

# Saturday Review

## SRI LANKA

Vol. 6 No. 35 19th September 1987

# RAJIV, THINK AGAIN

## Tamil Eelam's Bobby Sands

When India air-dropped food supplies in Jaffna there was euphoria.

Today, the Indian Peace-Keeping Forces are here.

Are they here to safeguard the peace for President J. R. Jayewardene or the Sri Lankan Tamils?

That's the question on every Tamil's mind.

The dominant military group of the Tamils, the Liberation Ti-

gers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) put up the fight of their lives and stopped the Sri Lankan forces in their tracks.

Brigadier Kobbekaduwa is reported to have said that were it not for air cover the Sri Lankan army could not have taken Vadammaradchy.

Now India's security forces seem to have taken on the role of the Sri Lankan Security forces.

Thileepan, the head of the LTTE political Wing started a death fast on Friday, 15th September putting forward five demands.

The five demands are:

1. To stop colonisation of traditional Tamil areas like Trincomalee and Batticaloa, Mullaitivu and Vavuniya.
2. To stop rehabilitation work till the interim administration is set up.
3. Release all political prisoners unconditionally.
4. Stop opening Police Stations in the North and East.
5. All arms to be surrendered by the Home Guards and no Sri Lankan

army camps to be set up in schools and villages.

India is a Regional Super power. As a Regional Power, India should know that there will invariably be a backlash if it tries to throw its weight about.

It may be noted from past history that from Arumuga Navalar's time, Jaffna has had a separate cultural identity, and Jaffna hopes to maintain this identity despite the pressures from within and without.

The death fast and the blockade of the administrative complexes are intended to make India know that things cannot be taken for granted.

Think again, Rajiv.

Don't try to take us for a ride.

At the time of going to press (Friday Morning) the leader of the political wing of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, Mr. Thileepan was on the fourth day of his death fast and is in a very weak state. According to medical sources, he might become comatose soon. Miss Kuhasanthi, a graduate of the University of Jaffna, joined Thileepan in the death fast yesterday (Thursday).

Thileepan's fast is a symbolic gesture of protest against the Indian Government which, despite the Accord signed between the Governments of India and Sri Lanka, has ignored both the letter and spirit of the Accord.

The Secretariat and public offices in Jaffna have been blocked by the public in support of the struggle launched by the LTTE.

Demonstrations by school children and members of the public are also taking place daily.

Will Rajiv take note?

## Tigers Take On India



Head of the LTTE's Political Wing, Thileepan on a death fast

## 'The Indians Didn't Come' - Kalmunai Resident

The following account of the events in Kalmunai was given by a respected Muslim resident:

On 9th September '87 the Muslim residents of Kalmunai organised a hartal for the murdered Muttur AGA Mr. Habib Mohamed. This went off peacefully. On the following day 10th September the LTTE called a hartal for the same cause without prior notice. This gave rise to some tension. In the morning Muslim shops were attacked and looted at Kalmunai

junction in the presence of gunmen. Muslim residents urgently summoned by telephone, the Indian army detachment at Akkaraipattu. But for a long time the Indians did not come. At length they arrived at 2.00 p.m. after much pressure from Muslim residents at Akkaraipattu.

The Indian troops did nothing to stop the looting. They said that their instructions were not to intervene in such matters. Earlier certain mili-

tant groups had come to talk Peace. But the Muslims declined, saying that they cannot talk peace in one quarter while looting is going on in another quarter. By this time the Muslims had become very angry and disappointed. They proceeded to put up barriers on the roads to block traffic. But this time the Indian troops readily intervened and took away the barriers.



Brigadier, Indian peace keeping force with Mahatheya & Yogi on the 3rd day death fast.



Eelam will blossom: Thileepan's statement on Friday

## Saturday Review

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# BANGLADESH POOR: WESTERN GUINEA-PIGS

In the district of Matlab, south-east of Dacca, the capital of Bangladesh, nearly 84,000 villagers have taken part in a trial to test an anti-cholera drug. Soon after the trial began, in early 1985, testees started complaining of sores inside their mouths, nausea, stomach pains, sore throat and fever.

