visits of English teams.

You may not be aware that the Board of Control relies on me to get any background material on Sri Lanka cricket. The Board itself has no library or museum which the Board intends establishing shortly. The contents of the publications were perused by the President and the Control Committee before being sent to the printers. The Lanka players pen sketches were written by Harold Andrado and Archibald Perera. *Re* Dr. N. M. Perera, who was President for 1½ yaers. All the personalities are not past presidents and those selected were from a period when things were extremely difficult financially and in every respect. S. P. Foenander and F. L. Goonawardene are not Past Presidents. *Re* the omission of names of certain officials: this was an error by the typists which was subsequently corrected but omitted in print. This error is regretted.

*Allrounder* has only spotlighted faults. I am sure he is aware that the source that pinpointed father and son combination also vehemently argued that no Sinhalese and Tamil articles should be included. It was on my insistence that these came to be included in the publication. I would be grateful if you would publish my version which is quite contradictory to *Allrounder's* version.

11, Clifford Avenue,  
Colombo 3.  
3.3.1982.

S. S. Perera

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# Turbine Tender

IS IT NOT A FACT that a Damocles sword of a power cut hangs over consumers of electricity in this country? That a report in the *Ceylon Daily News* of February 27 stated that: "The Deputy Minister of Power and Energy, Mr. P. Dayaratne yesterday discounted the possibility of an immediate power cut and said, "The Government is trying to avoid a cut but may not succeed without the cooperation of the consumers'. He told a news conference that the present total demand for power was 6 million units a day. But the reservoirs at Mousakelle and Castle-reagh, which were the mainstay of the national grid, supply only half this at present. Of the six turbines available to bridge the shortfall in hydro-power, two were defective and out of commission. The other four turbines were running to capacity and could not cope with the load. The CEB had hoped to re-commission the other two turbines soon. Till then, there must be economy in power use. The only other alternative was to restrict supply. The board also has to stretch the rapidly diminishing water in the two main reservoirs till at least May when the rains are expected. "There is another facet to the problem," said the Deputy Minister. "The CEB incurs nearly Rs. 6 million a day to keep the gas turbines running. The cost of the fuel burnt will have to be passed on to the consumer'. ..."? That, thereafter on March 2 the *Ceylon Observer* published a statement from the General Manager of the Ceylon Electricity Board that "there will be no power cuts at least till the end of April. The water still available would be adequate to generate power till then.."? That in the same news report Mr. Boniface, Deputy General Manager (Generation) said that "the commissioning of the repaired gas turbine was almost ready and the oil purification process was going on and the installation was building up. The entire cost of the repair to the gas turbine will be borne by the French contractors as it has failed to function when first commissioned by them last year"?

THAT readers of *Tribune* will recall that *Tribune* had warned the CEB and the Government in 1980 and 1981 about the "French Connection" in the Department of Electricity? That French gas turbines were not the best or the cheapest? That at that time there were suggestions that the tender specifications had been tailored to suit the French supplier although there were other manufacturers who had better and more sophisticated products? That it was also then alleged that little or no time was given for other reputed suppliers (who had no secret pre-knowledge of the specifications) to submit

comprehensive offers? That the French connection had also created problems between the Board, the Department and the Ministry? That we do not want to hark back to old history (unless we have to)? That for the present it is sufficient to mention that of the three turbines supplied by the French two failed to function from the start? That the performance of the third has not been up to scratch? That three other turbines ordered from a British firm have functioned satisfactorily? That, nevertheless, it was alleged by many who knew the turbine business that the best offers had been shortcircuited for reasons best not talked about at this juncture? That it must be mentioned that Mr. Boniface very complacently (and smugly) stated that the French contractor was paying for the repairs in full? That this is not enough? That the French contractors should be made to pay damages for the loss incurred by the country (and the surcharges paid by consumers) because the gas turbines were defective and failed to start working on the contracted date? That there is till no guarantee that the repaired turbines will function properly for any length of time? That the Consultants of the CEB, who were responsible for examining the turbines before shipment, should also be taken to task? That, in the meantime, the Sri Lanka government is now in the market for more gas turbines? That the date for the tenders for gas turbines, which were scheduled to close on 24th March, have been extended to April 8 and that another tender for a transformer which should have been "finalised" on March 11 has been extended to March 26? That international firms of repute from Switzerland and West Germany, among others, are said to have voiced protests about the way the tenders were being handled? That in commercial circles it is alleged that specifications were again tailored to suit the French connection which had supplied defective turbines earlier and that insufficient time was given for other manufacturers to submit tenders because the specifications were specially devised for another manufacturer? That it is hard to believe that in the Ministry now under the President and with a (CEB) Chairman-cum-Secretary of the calibre of Prof. K. K. Y. Perera, the old French hands in the Department would be up to the same old monkey tricks? That the kind of smoke now seen cannot be without a fire? That, furthermore the same kind of allegations about the "French connection" have begun to circulate? That the President, the Deputy Minister and the Chairman (CEB) would do well to find out if there is even an iota of truth in the allegations? That if they are untrue it would be best to clear the atmosphere that there is no hanky panky in the new gas turbine tenders? That this can best be done by ensuring that other reputed manufacturers (not merely the French) get a fair chance of submitting tenders for the US \$ 60 million (approximately) tenders?



