

2/8/86

Rs. 3-00

# Saturday Review

## SRI LANKA

Vol. 5

No. 28

2nd August 1986

# India Torpedoes Merger?

(By D. B. S. Jeyaraj)

Have Tamil aspirations for a single Unit of Devolution comprising Tamil-speaking regions of the Northern and Eastern Provinces been torpedoed by India?

This is the question that is doing the rounds in diplomatic and political circles in Colombo following the fateful telephonic messages from New Delhi to Colombo during the Govt. — T. U. L. F. talks.

The SATURDAY REVIEW learns that there were two messages from the South Block Pundits to the negotiating parties in Colombo—the Government and the T. U. L. F.

Both the T. U. L. F. and the Government were told in clear terms that the powers in Delhi were not in favour of a North-East merger.

"We have no sympathy with the demand for a single linguistic Unit" was the message. This was the first time that India had categorically informed Colombo of its position.

Indian Premier Rajiv had earlier stated that New Delhi could not pressurise Colombo into conceding anything beyond what was provided for in the Indian Constitution. He said however that the Sri Lanka Government could grant greater concessions if it wished to do so.

The Tamils interpreted this as a comment in favour of a linguistic State for Tamils as in the Indian Constitution.

When Romesh Bandari came to Sri Lanka last year his brief was clear.

"India will turn a blind-eye to the North-East linkage if a directly-elected Provincial Council with clearly devolved powers was envisaged."

From a "blind-eye", New Delhi seems to be now giving the glad-eye to the opponents of a Tamil-speaking Unit. But why did New Delhi indulge in a gaffe by thwarting the Tamil demand while negotiations were in progress in Colombo?

We understand that sections in the Government though opposed to a complete merger were willing to consider alternatives like an extension of the Northern Province boundaries and re-demarcation of the East, so that the Tamil areas would form one Unit.

With India cutting the ground from under the T.U.L.F.'s feet the hostile sections of the Government were able to assert their position against accommodation.

Despite India's act, TULF continues to stress the North-East linkage.

SATURDAY REVIEW understands that New Delhi's thinking was that since the North-East merger was the stumbling block in reaching an accord the stumbling block should be removed.

Such naivete was displayed by India on earlier occasions too where the "big brother" tried to ram instant solutions down Tamil throats.

We warned India earlier on similar occasions "India cannot dictate (SR-3.8.85), "False move by Rajiv" (31.8.85). India and all participants at the P. P. C. are fully aware that the integrity of the traditional Tamil homelands is a fundamental issue to Tamils — militant and non-militant.

If a genuine solution is desired then this fundamental demand has to be accommodated at least partially not rejected outright.

India should be the first to realise this. Is India continuing with its superficial foreign policy approach which has blundered time and again on the Sri Lanka issue? During Thimpu India exposed its cards, now it seems to be laying its cards on the table. On the other hand is India in favour of a truncated Tamil region to prevent future impact on Tamil Nadu.

Is some latter-day Kautilya wishing that the talks should collapse. We must know the answer.

## 9 - YEAR - OLD DETENU A SERVANT IN MILITARY OFFICER'S HOUSE

A 9-year old Tamil boy, Madhavan, who was taken into custody in January in Malwatte in the Amparai district, is now working as a domestic servant in the house of a high ranking military officer.

This fact has been brought to the notice of President Jayewardene.

Madhavan is the son of a local TULF leader, Mr. Thangathurai.

President Jayewardene assured the TULF delegation, which brought this matter personally to his notice, that he would take immediate action.

The Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation has gone over the air saying that the SATURDAY REVIEW has now become pro-government.

We repeat what we have always maintained. Our stand on the problem of the Sri Lanka Tamils remains unchanged.

## INVITE THE 'BOYS' TO THE TABLE

'INVITE THE TIGERS TO THE TABLE.'

We said this in the SATURDAY REVIEW on 29th September, 1984. We say it again now.

No settlement of the ethnic problem will be workable without the concurrence and co-operation of 'The Boys'. The venue this time should be Colombo, not Thimpu or Khatmandu.

We repeat Invite them....

## COMINGS AND GOINGS

There is hectic activity in Indo-Lankan official circles to effect an accord on the Sri Lankan national question before September. Both Heads of State are scheduled to attend the 8th Non-Aligned Nation Summit in Zimbabwe on 1st and 2nd September. Messrs. Gandhi and Jayewardene are keen to resolve the issue before the meet.

One of the main actors, the T.U.L.F., after consultations in India is expected to return to Sri Lanka on Aug. 16th.

National Security Minister Lalith Athulathmudali will leave Sri Lanka on Aug. 9th while Prime Minister Premadasa who is abroad will return on Aug. 10th.

## TIGERS SEND DEVA BACK

Home Affairs Minister K. W. Devanayagam had to abruptly cancel a programme in his home constituency, Chenkallady, and leave for Colombo following an assault by the Tigers which left a police driver dead and a policeman and a Special Task Force officer seriously injured.

## 'No', Says Praba

Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam leader V. Prabahakaran has announced that President Jayewardene's Provincial Councils proposals cannot form the basis for negotiations to end Sri Lanka's ethnic crisis.

## SHUT UP, SLBC

In our issue of 26th July 1986 we only said this: "We urge, in all sincerity, to all parties concerned, to accept President Jayewardene's proposals. This cannot represent the final solution".

We said that these are not final solutions. President J.R. Jayewardene's proposals are not final. They only form a basis for negotiations.



## Saturday Review SRI LANKA

No. 118, 4th Cross Street,  
P. O. Box 122  
JAFFNA.

Telegrams: SATVIEW

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## Fort Shelled

Two soldiers were killed while three were injured on 29-7-86 when Tamil Militants fired mortars at the Jaffna Fort. Two of the injured were a Lt. Colonel and a Captain. Both the L.T.T.E. and E.P.R.L.F. have claimed responsibility.

## TOEFL

And Yrs 9, 10, 11 English  
Language Classes will com-  
mence on 15th August 1986 at

17/32A PANDARAKULAM  
WEST LANE, NALLUR  
(Off Temple Road).

Contact —

Lt. Col. K. BALENDRA  
(Formerly of Jaffna Central  
College).

at the above address for parti-  
culars before 12th August.

# Army Regiments On Ethnic Basis

Excerpts from a Ceylon Workers Congress response to the Political Parties Conference.

We note that in the present proposals while the province has been selected as the unit of devolution it has been suggested that provisions could be made for inter-provincial co-ordination in matters of mutual interest and concern. This is a welcome approach and should have a constitutional guarantee. It is important to clearly define the nature of the duties to be performed by the inter-provincial co-ordinating council, its organisation and procedure. Simplified procedures should be adopted in the formation of such Councils.