Some of these complaints surfaced in the local press but the 70 medical teams conducting the trial did not record them, since there was no provision in their record books to document adverse reactions.

As an inducement to take part, villagers were offered gifts, like drinking glasses and candy. And as concern grew among the villagers who heard about the side-effects, the medical teams used other pressures. They blanketed the area with leaflets claiming that the vaccine caused no harm to the body and was effective in fighting cholera, neither of which had been proven.

The trials in Bangladesh are conducted by the International Centre for Diarrhoeal Disease Research, Bangladesh, (ICDDR,B) and sponsored by the World Health Organisation. A Swedish husband-and-wife team, Dr. Jan Holmgren and Dr. Ann-Mari Svennerholm, head the research.

'Rural Bangladesh is in reality controlled by village

chiefs and rich landowners' Farida Akhter of UBINIG (Policy Research for Development Alternatives) writes in her report on the vaccine trials, 'The ICDDR maintains a close link with this power structure. With the

Western scientists are conducting mass field trials in Bangladesh of an anti-cholera drug that is so expensive it can never be used there. The side-effects suffered by the testees, the pressure used to induce them to participate and the scientists' links with pharmaceutical companies and biomedical research in South Africa raise grave ethical questions, say a team of Bangladeshi researchers.

Ms Halinah Todd is a freelance journalist, Features Editor of the New Straits Times (Malaysia) and voted Malaysia's Journalist of the Year in 1982.

help of the village rich, they immediately sought to counter any resistance. Any instance of refusal to take part was immediately followed up, with a middle-level supervisor visiting the refusing household'.

Although ICDDR,B has since its inception in 1978 been supported by several Governments, including the Government of Bangladesh, this current trial violates the provisions of the 'Declaration of Helsinki', which guides medical research on human subjects, Farida Akhter argues in her report.

The Helsinki Declaration insists that research must be relevant to the population on which it is tested. The vaccine on trial in Bangladesh contains the B subunit of the

cholera toxin, which is being sold at US Dollars 60 per mg. 'Each subject in the trial has received several hundred dollars' worth of the B subunit in a country where the per capita income is not more than Dollar 200,' states Akhter.

Trials on such a mass scale should not have been allowed with a drug which has been previously tested on only 11 subjects in North America. ICDDR,B had insufficient information on side-effects before it started giving the drug to massive numbers of poor Bangladeshis, Akhter argues.

Nor could such people be said to have given their 'voluntary informed consent,' as laid down in the Helsinki Declaration, given the inducements and pressures offered by the medical teams and the misleading leaflets distributed by ICDDR.

'The cost of the vaccine suggests that the vaccine was never meant for the poor

people of the world who suffer from cholera because of the sanitary conditions in which they live', Akhter reports.

The Swedish team who heads the research is supported by the Swedish Defence Department under grant No: 506 B601. The project is assisted by the French pharmaceutical company Bio Merieux.

These links suggest that the people of Bangladesh are being used as guinea pigs to obtain a WHO-certified vaccine which can be sold to military organisations to protect personnel entering cholera-infected areas.

But there is an even more dangerous link, Akhter discovered, ICDDR,B is conducting joint research on cholera toxins with counterparts in South Africa. Some of the results of their findings were published in the Journal of Clinical Microbiology, June 1985.

This collaborative research may be perfectly legitimate, but 'research activities on bacteria have military significance,' Akhter points out, and this collaboration with South Africa violates the charter under which ICDDR was set up in Bangladesh. Dr. P. C. Turnbull, one of

by

Halinah Todd

those involved in this research has been collecting highly pathogenic cholera strains from Bangladesh. These strains have obvious relevance should South Africa wish to pursue biological warfare to undermine and weaken both her shanty town black population and her black neighbours. — (Third World Network Features.)

## Loss of Limbs

According to Sebastian Robert an All India Radio correspondent who was in Jaffna recently in connection with the opening of the Jaipur Foot Workshop, more than 300 persons both in the North and East have lost the use of their limbs due to military action by Security Forces.