TRIBUNE, MARCH 13, 1982



# MINISTRY OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT, HOUSING & CONSTRUCTION

## NATIONAL HOUSING DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

### VACANCIES FOR ENGINEERS

Applications are invited from citizens of Sri Lanka for the undermentioned posts in the National Housing Development Authority, to be filled immediately:

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*Note:* Eligible applicants are requested to *call over with their applications*, indicating the Bio-Data, at 8.30 a.m. on any working day, and meet the Deputy General Manager (Administration) at the undermentioned address.

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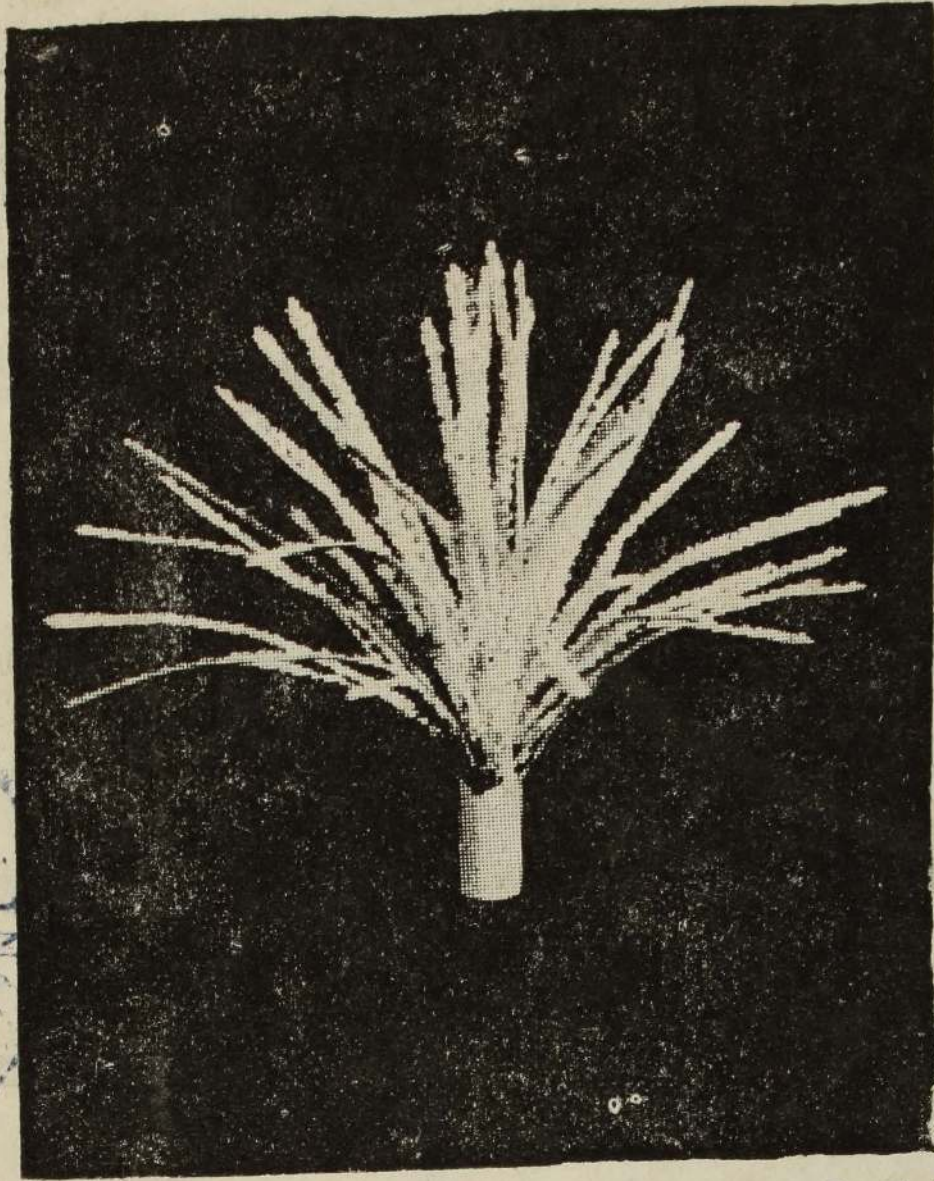
*Salary:* Negotiable

Appointments on contract basis will also be considered.

Eligible applicants are requested to send in their applications under registered cover, to reach me on or before *20th March, 1982*.

**CHAIRMAN,**  
NATIONAL HOUSING DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY,  
5th floor,  
National Housing Secretariat,  
Sir Chittampalam Gardiner Mawatha,  
Colombo 2.  
5th March, 1982





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