National policy on any matter should be formed after due consultation with the Provincial Chief Ministers and taking into account the views and needs of inter-provincial bodies.

The Ceylon Workers Congress commends to this conference a scheme of demarcation and creation of an additional province without altering the boundaries of the present provinces, but by a demarcation within one of the present provinces. In the Eastern province all the Tamil areas could be brought together into a single additional province.

### EXECUTIVE POWER

According to the proposal as presently formulated legislative power is given directly to the provincial council while executive power is to be delegated to a Governor appointed by the President.

The nature of the Governor's powers needs to be clarified in order to avoid future uncertainties and disappointments. It should be clearly stated that executive power will be exercised by the Chief Minister who will be chosen by the Provincial Council and be responsible to the Provincial Council.

Once the Provincial Councils are established the allocation of finance from the Central Government will be a critical issue. The satisfactory working of the Provincial Councils will be very much dependent on the proper allocation of finances. It is therefore desirable that legislation providing for provincial councils spell out clearly the principles on which the allocation of funds will be made eg. on basis of population, relative needs of development, past allocations, specific projects, grants, investments etc. The Financial Commission should

have sufficient minority representation and it must have a certain degree of autonomy. It is necessary that the Financial Commission should be one of a long term character. It is well to remember that the District Council scheme of 1981 failed in large measure due to poor arrangements in allocation of finances.

### ELECTIONS

A welcome feature of the proposals is that suitable legal and institutional arrangements are to be made to ensure that the ethnic groups in each province participate in the government of the province. In order to achieve this objective electoral system and the system of counting of votes should be so designed as to enable sizeable ethnic minorities within a province to have representatives in the Provincial Councils in accordance with population proportions.

### INDIAN ORIGIN TAMILS

Indian origin Tamils are living in concentration in certain provinces while they are dispersed in others. Although they fall within the larger Tamil identity they have nevertheless certain distinct characteristics and distinct problems. In view of the special disabilities to which these people have been subject to in the past and also recognizing that they are now gradually become citizens of Sri Lanka special efforts will be necessary to make this ethnic community to reach national level.

It is necessary to upgrade and improve the quality of life of people belonging to this disadvantaged community most of whom are plantation workers and / or their descendants. Those among who were stateless will some day be citizens and it is essential

— CWC

that special attention should be paid to all factors that contribute to the groups' quality of life, health, education, welfare, culture, leisure recreation, economics, security, etc.

For this purpose, it would be best if a Special Unit is attached to each Ministry in the Central and in Provincial Governments until their condition reaches the national average. This will be the easiest and quickest way of ensuring the growth of a common Sri Lanka identity because true integration can come about only if the standard of living of all component sections in the country are reasonably equalised.

### LOCAL GOVERNMENT

The CWC proposes that taking into consideration complexities of ethno-demography that a flexible approach should be adopted in the demarcation of AGA Divisions. Contiguity alone should not be the criteria in demarcation. The principles that have been adopted in the case of certain AGA divisions in Vavuniya should be adopted elsewhere also.

Estates are Special settlement institutions and there are common factors among estate settlements. It would therefore be useful to cluster together estates to form viable units of local self government to enable a realistic participation by the people in the organisation of their own affairs.

### SHARING AT THE CENTRE

To make devolution of power to provinces meaningful there should be adequate provision at the centre

(Continued on page 7)

## REFUGEES HELP REFUGEES

The Tamil youths who are refugees in West Germany have not forgotten their people here, especially those displaced.

From the help the West German Government is giving, approximately D.M. 350, which is not sufficient to meet the barest necessities, over 200 of them resident in the cities Wuppertal Witten have contributed sums ranging from D.M. 5 to D.M. 10 for refugee relief work in the North, raising a total of D.M. 1500. This money has been sent to the SATURDAY REVIEW EDITOR'S REFUGEE RELIEF FUND

through the South Asia Bureau of Wuppertal Witten.

The German members of the South Asia Bureau have contributed a matching sum, so that we received just D.M. 3000, approximately Rs. 40,000/-, this week. A Big THANK YOU to the German people and the Tamil youths.

The refugee problem in the North appears to be unending, with the number of displaced persons since 1983 now totalling over one lakh, while another one lakh, have lost their means of livelihood after the Government imposed a total ban on fishing in the Northern waters in March this year.



# CTB BUS HELI-BOMBED

I will not be seen cycling in Jaffna for sometime for I have come down to Colombo on a 'holiday'.

Colombo is now like Singapore, or even Tokyo, compared to Jaffna.

Oh, Jaffna still living in the 19th century, while Colombo (not other parts of the South is already in the 21st century!

More Jaffna people must come and see Colombo. Then they will get ideas on how to develop the homeland fast.

Coming to Colombo is the problem, as I found to my discomfiture two weeks ago.

I set off to Anuradhapura by S. L. T. B. bus at 6.10 a. m. on July 13th. I had a reserved seat and from my comfortable perch, I looked contemptuously at all those souls who had not been prepared to contribute Rs. 5/- more to state revenue and were suffering for it. The bus was jam-packed. Sardines could have been more comfortable in their tins.

Half an hour delay for a tyre change. Why the blokes could not check the tyres before leaving, I could not understand. Never mind. We were on the way to Singapore, sorry Colombo.

By 9.15 a. m. we were at Paranthan. Good show — 20 miles per hour despite the rutty roads which drives one nutty.

Kilinochchi has been out of bounds for several weeks since the clashes between the militants and security forces and the blowing-up of a bridge in June. We stopped at Visvamadu at 10 a. m. for breakfast. More passengers got in. One was a woman with a babe in her arms.

None would give her a seat. What to do? I got up to do so and then my trouble started. There was so much luggage that I could place only one foot on the floor. Up to Mullaitivu I had to shift weight from one leg to the other.

I wish Transport Minister Mohamed had travelled with me! Anyway, I think I have qualified for the Guinness Book of Records for the longest time standing on one foot.

By the time the bus reached Mullaitivu I felt like something the cat had brought home the night before.

It was too much for my old bones. I got off at Mullaitivu

although I had paid the full fare to Anuradhapura. (The fare originally was Rs. 20/50 and then it was upped to Rs. 30/50. Now it is Rs. 53/-).

I had a good time at Mullaitivu meeting old friends who treated me lavishly.

I visited a number of the refugee camps with some officials. There are nearly 10,000 displaced persons in Mullaitivu, majority of them from Trincomalee and Vavuniya. They are in need of assistance because the government dole is grossly inadequate. I promised some help from the S. R. Fund, especially to buy milk foods.