# Some Questions For The Commissioner

Editor

SATURDAY REVIEW

The letter by "Ratepayer" appearing in your paper of

## Vacancies for Medical Officers

There are vacancies for Medical Officers in the Unified Mission Medical Service of the Jaffna Diocese of the Church of South India.

Apply giving full qualifications, past experience etc. to the Secretary, Medical Board, J. D. C. S. I., Diocesan Office, Vaddukodai on or before 30.9. '87.

Secretary,  
Medical Board,  
J.D.C.S.I.

5th September 1987, gives some information about the state of affairs of the Jaffna Municipal Council, which if true, should be described as shocking and startling, and also seems to suggest that if inquired into might reveal yet more staggering truths.

It is impossible to believe that the Jaffna Municipal Council Commissioner, a person of experience, standing and position could have, during a time which should be described as the darkest period in the history of Jaffna for the last 400 years, committed the Jaffna Municipality almost permanently to a fantastic scheme.

A number of questions arise from this episode. Has a Municipal Commissioner, while being a temporary power-wielder, the authority to commit a Municipality to such a long term, almost

a permanent scheme? Has he got the powers to ignore the directions of the Commissioner of Local Government? Under what section of the Municipal Ordinance did he commit the Municipality to a 50 year lease at Rs. 10,000/= per month. It is impossible to believe

## LETTERS

that he could have found the money for this scheme at a time when the discriminatory policies of the Government had reached its highest level, revealing their true genocidal colours. Did he have any Government Funds committed to this scheme? If so, who authorised such expenditure? And if so, what rights and powers has the Commissioner of Local Government to countermand such arrange-

ments made by the Municipal Commissioner? Some people claim (or are they made to claim?) that the Municipality has been moved to a central place. One wonders under what sense of logic, can one justify the shifting of the Jaffna Municipal offices from the South-Western corner of the Municipal area to its North-Eastern corner, as being central.

It is beginning to appear as though happenings in the Jaffna Municipality are getting "curiouser and curiouser" as Alice said in Alice In Wonderland and one is made to wonder whether the Jaffna Municipal Council is truly turning out to be a Wonderland. Or is it that people for reasons best known to themselves are trying to paint a duty-conscious Commissioner black. It may also be noted that the TULF-led Jaffna

District Council is said to have had plans for building the District Council Offices in the same area now chosen by the Commissioner.

There are so many questions that can be asked when one does not know the whole truth. Hence in fairness to the Jaffna Municipal Commissioner and to all those interested in the affairs of the Municipality, it will be best if the Commissioner makes a public statement regarding all these controversial matters. If not the ratepayers might end up by demanding a Commission to go into the affairs of the Jaffna Municipal Council and the actions of the Commissioner who may have acted genuinely in the interests of the ratepayers.

D.P. Agasthiyan  
Anaicodai

# A PROLETARIAN HUMANIST

The 10th death anniversary of M. Karthigesan fell on 10th September.

We publish here a tribute by his friend and Colleague Orator Subramaniam, Principal Emeritus.

This is the tenth death anniversary of M. Karthigesan. To the last day of his life, he was physically and mentally alert and vibrant. His sudden death came as a rude shock to his pupils, colleagues and friends.

Sometime in 1942, the Northern Province Teachers' Association had invited Mr. Pieter Keuneman and his wife Medi Simon, a brilliant student of philosophy and Psychology, to be guest-speakers at its annual general meeting. In the evening there was a public meeting in the Jaffna Town Hall at which Keuneman was the speaker. As President of the N. P. T. A., I presided and introducing the speaker said,

"Communism has recently, taken a heavy toll of some of the brightest young men of our time... and so there must be something great in it to entice these young men. Our speaker is a brilliant victim." Later Karthigesan also fell a victim, a brilliant 'victim.'

Karthigesan had a brilliant High School career in Malaysia and missed the Government Scholarship to proceed to England for higher studies because he was not a citizen of that country. On returning to Ceylon, he joined the University College. In the first Examination in Arts, he obtained high grades in English and Mathematics and the Departments of English and Mathematics both offered him a place in their Honours Courses. He preferred to do English and being more involved in the Socialist and Anti Imperial movement than in his studies, he just passed out as an Honours graduate.

