

Alternatives

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CPA organised a workshop, **20th Jan** entitled "**Post-Tsunami Reconstruction of Sri Lanka: Structures and Processes**", with the objective of engaging members of government, civil society, and the international community in a discussion on issues related to the reconstruction of Sri Lanka after the tsunami disaster of 26th December 2004.

CPA's Memorandum to the Task Force to Rebuild the Nation (TAFREN), on the formulation of a Comprehensive Development and Infrastructure Rebuilding Action Plan (CDIRAP) and the preparation of draft legislation to set up an Authority for Rebuilding the Nation (ARN) served as the basis for the discussion (A detailed report of the workshop proceedings is available on CPA's website at http://www.cpalanka.org/research_papers/Report_Post-Tsunami_Reconstruction_Workshop.doc)



R Sampanthan and Pradeep Peiris at the workshop

POST TSUNAMI Reconstruction of Sri Lanka



Hon Rauf Hakeem



David Whaley

Consultation on The Challenges of Linking Post-Tsunami Reconstruction with Peace-Building

The Peace and Conflict Analysis Unit organized a Consultation on "**The Challenges of Linking Post-Tsunami Reconstruction with Peace-Building**", **10th Feb.** Following the presentation of the CPA Background paper on the theme of the consultation by Kethesh Loganathan, Director, CPA, Head, Peace and Conflict Analysis Unit, there were presentations on "*Lessons from the Field*" by Dr Devanesan Nesiah (Consultant, CPA) on the Mullaitivu situation and Ms Jazeema Ismail (Muslim Women's Research and Action Forum) on the situation in the Eastern Province. The second session focused on "**Linking Tsunami Relief and Reconstruction to Devolution of Power**". The CPA Discussion Paper was prepared by Ravi Faiia (Intern) and presented by Asanga Welikala, Research associate, Legal Unit.

The panelist for the two sessions were Godfrey Gunatilleke, Vice Chairman, Marga, Dilrukshi Fonseka, Researcher, Conflict Transformation, Brian Smith, Post Conflict Specialist, ADB, Selvin Iraneuss, Director, SIHRN, Austin Fernando, former Defence Secretary, and Secretary, Ministry of Public Administration and Provincial Councils and Dayan Jayatilleke, from the University of Colombo.

The plenary discussion was interactive and focused on the challenges of looking beyond a disaster to identify the needs of recovery, reconstruction and peace-building.

Background papers from the consultation are available on CPA's website.

In collaboration with UNHCR, the CPA held a roundtable discussion on **Land Issues Arising from the Ethnic Conflict and Tsunami Disaster, 28th Jan**, to discuss land issues arising from the ethnic conflict and tsunami disaster.

The CPA Memorandum to policy-makers and recommendations for legislative and/or policy responses to land issues, is available for download at: http://www.cpalanka.org/research_papers/Memo_Land_Issues.pdf

Women's Access to Land

Three meetings were organised in Batticaloa, Jaffna and Killinochchi in February 2005 to discuss research findings from the CARE Lift project on Women's Access to and Ownership of Land and Property as well as issues that have come up due to the tsunami. Presentations were made by Bhavani Fonseka and Pradeep Peiris from CPA. Areas that were discussed ranged from difficulties women face in owning and accessing land and property, legal issues related to the topic, perceptions of women's access to and ownership of land and property, and the nature of land disputes and the modalities of their

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CPA Staff visit- Bangalore

On behalf of the World Bank Institute (WBI), the World Bank South Asia Region's Rural Development Dept and the Public Affairs Foundation (PAF), invited Sriyanie Wijesundara, of CPA's Peace and Conflict Analysis Unit, and Pradeep Pieris, and Ruwani Wickremesinghe of Social Indicator to a **Workshop on Social Accountability Initiatives in Asia**, in Bangalore, India from **21st -23rd March** as an observer. The workshop succeeded in its aim of fostering networking opportunities with experts in social accountability from other regions, learning from ongoing social accountability mechanisms taking place in Asia and provided an opportunity to replicate good practices in the area.



Karl Nerenberg of Forum of Federations and Rohan Edrisinha, Director, CPA, at the seminar entitled **"Prospects for Peace in Sri Lanka, Post-Tsunami"**, held in Ottawa at the Forum of Federations March 14th

Asanga Welikala, Senior Researcher, Legal Unit, CPA, was selected to participate in the European Union Visitors Programme (EUVD) of the European Commission 24th- 30th Jan. EUVP participants are invited to visit the E.U. in order to gain a first-hand appreciation of its goals and policies, and to discuss matters of mutual interest with Members of the European Parliament and officials of the EU Institutions, as well as with representatives of European associations, NGO's, etc.