Next morning at 6.00 a. m. I left for Anuradhapura by bus. Passed Nedunkerni (where a few days later a bus was fired at from a helicopter resulting in the death of about 15 passengers), Omanthai (where the bus had to make a detour to avoid the army), Puliyankulam (where it re-entered the Kandy — Jaffna Road) and on to Vavuniya. The time was 9.40 a. m.

There was something wrong with the bus and it was taken to the Vavuniya Depot. It was 10.45 a. m. when it left Vavuniya.

Vavuniya town was near normal bustling with activity after several convulsions which left it bereft of people for sometime but in the outskirts I saw many houses with doors and windows opened, but no people. What happened? Ask Lankapuwath.

At the Maitripura police checkpoint, the passengers were asked to get down and walk across the barrier while the bus followed. There was no checking. The policemen just smiled at us. How nice.

It was 12.30 p. m. when the bus reached Anuradhapura. Six and a half hours for a journey that could have been done in half the time were the roads not so broken and there were no check-points.

Lunch and a quick tour of a part of the Sacred City before the train left at 2.15 p. m. for Singapore, sorry Colombo. The train reached Colombo around 8.00 p. m. Thanks to Transport Minister Mohamed.

Blame the Boys for all the travails of travel? I say that even if the Boys had remained inactive, Transport Minister would have been able to deliver the goods (passengers) in good shape

and in good time. It is one of the most inefficient Ministries. I am astounded that more people do not complain about the torture they have to undergo in travelling between the North and South.

It is unfair to blame Mr. Mohamed for this for situation. The whole Government is to blame.

Mr Mohamed is a very, very small wheel in a big cog. Yet he has failed in his job.

## 'Here Comes A Heli'

A passenger on the ill-fated bus which was 'heli-bombed' at Nedunkerni on the 17th told SATURDAY REVIEW of his experience. Attorney-at-law Selvadurai Kanagarajah Manoharan alias Kanagamanoharan related to the S. R. a vivid account of the incident.

I am an Attorney-at-Law by profession practicing chiefly in the Magistrate's Court of Mullaitivu, Vavuniya and Mannar and in the High Court of Anuradhapura. I am also the Secretary of the Mullaitivu Bar Association.

On 17-7-86 I left Mullaitivu at about 6.15 A. M. by the N. R. T. B. bus bound to Vavuniya. I do not know the number of the same. But both the Driver (Mr. Emmanuel) and the Conductor (Mr. Kengatharan) were known to me.

The bus in which I travelled, covered about 17 miles and arrived at Tharduwan at 7.15 A. M. or so. A few villagers stopped the bus and cautioned us not to proceed any further as there was some trouble at Nedunkerni area by Army Personnel. Consequently, the bus was parked there for a short while.

Later, with the purpose of providing shelter to all the inmates of the bus, the Driver took the bus a little further in the direction of Nedunkerni and parked the same just in front of Tharduwan Government School. We, the passengers, were in and around the school building for about 3 hours. As Nedunkerni was within 2 miles from there, I was able to hear the reports of guns and sounds of bomb blast; intermittently. A helicopter continued to hover over Nedunkerni. At times it circled above us.

As passengers exerted pressure on the Driver to turn back, he turned the bus and drove it in the direction of Mullaitivu. While proceeding, all of a sudden, my co-passengers, especially the ladies, raised cries. They shouted out "Here comes a 'Heli' It is going to shoot" I attempted to calm them by telling, "Please don't get panicky. This is a state-owned bus. Nothing will happen" I saw a helicopter flying fairly low and going ahead of us. It came back once again towards us within a few seconds and dropped a bomb, which pierced through the hood

I say he is unfit to be Minister of Transport, something which I first said eight years ago.

Mr. Mohamed; what is your reply (which S. R. is willing to publish in full)?

It's good to be in Colombo with its fun cities. I am having a whale of a time.

The problem is how I am going to go back to Jaffna.

Will Mr. Mohamed oblige, by extending the train service to Jaffna?

— GAMINI NAVARATNE

and alighted between the engine and the foot-board. I heard a terrible blast. I think I was dazed.

When I regained my senses, I found most of the passengers, had fled from the bus except the injured who were shrieking in agony. I observed six dead bodies including that of the Driver, a young girl and an old lady, whom I later learned as a retired mid-wife, in the bus itself. When I got out of the bus, I noticed another corpse on the road, behind the bus. I assisted certain injured persons to leave the bus. Gradually, those in the neighbourhood started gathering at the scene of the incident. With their assistance, we transported the injured persons to Mullaitivu in a tractor. On our way, an injured female succumbed to her injuries.

Subsequently, the injured persons were transferred to a passing lorry. Before we reached Mullaitivu, an injured youngster also passed away.

We were warded in the Base Hospital, Mullaitivu and underwent treatment. Three (3) patients, whose conditions were critical, were dispatched to the General Hospital, Jaffna by an ambulance. Later (at 5 P. M.) I was transferred to Jaffna Hospital along with 7 other victims of the said air shelling by the District Medical Officer (D. M. O.) Mullaitivu by a special service bus provided by Mullaitivu N. R. T. B. depot. We were held up by the army officials at the Elephant Pass Check point for about 45 minutes. By the time, we reached our destination (at 10.30 p. m. on 17.07.1986) another Muslim patient by the name Fareed Faizal was dead. I was admitted in the surgical ward. I have multiple punctured wounds in my neck, nose, forehead and head caused by the splinters of the bomb. I still have severe pain in my left side ribs. Owing to the shock created by the bomb blast I have totally lost the hearing faculty of my right ear, as a consequence of perforations of my ear drum.

To the best of my knowledge and belief, there were no militants in the above said ill-fated bus and all those who died and were injured are civilians.



# 'PROSAIC' NORTH AND EAST

It is always said of the North and East that there is nowhere in them a beautiful sight upon which a man could rest his eyes, without having them tortured by something ugly near by.

Undoubtedly, mountains, lakes and rugged terrain in the South and Central hills of the Island, are obvious examples of cultural assets with striking landscapes. North and East, with no mountains, were made worse by the destruction man has wreaked on his surroundings. The causes for the prosaic, parched look of the region are not solely neglect, abuse, and careless manipulation but the lack of an aesthetic conscience in dealing with environment.

We inherited a prosaic region and the arid wastelands of it too are increasing. High environmental temperatures put excessive demands upon the heat-regulating mechanisms of our bodies and our women and children in particular, are becoming scorched land spectre thin.