In the University he edited the 'Varsity News' and later the 'Students News' which were widely read for the vivid and spicy news, spotlighting 'Varsity Life'. Through these papers he became a crusader for students rights.

In the colonial days, the Ceylon Civil Service was the fond dream of every brilliant scholar; but persons like Karthigesan spurned it. The country was then in the throes

In 1946 he was appointed to the staff of the Jaffna Hindu College to teach English and Mathematics in the higher forms. Some pious Hindus on the Board of Directors of the College objected to his appointment on account of his communist affiliations; but Sir W. Duraisamy, the Manager, overruled them saying that communists made good teachers.

Before the State took over schools, most managers and

of their stagnant thinking and made them take an intelligent interest in the country's problems. He moulded their opinions and has made generations of useful citizens.

He was well versed in literary criticism—the—Oxbridge the American, the Russian, the Chinese and Indian Schools of criticism. He made his knowledge freely available to those offering English as a subject for examinations of our University and those of London. He was easily approachable by his own pupils and pupils of other schools. He wrote out their welcome, after-dinner and vote of thanks speeches. His own after dinner speeches were bubbling with wit and humour. His compassion and sympathy for pupils from poor homes were spontaneous and he tried his best to help them.

He was a member of the Jaffna Municipality for a term. He organised the scavenging labourers who were till then voiceless and downtrodden. He extended the library services to some of the wards of Jaffna Town.

He was not a doctrinaire socialist peddling nostrums to win elections. He was a genuine proletarian humanist and was always inspired by a sense of service and devotion.

## 'AID FLOW VERY SLOW'

(Continued from last issue)

During this period of acute tension and instability, the State Agencies and other Social Service Organisations have not made any substantial contribution to grant aid to the victims. Those who were in real need have been ignored.

It may be that these Institutions and agencies have not known the gravity of the perilous and grave situation prevailing around them. This was due to the normal accustomed lethargy or not being interested to know the difficulties others undergo.

Although it is now over a month since the Peace Accord was signed and normalcy restored, the aid flow to the victims is absolutely slow, inadequate, inconsistent and indifferent.

This attitude must change forthwith. The aid flow must be prompt, adequate, consistent and stable. It is for the survival of the needy, until such time permanent rehabilitation programmes are formulated and executed and such a course is time-consuming.

This can be done efficient and effectively only by an independent body devoid of Red Tape, procedural delays, lethargy and other evils presently prevailing in the various Institutions or Organisations.

This team must consist of persons with proven honesty and interested in the peoples welfare and not those seeking self glory. This team must be mobile and reach the people, even those living in remote areas. They must be contacted and assisted without allowing them to go from pillar to post as is now happening—what is happening at present is to make the people to do 'MERRY GO ROUND'.

Immediate relief must be given to the following categories:

1. Families whose sole breadwinners have been killed.
2. Families whose sole breadwinners have become physically unfit due to severe torture.
3. Those who lost their employment in the State or private sector institutions either due to arrest and detention for protracted periods or those who went underground through fear of being arrested and tortured.
4. Self employed such as Fishermen and Farmers. They have also lost their capital assets such as Fishing gear and farming implements. They need immediate additional economic assistance to purchase their capital assets. About 90% of the Fishing community and about 65% of the Farming community were forced to halt their traditional activities due to the military operations. They have not been given any assistance so far. Most of them subsist on a

hand to mouth basis. 5. Mobile traders who had to suspend their activities due to their assets confiscated by the Armed Forces. 6. Masons, Carpenters, Mechanics, Dhobies, Barbers and Tappers etc. who halted their trades due to the military operations.

Apart from the above categories of persons, the student population who suspended their schooling due to the Military operations need to be provided with every possible assistance to continue their education.

It is also an important aspect that all youths who have been in the cadre of the various militant groups are deployed on some sort of profitable activities so that they will not become anti-social elements.

These are matters that should engage the attention of all responsible persons in the country. There should not be any undue delay in implementing relief measures.