2nd -4th March Dr P Saravanamuttu, ED, CPA, Rohan Edrisinha, Director, CPA and Head of Legal Unit, CPA, and Asanga Welikala, a senior researcher, in Legal Unit participated at the 3rd International Conference on Federalism titled **"Turning Diversity into Harmony, Sharing Best Practices"** in Brussels at the invitation of the Forum of Federations and the Government of Belgium. Speakers at the conference included the Presidents of Cyprus and of Nigeria and the Premiers of Quebec and of Manitoba among other distinguished attendees. More information is available at http://www.federalism2005.be/en/home/press_info/



Joseph Thavaraja, Research Executive, SI, attended the Fourth Annual Regional Meeting (ARM 2005) of One World International Foundation held in New Delhi, 3rd-4th March and contributed a paper titled **"Assuaging Public Perceptions on the Tsunami Aftermath through a CoP"**.

Joseph was awarded a scholarship for participation by One World South Asia, a New Delhi-based civil society network that works to give voice to the voiceless through a network of people and groups. The theme of ARM 2005 conference was **"Towards building Communities of Practice (CoPs) for achieving**

the Millenium Development Goals". The ARM 2005 conference was attended by more than 400 delegates from the region-specifically India, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Pakistan, Bangladesh and Malaysia. Among the participants were development experts, academics, practitioners and policy makers who deliberated on identifying a niche for ICTs towards building the CoPs to achieve MDGs.

More details at <http://southasia.oneworld.net/article/view/108463/> and cpalanka.org.

Staff Changes at CPA

New Faces...

Sanayi Marcelline who holds a First Class (Hons) Degree in History from UoC, and M.Phil from Cambridge Uni, was previously



features news reporter at Sunday Leader, and also worked with ICES and FCOE, joined CPA as consultant to Peace Unit.

Ruwani Wickramasinghe who holds a BA in Sociology from the University of Warwick, UK and previously worked with Young Asia Television joined SI as a Research Executive.



Rangani Ranasinghe who holds a BA Hons in Political Science and an MSc in Development Studies and was previously with YA TV, joined SI as Research Executive.



Namal Perera, formerly Editor in Chief, TNL Television, joined Media Unit as a consultant



BM Murshideen, a BA Graduate with 19 years experience in Print and Electronic Media, joined Media Unit as a consultant

IMPACS, the Institute for Media, Policy and Civil Society, is a Canadian charitable organization committed to the protection and expansion of democracy and to strengthening civil society.

IMPACS' training seminars and workshops strengthen the communication skills of not-for-profit organizations to help them successfully and economically communicate their messages to the media, government, funders and the public. As part of the CPA - IMPACS "Voices of Reconciliation Project" Namal Perera and B.M. Murshideen of Media Unit, conducted a series of information

Unit in Focus

MEDIA UNIT



gathering fieldtrips during March to meet with Civil Society Organisations in Kurunegala, Vavuniya, Ampara, Anuradhapura, Colombo, Kandy, Hambantota and Badulla. The first stage of the project involved meetings with 11 diverse CBOs including the War Affected Womens Forum, Ruhunu Gami Kantha Sanwidhanaya, Kandys War Affected Womens Organisations, Uva Development Council etc. In order to make a preliminary assessment of the challenges and opportunities available to such organisations in the area of effective communications.

Articles by CPA staff and on CPA events appeared in Daily Mirror, Business Today and Daily News among others.

Sunanda Deshapriya, Director, CPA and head of Media Unit, joined the Advisory Editorial Board of Democracy At Large, (www.democracyatlarge.org), which is published by IFES, an international, non profit organisation that supports democracy and governance.



Jehan Perera of NPC speaking



Anusha Coomaraswamy, Director, CPA

ON COASTAL RESERVATION ZONES,

CPA organised a discussion on the proposed Coastal Zone, 9th March, at SEDEC. Government representatives from TAFREN, UDA, CCD, NPPD among others, were invited to speak on the various regulations introduced with regards to the Coastal Zone.



Viranjan Kurukulasuriya of NPPD, Anil Premaratne of CCD, Dr Saravanamuttu and Sathis De Mel.



In the Press...

Corruption Analysed



Transparency International (TI) Sri Lanka, commissioned Social Indicator to conduct a survey analysing corruption in the Police Sector aimed at improving the system and setting in place sustainable accountability mechanisms.

The Field Briefing for the survey was held early February at SI and Field Researchers were given intensive training on the field technique and on how to administer the questionnaire. 25 Field Researchers, 9 female and 12 male, were trained to conduct the fieldwork. Fieldwork was completed early March and final reports will be available shortly.

Consultation on the Eastern Muslim Question

The on going Tsunami recovery process and negotiations for a joint mechanism for the distribution and utilization of tsunami donor assistance, has once more brought into focus the aspirations and apprehensions of the Eastern Muslims

CPA, as part of an on-going series on Tsunami and Peace related issues held a consultation on "the Eastern Muslim Question", 31st March, focusing on 1) Security and humanitarian issues of Eastern Muslims and 2) Muslim Aspirations and Participation in the Peace Process. A discussion paper was presented, based on the CPA field mission to the East comprising Dr Devanesan Nessimiah, (Consultant, Peace and Conflict Analysis Unit, CPA) Mirak Raheem, (CPA) Fara Haniffa and Dharini Rajasingham Senanayake, and this was followed by a panel and plenary discussion.