Sweltering atmosphere has always been our lot that fate and chance had bestowed on us. We have learnt to live with it. For the people of the North and East, the arid land has already become a way of life. Of course, the taste, if any we have, for arid land living, is a cultivated one.

Self-immolation, as a method of showing protest in private and public life is of recent origin. With a longstanding 'anti-convenience' tradition, a delight in needless suffering has come to be a value of life, licked to shape, to suit a supposed spiritual development. Unwarranted, out-of-place asceticism has made us imagine even commonplace things as luxuries and also to feel that, humble selves as we are, we have not the right to wealth, power, social importance, high office and even to a habitable environment.

## LIKING FOR BEAUTY

Although we must avoid the irresponsible attitude of dreaming up any image, be it in the Marxist line or Gandhian way, we should get to know that the traditional values are already dead and that new ones should take their place.

The new Values we need to know may be Aesthetic or Spiritual, reflecting the principle that beauty is an end in itself, and

that man will find relaxation, renewed strength and inspiration in the views of rivers, sea-shores, bays and tall trees.

Although much of the artistic life in us has now evaporated, tradition handed down by our ancestors to posterity had much of it. "The divinity draws near willingly", we read in a Vaisnava text, "if images are beautiful". A statue without beauty is a faulty instrument, as useless as a leaking pot; or worse, it may be dangerous, for it will offend the invited God". "An ugly place of residence can excite his wrath, and so create a situation beyond the control of the devotee."

The adoption by all societal groups of ecological thinking is the most welcome surprise of the post-war world. It is encouraging today to know that the best writing in all the leading languages has concerned itself with the rape of the environment.

by

Mallika Rasaratnam

In the English language, it is not unusual for novels of any period to incorporate descriptions of landscapes. They helped youth to love landscape. One would never come across a more fascinating description of a town with all its drudgery, monotony and ills than in Dickens' *Hard Times* and one cannot think of a better environmentalist than Dickens who was able to improve the city and the peoples' lives, without prescribing a single architectural remedy.

It is a pity that although so many of our Tamil poets and writers call themselves enlightened, progressive and realistic, very few of them have affected our way of seeing natural and man-made scenes by bringing to our attention aspects that might otherwise never have been revealed. To my knowledge, a good deal of visual images, painted by most of our Tamil poets and writers are often borrowed from literary sources.

## TREES AND USES

Green plants add more to a soil than they extract from it, for they absorb only small amounts of soluble minerals, and they return these plus even greater quantities of organic materials such as celluloses, lignins, starches, sugars, fats and proteins. The addition of these high-energy compounds to a

soil makes it possible for vast and complex groups of saprophytic soil organisms to develop and in turn other series of organisms which parasitize these saprophytes develop.

Even a cover of low herbaceous plants strongly reduces the velocity of wind along the ground, and forest cover, especially where the canopies of individual trees are staggered at different heights, reduces the velocity as much as eighty percent. Special plantations of trees or shrubs are often made with a view to providing protection against wind for fields, orchards, buildings and livestock. A wind-break or shelterbelt is a densely planted strip of tall vegetation, usually between 50 and 200 feet wide, oriented at right angles to the direction of prevailing winds in order to reduce their velocity near the ground.

Even a thin shade strongly reduces the heating of soil by solar

radiation, and under full shade, soil-surface temperatures remain cooler than air temperatures even during the hottest part of the day.

Besides being a scientific curiosity, the tree encourages our aesthetic sensibilities which are an important contribution to the cultural development of mankind. Wordsworth was intensely aware of the effects of landscapes and solitary tall trees on the eye. In the western world, trees became the temples of the educated middle class.

In initiating a love of landscapes and also an admiration for the poetry that is diffused in the view of a tree, Tamil writers must try to be like that someone who points out the view, someone who recognizes the value of what is to be seen.

Japan, a country so full of plant and flower admirers, is perhaps the world leader of specialized collections. Fuji botanical gardens is devoted exclusively to bamboo. There are more than fifty cherry resorts in Japan, where from the unfolding of the flower to petal fall there is always somebody watching; and even some individual trees in Japan are classed as national monuments.

Nepal has been supplying the World with medicinal herbs for at least 2,000 years and these products still form a large part of her export trade.

Already by the 19th century, in America and France, almost any

city of importance had its botanical garden or park (with all its trees carefully labelled and with illustrated descriptions), many of them adding to their primary purpose (taxonomic importance) the facilities of a pleasure ground.

An unusual example of pastoral preservation is to be found among the new buildings of the University of Victoria on Vancouver island, where, owing to the protests of the students and faculty, a large, rough piece of grassland has been kept in the middle of the campus, unmoved and inviolate. Until recently it was the only breeding ground in North America of the imported English skylark, which can be heard trilling overhead all summer long.

The new garden art has been a rising business culture in all the developing countries. Nature's wayward materials are used to create poetic landscapes in plots of land. In Boulogne-Sur-Seine (France) a small private park, now owned by the city of Paris, is used as a place for official garden-parties, with musicians hidden in a palmarium. During nocturnal receptions, electrical installations would illuminate successive garden scenes as the guests wandered through them, leaving other parts of the ground in darkness.

Apart from biological research, a new role for botanical gardens closely related to our pursuit of landscape appreciation is conservation of the world's flora. This goes beyond their 'museum' function, and beyond the role that many (like the new garden at Canberra, Australia) have adopted, that of collector of native flora. The new role is the safeguarding of stocks of threatened species.

With the vanishing traditional forests, several valuable indigenous tree species are disappearing. The native trees which had strong cultural and religious links with the community are being replaced with exotic species. Official re-forestation policy has been neglecting both the potential of indigenous genetic resources and local human needs. Expansive monocultures of Eucalyptus, tropical pine and teak are raised in the name of afforestation, and such mono-culture forests can bring out adverse changes in the environment.

The North and East, with a diversity of plant species boast of trees with many useful properties. Even if the growth rate and its consequent economies are the decisive factors in selecting the species for afforestation, many indigenous species such as *Sesbania grandiflora* (Agathi), *Pongamia pinnata* (pungam), *Sesbania Bispinose* banyan and bael (vilvam), can be ideal alternatives to exotic species. Some hardy trees such as tamarind, jak and mango are good insurance crops for the small and marginal farmers, and they come to the rescue of poor farmers in times of drought and crop failure.



A woman from Pavatkulam, Vavuniya is receiving treatment at the Jaffna Hospital for injuries sustained at the hands of uniformed men in khaki and grey.

Mrs. Selvarasa Thevi who saw her mother, brother and two sisters being shot in front of her told SATURDAY REVIEW the circumstances in which the shooting occurred.