It is sincerely hoped that all responsible citizens of this country will realise the importance of quick action in the matter of granting immediate relief assistance as a temporary measure and subsequently to formulate and execute permanent rehabilitation programme.

(Concluded)

by

C. Subramaniam

principals were keen to appoint qualified leftists as teachers and such teachers by their efficient services, have made our schools institutions that could be the pride of any nation.

He proved a teacher of English par excellence. His classes were never dull, His lessons were replete with witty topical anecdotes, sparkling wit and humour. His interest ranged over a broad spectrum of subjects—literature, history, mathematics, Political Science and Sports. He knew the rules and finer points of all the games equally well as Shakespeare. His name soon became almost synonymous with versatility. But more than all these, he made his pupils think. He pulled them out

### APPRECIATION

#### An Irreparable Loss To Uduvil



Mrs. Helen Pakiawathie Gunaratnam, retired Vice Principal of Uduvil Girl's College passed away on the 5th of August 1987. Her demise is an irreparable loss to Uduvil and to the privileged band of her true friends and members of the Mann family.

Her grand-father, Mr. Samuel Mann was the founder of Mann's English school at Uduvil established in the year 1862 mainly for the male students and also a vernacular school at Chunnakam which was an urgent need for the poor children at that time.

As a teacher at Uduvil Girl's College she was a

strict disciplinarian but behind that toughness was the essence of a loving heart. She had the gift of a smile that brightens up a face and makes others' cares and worries vanish. Even after her retirement at the age of sixty she served Uduvil Girl's College in many capacities until the end of the year 1986 when she fell ill.

Mrs. Gunaratnam was a religious lady for she knew the essence of the teachings of Jesus Christ. She set a rare Christian standard of conduct and integrity in public life and has now gone for ever, but she will continue to live in the hearts of thousands of pupils and teachers and the people living in Uduvil who are today reaping the benefits of her selfless and devoted service.

Writing a personal note, she was my class teacher in my Grade II at Uduvil Girls' College. She was a true mentor and guide whose hospitality I have enjoyed times without number.

May the Good Lord who guided her in life, guide her in her new abode,

Good-bye-Sweet Lady,  
Until we meet again.  
Uduvil Joe Pathinathan

# EUROPE: ASIA IS OLDER

Civilization is older in Asia than in Europe; yet the Asian countries and regions have developed much more separately than the European, with far less of a common basis. The Asian countries and even parts of a single country have developed along their own paths, with less economic fusion. In Asia, therefore, countries and regions are so different that aggregation is usually difficult.

In recent years, one of the planning objectives that has become very prominent is the correction of imbalances existing among different parts of a single country. Therefore, almost all countries, along with planning their development on a national scale, also undertake subnational development planning with parts of a single country as fundamental planning units.

In this country the variety of vegetation and landscape in the various parts of the island makes possible a wide range of experimental approaches into a single national pattern. Soon we may be able to see a series of quite diverse, lively experiments arising in different parts of the country. Various informal arrangements among parts of the country, which I think, would come soon in the wake of things now coming into view, would provide opportunities for resourcefulness in making a unity out of diversities.

Planners increasingly recognize that parts of a single country often have peculiar characteristics and economic problems which need special considerations. Therefore, sometimes, the logic of the times and situation demand development planning, regional in scope.

There had been a lot of changes in the internal physical structure of the North and East. There were many dislocations of population. Mass migration into Tamil areas has placed a heavy burden on the host areas. Economic problems arising out of the recent dislocations and the age-old land hunger of the people of the region need special considerations.

## SPECIAL CONSIDERATION

The real estate business, or "real estate craze" as it has been called in other countries, has dominated the economic scene in most of

the major towns in the North and East. Traffic in land and building—mostly urban—for quick speculative profit, has been the major direction in which the economic vitality of the speculators has been channelled. Population influx resulting from both the rural migrations and from the panic migration of those who lived in the South has put large masses of population at the mercy of the real estate manipulators.

Today, Jaffna peninsula, in particular, has become the focal point of real estate commerce. Owners of empty plots hold on to them, forcing prices up. As a result, areas on the fringes of the towns, as well as many of the valuable gardens in villages surrounding the towns, for instance, places like Thirunelveli and Manthigai, have mushroomed in an unplanned fashion.