The panel included Abdul Kalam (NUA), R. Sampanthan (TNA), S Hasbulla of U.o.P, Zulfika Ismail (MWRAF) and Kumar Rupasinghe (FCE).

The consultation highlighted the impact of the tsunami on the Muslim community of Batticaloa and Ampara districts and the urgent need for the inclusion of Muslim political participation in the Tsunami Joint Mechanism and the Peace Process

Calander of Events

For more updates on latest and upcoming CPA events, visit http://www.cpalanka.org/calendar_events.html

January

20th Workshop entitled "**Post-Tsunami Reconstruction of Sri Lanka: Structures and Processes.**
28th Consultation on Land Issues Arising from the Ethnic Conflict and Tsunami Disaster In collaboration with UNHCR

February

10th The Peace and Conflict Analysis Unit organized a Consultation on "**The Challenges of Linking Post-Tsunami Reconstruction with Peace-Building**"
19th-20th A two day **Workshop on Conflict Reporting** with IFJ in Ampara
21st The Peace & Conflict Analysis Unit and Social Indicator jointly organized a **Meeting** with Mr Ebrahim Ebrahim(an activist in the South African liberation struggle and a leading member of the African National Congress, ANC), and Roelf Meyer (the Chief Negotiator of the National Party Government during the peace talks and former cabinet minister)
26th-27th A two day **Workshop on Conflict Reporting**, with IFJ in Jaffna

March

9th at SEDEC a Land Issues conference, supported by Konrad Adeneur Stiftung
31st A consultation on "**the Eastern Muslim Question**" focusing on 1) Security and Humanitarian issues of Eastern Muslims and 2) Muslim Aspirations and Participation in the Peace Process.

EVENTS ATTENDED

13th Jan Kethesh Loganathan, Head of the Peace and Conflict Analysis Unit, participated in a radio panel discussion on the "Current Show" of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation(CBC) titled "*Tsunami and the Peace Process*"
13th- 15th Jan Dr P.Saravanamuttu served as a Resource Person at a workshop with Political Leaders on "*Peace, Democracy and Political Parties*" in Lumbini, Nepal .The workshop was organised by the National Peace Campaign, Nepal.
24th- 30th Jan Asanga Welikala ,Researcher ,Legal Unit ,CPA, was selected to participate in the European Union Visitors Programme(EUVD) of the European Commission
4th-7th Feb Sunanda Deshapriya, Head, Media Unit, participated in a Panos Workshop on Conflict Reporting at Jaffna for PANOS fellowship holders
3rd Mar Dr Saravanamuttu, Rohan Edrisinha and Asanga Welikala attended the 3rd International Conference on Ferderalism "Turning Diversity into Harmony- Sharing Best Practices" in Brussels
18-21st Mar Bhavani Fonseka of the Legal Unit attended a meeting organised by Lawyers Collective

EVENTS ATTENDED cont...

India on HIV/AIDS issues, held in Mumbai
21st -23rd Mar Sriyanie Wijesundara, of CPA's Peace and Conflict Analysis Unit, attended a *Workshop on Social Accountability Initiatives in Asia*, in Bangalore , India. The workshop was co hosted by the World Bank South Asia Region's Rural Development Dept and the Public Affairs Foundation (PAF) .
22nd Mar Dr Saravanamuttu gave the keynote address on "Federalism and Minorities" at the *Workshop on Combating Racism, Xenophobia and Discrimination against Ethnic Minorities and Indigenous people*" organised by the South Asian Forum for Human Rights (SAFHR) and the National Human Rights Commission of Pakistan, Lahore, Pakistan. Bhavani Fonseka of Legal Unit also attended this workshop.
28th Mar Rohan Edrisinha was in Chiang Mai,Thailand - visiting the Christian Confederation of Asia
28th - 29th Mar Shalindra Mylvaganam of Legal Unit attended a workshop on Health Rights organized by the Law & Society Trust.

LATEST PUBLICATIONS



Media Monitor
August 2004 - Issue 4



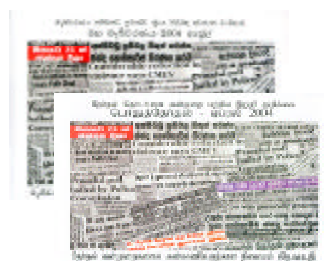
Reprint of "Shri Lankaawe Jathikathwa Gataluwa Saha Visandhum"
Edited by Lionel Guruge

From Dialogue to Action: Recommendations and Strategies for Electoral Reform in Sri Lanka. by CPA,PAFFREL and CMEV.available in English, Sinhala and Tamil(Rs 250/-@) and in Electronic Formats.



Final Report of Election-Related Violence by the Centre for Monitoring Election Violence (CMEV) - General Election 2004Published in English, Sinhala and Tamil and in Electronic format.

Pederalwadaya - the Sinhala Version of the Forum of Federations Newsletter- available free of charge and in electronic format



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