I was living with my brother Subramaniam Veerasingam (38), my mother Mrs. Subramaniam Parasakthi (48); sisters Yogamangalam (19), Jeyamany (13), my youngest sister and two children at Pavatkulam for the last six years as my husband has deserted me.

On 13-7-86 at about 2-15 p.m. I was having lunch with my two sisters Yogamangalam and Jeyamany. My youngest sister and my two children had gone to another house to play. My brother and mother were sleeping in a room. At that time three uniformed men came in a jeep and stopped in front of our house. They then got down and walked towards our house. Two of the uniformed men were clad in Khaki uniform and the other in grey coloured uniform.

## VICTIMS' TESTIMONY

The two dressed in Khaki uniform stood at the entrance of our house while the third in grey uniform went to the next house and came back dragging Kuddiyar Kanapathy (70) and Arumugam Vaithilingam (38) two of our neighbours. These two were made to stand in the front compound of our house. The 3 uniformed men then asked us to come out of the house.

I fell at the feet of one of them and begged him not to harm us. He scolded me in Sinhala and hit me with the butt end of the gun.

My mother then came out and walked upto one of them. He pointed the gun at her and threatened to shoot her. My mother then ran back into the house. The man in grey uniform then ordered my brother to come out. I gave my brother his National Identity Card and told him to show it to him. When my brother attempted to show his Identity Card the person in grey uniform hit my brother with the gun. All of us were then ordered again to come out and we did so.

Two boys, Kumar and Kulendran from the neighbourhood who were

in our house at that time were taken to the rear of the kitchen by one of the men and asked to show where the Cottiyas (Tigers in Sinhala) were. At this time my mother and my sister Jeyamany were on the verandah. They were asked to come down. I was standing in the compound near my brother. I asked my sister Jeyamany to go and bring my two children and my youngest sister and she left the place to do so.

My brother then told me in Tamil, "there is no escape for us" and grabbed the grey uniformed man's gun. To help my brother I too got hold of the gun. The grey uniformed man then cried out something in Sinhala and the Khaki uniformed man who had gone to the rear of the house came back running and shot my brother who received the shot on his chest. The second shot fired at him hit me also and both my brother and myself fell down. The man in grey uniform then shot at my mother too and she fell down. My sister Yogamangalam came up to the man in grey uniform and asked him to shoot her too and he shot her on the face. As the three uniformed men were running out my sister Jeyamany

who had gone to bring my children returned alone on hearing the gun shots. She (Jeyamany) then shouted out to the uniformed men, "you have shot my mother. Shoot me also". One of the uniformed men then shot her too and left. While leaving they shot K. Kanapathy and A. Vaithilingam. K. Kanapathy died on the spot. I understand that A. Vaithilingam who ran away after receiving the gun shots fell into a well accidentally and died.

I went upto my mother and saw that she had been shot in the stomach. I then told my mother that she was going to die and that I too would ask these men to shoot me too. My mother asked where my sister Yogamangalam had been injured and I told my mother that she had been shot on the face. She then stroked my hand where I had been injured and asked me to run away and escape.

The two boys who had been taken to the rear portion of the house and were in hiding came out from their hiding place and asked me to run away with them. I told them that we must carry my mother and take her along with us as my brother and sisters were dead. My mother then said that she would definitely die and wanted us to run away and escape. The two boys and I then ran into the jungle. When we were in the jungle my youngest sister and my two children joined us. They told me that they had gone home and my mother had asked them to find us and run away.

We waited in the jungle till dark and then went and stayed in a house. The following morning we decided to go back to our house where we found the dead bodies of my brother, my mother and two sisters. My brother's dead body lay with one hand clutching his National Identity Card. The gold ring he was wearing was missing. I then arranged the dead bodies as best as I could; kissed the dead bodies and left with my children and youngest sister.

I then walked to Cheddikulam and handed over my two children and youngest sister to the Reverend Sister-in-Charge of the Convent. I made a complaint to the Grama Sevaka who instructed me to go to the Army Camp and lodge a complaint.

At the army camp I was asked about the persons who had come to our house and I told them that I would be able to identify them if I saw them again. They then produced a person with a gun and I was asked whether the uniformed men who had come

(Continued on page 6)

## DIALECTICS OF DECLINE

"...It is a policy of talking big and doing nothing in the face of real and increasing danger to democratic institutions. It is a policy of talking war and acting peace; and it taught the fascists the invaluable method of talking peace and acting war." — Karl Popper.

Why did this country which seemed to have the makings of a healthy plural democracy come so low? An important part of the answer, I believe, is that many people otherwise democratically-minded have been affected by the intellectual disease of 'Historicism' and have allowed their principles to become subservient to what they believed was historically inevitable. This inevitable historical object may be the destruction of capitalism and the coming of the workers' state, the Sinhala millenium or Tamil Eelam. The motivating force behind these notions often begins with the need to right an injustice. Next, drawing loosely from Marx and Hegel a mass movement is built up on the notion that the desired event is historically inevitable. At some point the followers make a decision, often unconsciously, that ordinary standards of morality and de-

velopment should not stand in the way of the historically inevitable.

Thus many well-meaning Marxists and leftwing Christians have served, perhaps reluctantly, every shade of reaction in this country. I recall a stormy session of the SCM in 1971, addressed by Fr. Yohan Devananda where the new policy of 'standardisation' was defended—an obviously iniquitous policy favouring the metropolitan Sinhalese student. Marxist leaders were behind the 1972 constitution. The Tamils whose forebears gave birth to the Youth Congress are faced with painful internal deve-

BY  
RAJAN HOOLE

lopments. Those questions of conscience, of perspective and direction that are being raised by at least a handful in the South are here in Jaffna not being publicly raised.

In this culture there develops an instrumental attitude to truth and justice—do not, that is, raise such issues unless they are favourable to your cause. A year ago a leading lady from a women's movement in

Jaffna was distributing leaflets for a bandh over fasting Welikade detainees. Someone pointed out that the question of human rights in Jaffna has a dimension apart from state oppression. There are innocents killed whom no one talks about. The lady suavely replied, "well, this one is for the Welikade detainees. We shall have one for the others later." The latter part of the promise is yet to materialise.

Inevitably disillusionment sets in as the gap between rhetoric and reality widens. Ideas of justice and fairplay rooted in centuries of experience assert themselves. People look for new saviours. Here their choice may be mistaken.

Karl Popper was of course referring to those Social Democrats of Europe during the interwar years, whose Marxist historicism made them unwitting instruments of Fascists—leading to the rise of Hitler and Mussolini. It is hardly surprising that the left in Ceylon crumbled, raising in its wake new saviours who are decidedly anti-democratic. And the U.N.P. government has successfully played on the Marxist bogey that never was. To the credit of leftist leaders like Pieter Keuneman and Colvin R. de Silva, their conduct during the present crisis stems from contrition rather than from a desire for political capital.



# GRAFTING ILLUSIONS ONTO REALITY

I was standing outside a small boutique in the Vadamaradchy area. The boutique owner had turned his radio on to 'catch' the Indian News broadcast. It was a day or two after a period of intense bombing and strafing. The group of people hovering around the boutique had one purpose. To ascertain what India was going to do over our problems.

The Tamil bulletin stated that India had condemned the South African bombing of three frontline States. At the tail-end concern was expressed over the bombing in Jaffna. An old, apparently illiterate woman spat on the ground and said "Aruntha Rajiv. Avan-galukku kandanam, Engalukku kavalai." She seemed to sum up the attitude of all these who heard that bulletin.

A few weeks later I was in the company of some Tamil professionals. The conversation was about the Indian role on our issue. Rajiv Gandhi came in for severe criticism. There was a medical Doctor who kept on defending Rajiv. "Give him some time, he is only learning" was his cry. At one stage someone in the group snapped "We will all be finished by the time he learns. We don't want him to be educated at our expense."

The two incidents were real life illustrations of what the Tamil people think in actual terms of Indian policy toward the Sri Lankan ethnic crisis. The illiterate village-woman as well as the local elite were all of the same mind. Indian foreign policy had not only failed to deliver the goods but it had also failed to prevent violence.

As Rural Industrial Development Minister, S. Thondaman once told the Madras 'HINDU' more Tamil people have died in the period after July 1983 than during the actual violence. The economy of the North and East is in shambles. The State has even resorted to bombing a part of what it considers to be one country. Naturally the Tamils who saw India as their friend and saviour are dejected and disillusioned. In spite of the current Indian-sponsored peace process that feeling has not abated. On the other hand there is genuine fear and anxiety that New Delhi is blundering again and may throw Tamil interests to the wolves.

The Indira Gandhi-G. Parthasarathy-Chhatwal period marked one phase of Indian policy towards Sri Lanka. The Rajiv

Gandhi-Romesh Bhandari-Dixit period seemed to be another phase. This phase has been criticised as 'superficial' by the Indian Press. Now, we are in the Chidambaram period. But, once again New Delhi seems likely to slip up. Romesh Bhandari's there too. The shift in foreign policy approach was that of securing good neighbours. The giant did not want to adopt a confrontation course with its neighbours, big and small. Although the objective at face value is laudable

by

the approach seems to have gone wrong. The establishment seems to be dominated by policy-makers who are concerned with immediate pay-offs as against regional specialists concerned with cultural nuances and historical background in formulating foreign relations. This state of mind has permeated the domestic sphere too.

Rajiv Gandhi is a man in a hurry. He wants to pilot India into the 21st century. He is a man who in his own words does not think of himself as the Prime Minister yet. He seems to be a pilot still. A pilot is not concerned about a plane veering to the right or left. All he wants to do is take-off. If he runs into bad weather he will change direction.

That is what happened to Rajiv in 1985 on the Tamil issue. Displaying their hand openly, the Thimpu talks were arranged; the Boys were forced to participate. A phased-out de-escalation of violence ending in a ceasefire was arranged. But 'Instant' Bhandari telescoped the 3 month period into two weeks. A cease-fire monitoring panel of Bhandari told the Boys that it would be enlarged to 5 with 2 of their nominees. Colombo in a bit of legal-casualty enlarged the panel by 8 including the 2 ENLF nominees. Bhandari allowed the Boys to be outsmarted. Then came the abrasive encounters at Thimpu. Closeted with H. W. Jayewardene he co-drafted the Accord. New Delhi wanted the Boys to sign it and when the leaders played truant, deportation orders were served on two Tamils. It was only when Tamil Nadu started to boil that Rajiv Gandhi changed course on the Sri Lankan ethnic crisis. This then is the crux of the matter "the grafting of the illusion of a self-serving scenario on to historical reality".

So with Punjab, Assam and Majoram tucked away Rajiv has turned to Sri Lanka. And so re-enters Bhandari (along with Chidambaram to Colombo). Displaying a tenacious resistance to the implications of historical reality Romesh Bhandari tells 'The Illustrated Weekly of India', "History will prove that Thimpu was an act of Statesmanship. We have known Jayewardene was wily...I don't think anybody felt an answer was around the corner". What alarms Tamils fur-

D. B. S. Jeyaraj

ther is the influence exercised over Rajiv Gandhi by a man with such an opinion. At a recent reception in New Delhi guests were treated to a startling breach of protocol-Romesh Bhandari leading Rajiv Gandhi to a corner to meet A. C. S. Hameed. The usual practice is to lead a Minister to the Prime Minister. This characteristic of Rajiv Gandhi, a willingness to be led by Romesh Bhandari is what causes anxiety to Tamils. The fear is that India would foist upon the Tamils an unacceptable settlement that would not be implementable and wash its hands off the whole affair.

In 1983 Tamil expectations could have been classified into two kinds.

The doves wanted India to (a) prevent anti-Tamil violence through persuasion, (b) to pressurise the Government to effect a 'Political settlement', (c) to underwrite the implementation of that settlement.

The hawks wanted India to (a) intervene militarily in the event of an outbreak of violence directed against Tamils, (b) If the Boys were in trouble militarily after unleashing an offensive, (c) To recognise the State of Eelam and send in troops to keep peace if the Boys succeeded.

But India practised a brand of diplomacy described as benign diplomacy, usually reserved for "Inter-Mestic" issues by India. This term is used for International issues that have domestic implications or vice versa where the dividing lines tend to get blurred. Pakistan-Punjab; Bangla Desh-Bengalis; Nepal-Gurkhas; Tamil Nadu-Tamils are some of these. India's Benign Diplomacy has three experiences in the past, (1) The suppression of the Rana revolt against the Nepalese Monarchy, (2) The creation of Bangla Desh, (3) The deployment of Indian troops and arms in crushing the J. V. P. revolt of 1971 in Sri Lanka. The current peace initiative is the 4th exercise in benign diplomacy by the world's 4th largest military power.

(To be continued)

## Victims' Testimony

(Continued from page 5)

to our house possessed similar guns and I replied that two of them possessed the same type of guns.

The army officials then told me that these uniformed men must have been Tamil terrorists posing off as army personnel and I replied that they were not Tamil terrorists but Sinhala soldiers as they spoke in broken Tamil when they pointed out to my brother and asked me whether he was my husband.

I was taken in an army vehicle to the hospital where they informed the doctor that my hand may have to be amputated and that I should be sent to Anuradhapura General Hospital. Army personnel then brought a truck in which there was an old Sinhalese Lady and wanted to take me to Anuradhapura Hospital. I declined saying that I had to first attend to the funeral arrangements of my

brother, mother and sisters. Army personnel then left.

My cousin then came in search of me and took me on his bicycle to my house where I came to know that Ariyanathan Kalyani (30) a Sinhalese Sritharan (14) and Rasan son of Piyadasa too had been shot dead in this incident.

When all the bodies were about to be cremated army personnel came on the scene and took away the dead bodies lying on the pyre and in the cemetery. I then travelled to Jaffna and got admitted at General Hospital Jaffna for treatment.

## APPROVED CHARITY

The Mallakam Rural Development Society has been declared an approved charity by a government gazette notification.



# 'Save The Tamils' MOTHERS DEMAND PROTECTION

**TAMIL EELAM INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH** of 53, Bickley St., London has sent the following urgent appeal to Indian Parliamentarians and state Chief Ministers, signed by its Secretary K. Srinivasan:

We are sending this appeal to you on behalf of the Tamil Community, while our villages and towns are being bombed and our people burnt alive and tortured! We sincerely hope that you would not fail us at this hour of dire need! Our faith in you is based on your record in the field of human rights and the concern you have expressed in the past on the plight of the Sri Lankan Community.

The Tamils of Sri Lanka have been subjected to the most inhuman treatment that could catch one's imagination. The perpetrators are no other than the Sri Lankan Government Forces themselves. Tamil women of all ages have been raped, their men harassed, tortured and killed in hundreds by the Forces. Their houses are burnt and their possessions plundered. They are left helpless and homeless. Even in this deplorable condition they continue to 'live' because of the faith they have in India to solve this problem for them. They dream, and we hope that their dreams would come true, that one day the biggest democracy in the world will take necessary measures to force the insensitive Sri Lankan Government to end its tyranny and allow the

Tamils to live in peace, in dignity and free from fear.

Your services in encouraging and supporting the Indian Government to harbour, succour and protect thousands of Tamil refugees from Sri Lanka are commendable; and the whole Tamil Community are deeply grateful to you for it. However, we feel sincerely that you still have a greater part to play in impressing on the Central Government the need for an urgent action to put a halt to this mindless and adventurous attack on the Tamils.

Please help the Tamil Community to taste the same freedom that you do, enjoy the same dignity that you enjoy, and above all enjoy the right to live as human beings and be treated as same, as you have done in your great country.

The Sri Lankan Government is employing all possible tactics they could think of, to avert the intervention of India and other countries that lay claim to decency and humanity in the treatment of minority ethnic groups. The Sri Lankan Government's tactics would prove impotent if the International Community show their resolve to protect the basic human rights of the Tamils in Sri Lanka.

We trust that you will pay heed to our appeal and take appropriate actions that will save the Tamil community from a genocidal onslaught carried out by the Sri Lankan Government forces.

About 300 ladies from Batticaloa went to the Government Agent on 28th July demanding that they be protected.

These people are from Thalawai and Kudiyiruppu.

They had complained that they had been harassed continually,

their children arrested and tortured and women molested.

They wanted protection from the Government Agent.

The security forces come to these places from the camps at Eravur and Karadianaru.

## Army Regiments...

(Continued from page 2)

for sharing of power by the different communities. Electoral system must ensure that the different ethnic groups are properly represented in the legislatures. Special institutional arrangements must be made to ensure the representation of the ethnic groups in the Central Government, Provincial Government, Local Government Institutions and in the Executive, Judiciary, Public Services and Defence Forces etc. A scheme of having two Vice Presidents from 2 of the minority ethnic communities will be a useful device in giving symbolic recognition to minorities.

### SECOND CHAMBER

There are several precedents where the instrument of a second Chamber has been successfully used to ensure an equitable exercise of political power by different communities within a multi-ethnic society. In countries where there are several ethnic communities and where devolution of power is adopted a Second Chamber in which minority and regional interests can be represented will guarantee a smooth functioning of the democratic system.

A Second Chamber is not proposed in the nature of an upper chamber, but only as a nationalities chamber. CWC strongly advocates the establishment of a Second Chamber.

### LAW AND ORDER

Recruitment to the Armed Forces of the Republic shall reflect the national ethnic position, and for that reason, shall be on the basis of ethnic proportionality. We also suggest that the Armed Forces shall form separate regiments composed substantially of ethnic minorities. In the deployment of the Armed Forces in any area of times of emergencies, the choice of the regiment of the Armed Forces to be so deployed, shall be such as to ensure that there is no representation of any other ethnic group in a Province by any section of the Armed Forces.

The President's powers to give directives to the Provincial Councils is unsatisfactory as it provides unfettered and excessive power to interfere with the operation of the Council. This should be changed.

### LANGUAGE

The 1978 constitution declared Sinhala and Tamil as the National Languages of the Country. This statement of fact regarding Sri Lanka as a two language country was a step in the right direction. However, experience has shown us that this formal declaration alone was not enough to restore the sense of mutual understanding and trust between the two linguistic groups.

CWC proposes that Tamil also should be made an official language of the country, thus removing a serious impediment to a better understanding between the two main linguistic groups.

### EDUCATION

As the provision of education of the Indian Tamil community had lagged behind for several decades suitable institutional arrangements are necessary both at Central and Provincial Government levels. CWC proposes a separate plantation Tamil Education Unit both at Central and Provincial levels. In this respect a formulation of clear cut policy regarding various matters will be necessary. For example, cadre policy. We suggest that instead of determining cadre for all schools together cadre should be decided separately for Sinhala, Tamil and Muslim schools. Teachers to the plantation Tamil schools should be recruited from among Tamil teachers.

### CULTURE

The proposal envisages the devolving of power for the promotion and conduct of cultural activities to provincial councils. Further, the Provincial Councils are to assist Pradeshya Sabhas in co-ordinating cultural activities within their respective area.

## PRIMARY ACCUMULATION OF CAPITAL

In the 18th and early 19th century, monopoly trading companies of the European powers provided powerful levers for the concentration of capital. Fortunes acquired outside Europe, by means of outright plunder, the enslavement of the native populations and murder, flowed into these trading companies' coffers, providing new capital.

Lenin wrote in the *Iskra* of December 1900 that "this policy of plunder is usually called colonial policy. For the sake of the profit of a handful of capitalists, the bourgeois governments waged endless wars, have sent regiments to die in unhealthy tropical countries, and have driven the peoples in the colonies to desperate revolts or to death from starvation."

For a knowledge of the process of primary accumulation of capital and of capitalist exploitation, read the book *Lenin and Asia* by Attorney-at-Law T. Duraisingam, a pioneer of the anti-imperialist movement in our country.

Sinhala, Tamil and English editions of the book are available at bookshops.

Price Rs. 10/-

Council for Socialist Studies  
31, Wilson Street, Colombo 12.



# Saturday Review

SRI LANKA

## J. R. REVEALS HIS INDIAN ORIGINS

Excerpts from a Question and Answer session at the Kelaniya Sri Lanka Tyre Corporation.

Q. When these new proposals are implemented there will be threats to our race through more hidden methods than one?

A. What is meant by your race?

The questioner is asked to explain at this stage and he says what he meant was the Sinhala race?

A. That is an important question. A few days ago Mr. Anura Bandaranaike was told in Parliament by a Minister that his generation started with a Tamil called Neelaperumal. My mother and father also had their origin in India. Keppetipola too was of Tamil origin. Our last four kings belonged to the Nayakkar dynasty in Andhra Pradesh. So it is difficult to say who has unmixed Sinhala blood. I regard all citizens of this country alike. Therefore if there is harm caused to the Sinhala race, other races, would be harmed, if there is any harm caused to the Tamil race, there'll be harm to the other races, if there is harm to the Muslims, there'll be harm to the others, if one individual is harmed, it would be harmful to the whole country. Our aim is to obtain the rights of every citizen without thinking in terms of his race, caste or religion.

Q. You have said you will not have talks with anyone who is against this small country. Then why are you having talks with Amirthalingam and others?

A. I want to change their ideas. The dhamma was preached to those who did not know it so that they could know and understand it. Mr. Amirthalingam and others like the terrorists were going on the wrong path and acting against the tenets of Buddhism. So while telling them what is right I am also propagating the dhamma.

Q. Whose brainchild was the Provincial Councils?

A. It was Mr. S. W. R. D. Bandaranaike's. He first proposed Provincial Councils in 1926 as the way to solve the problems of the minorities. He was the first leader to have advocated it. I am following in his footsteps although Mrs. Bandaranaike is not.

—President Jayewardene answering questions from S.L. Tyre Corporation employees at Kelaniya.

### MIZORAM

Q. How valid are the fears that all MNF guerrillas might not want to come overground and accept the accord?

A. All these fears are only in Indian newspapers. All MNF supporters have spontaneously welcomed the accord. I can assure you there will not be a single man remaining in the jungles after the accord is implemented.

Q. How could you settle for statehood when you had been fighting for sovereignty?

A. Our fight was against the domination of the Mizos by the Government of India. Today we have signed an accord that gives special status to Mizoram. We always wanted a political settlement of the Mizo problem but we were forced into violence. How long could my people fight the army?

—Mizoram Nationalist Laldenga in Interview with "India Today".

### TWO-THIRDS

The proposals about sharing power are based on the promise that whatever power is shared by a sub-national unit can be taken back under emergency regulations if there is abuse of that power. If the two-thirds majority clause is retained, this exercise of sharing power could be sabotaged.

This was, thus, a useful and necessary amendment.

—Mr. Athulathmudali in Parliament on 10th Amendment.

Dr. Colvin R. de Silva: I appeal to the militants to meet the Govern-

## Anti-Eelam Leaflets In Hill-Country

Pamphlets in Tamil have been circulated in the hill-country raising the question what will be the position of the hill-country, if Tamil Eelam is established?

ment, put forward their proposals so all groups in this country could live in peace and harmony, without splitting the country. I appeal to them to put counter proposals. That was a genuine opportunity for the two sides to get together. If they do the Government should come to an agreement on preliminary matters.

That is, both sides agree to a cease-fire for a known period. The Government has done their part by putting forward their proposals.

Kumar Ponnambalam: In view of the stand taken by the militants, they will not submit proposals. That is asking too much from them.

Dr. de Silva said the resolution refer to the militants as Armed Eelam Organisations. He said they were armed, they were for Eelam and also well organised. Therefore they should be referred to as thus he said.

At this stage there was protracted argument as to whether they should be so referred or referred to as militants.

A. Aziz: I am against calling them as Armed Eelam Organisations. Mr. Ranil Wickremasinghe at this stage intervened and said the words armed and unarmed could be used as represented by Dr. de Silva earlier.

S. Sellasamy (CWC): No need of using the words armed. Just say Tamil Groups....

Kumar Ponnambalam: Draw a second resolution with the words Tamil Militants.

K. P. Silva (CP): They are armed, for Eelam, and well organised. So AEO is appropriate.

Vijaya Kumaranatunge: The militants feel some are arm-chair Eelamists. They will be proud to be called armed Eelamists. Mr. Hameed then said a second resolution will be drafted calling upon the armed Eelamists to submit their proposals.

Mr. Ponnambalam said to mark his objection on it. — (PPC)

Meanwhile, the Head of the Malwate Chapter, has stated that if Provincial Councils are established the hill-country would come under the leadership of Rural Industrial Development Minister S. Thondaman.

### MAN TAKEN INTO CUSTODY FOUND DEAD

An employee of Karainagar Cey-Nor, V. Nalliah, who was taken into custody by the Navy on Monday (28-7-86) was found dead in a field, later.

A Navy Patrol had taken him into custody at the Karainagar Jetty.

When the Cey-Nor Management contacted Naval authorities of Karainagar, they were told that Nalliah had been released.

### LANDMINE EXPLOSION

At Kalmadu in Vavuniya District an army convoy is reported to have run into a land mine and as a result 4 soldiers were killed and 4 others injured. This incident occurred on 30th July around 3 p.m.

### SINHALA HOME GUARDS REMANDED IN TRINCOMALEE

Over ten Home Guards are in custody at Trincomalee for offences ranging from theft to murder.

UTHAYAN reported on 28th July that a Home Guard had intimidated two Sinhalese householders and was arrested by the Uppuveli Police and brought before the Magistrate. The Magistrate ordered the confiscation of his gun and he was remanded till 7th August.

### HOME GUARDS ORDER TAMILS TO MOVE OUT

Sinhala Home Guards ordered 43 Tamil families from Dehiwatta in Seruvawila electorate to evacuate from their homes.

The families have sought shelter in the Eechanthivu Government School at Kinniya.

### SHELL KILLS TWO

T. Markandu and his son Chandradasan died as a result of injuries sustained when a shell fired from the Jaffna Fort damaged their house at Ariyakulam on 28-7-86. The son died earlier while the father succumbed to his injuries later.