The subnational administration or may be a "planning commission" born but not formally recognized, should take the responsibility for a consciously planned diffusion of population. A close correlation exists between industrial location and population settlement. Attempts should be made to spread apart new industries. The administrative importance of the overcrowded towns in relation to the rest of the area should be willingly reduced.

## MERGER OF HEARTS

The North and East have a lot of combination of characteristics with a tendency to remain together and because of this cohesive sense of place, both the provinces deserve a combined team for planning and co-ordinated efforts in implementation. Settlement of displaced persons and newcomers, the relocation of sites for public works that were already under way must be considered in relation to the totality of Tamil area to avoid duplication of efforts and damage to the long-range interests of the race.

The essential idea behind economic planning is that certain key economic decisions should be made, or at least influenced, by some central agency, rather than left to the free play of market forces. So much so even an informal agreement between the North and East will suffice. Political merger is

unnecessary if the hearts are well affined.

## CAUTIOUS APPROACH

In the Soviet Union (1920s) two schools of thought about the basis of planning developed and vigorous discussions raged about them. One school advocated "genetic" and the other "teleological" planning. The former (genetic) composed of the more moderate and cautious planners, believed that plans should be based on existing trends in the economy. The latter (teleological) planners, on the basis that developments are due to the purpose or design that is served by them, considered that drastic measures were necessary to speed up development.

It was the "teleological" school that produced the extremely ambitious drafts of the first five-year plan of the Soviet Union. The radicals conceived the plan as taking precedence over all previous economic decisions and existing trends so

by

Mallika Rasaratnam

as to enable a sharp break with the past.

The first five-year plan of the Soviet Union was a failure and ran into difficulties. The Government insisted on carrying it through, but at the cost of a drastic fall in the availability of consumer goods.

A cautious approach is the most desirable one. To mention an example in the national scale, to explain how some desirable but drastic changes are likely to conflict with others, we may say that while it may be possible, for example, to stimulate the economy so as to obtain sharply higher levels of output and employment the measures required to do this may also produce rapidly rising prices, which in turn will lead to rising imports and falling exports; the results may be a balance of payments crisis.

There is much to recommend comprehensive long-term planning for a unit which is ready for it. It must be frankly recognized that we do not at present possess either sufficient knowledge and statistical information or sufficiently extensive control over the economic activities to be able, either to frame or execute long-term plans.

Experience favours staged approach. It may be practicable for the provincial administrations of the North and East, to begin with a plan containing mainly a number of technically feasible and economically justifiable individual projects, without much emphasis on employment targets, inter-industry co-ordination, etc. It always needs more courage "to think small".

## PROJECT WORK STUDY

Inadequate preparatory work on projects is one of the most important reasons why plans fail to reach the pre-determined targets. The projects should be worked out in detail.

A work study, with the aim of finding ways to reduce costs and efforts is necessary. The tasks of work study fall into three main sections: Method study (how things are done); Motion study (how people do them); Time study (how long they take).

Method study is aimed at better ways of doing a particular job. There are five ways in which methods can be improved: Eliminate unnecessary tasks; simplify the process; combine tasks; rearrange tasks; reduce the number of operations. These improvements involve detailed analysis of what is being done and how it is being done, which includes workflow analysis.

Motion study is concerned with how people do a particular job. If you ask several people to perform the same task without specifying how they should do it, you will almost certainly have as many solutions as participants. We all approach tasks in a different way. Some people, have the knack of always finding, the simple way. Motion study will reduce fatigue; improve safety; increase production; reduce labour costs and increase equipment utilization.

Time study is about how long personnel should take to perform a task. Time study is now generally referred to as work measurement. It is certainly the most controversial. Time study comprises sub-dividing

a job into specific tasks which can be measured.

## PLAN PERIOD

The question of what constitutes the ideal planning period is undecided. The situation in each country or unit must govern the selection of an appropriate planning period. A five-year plan period is convenient in India because it coincides with the term of office in Central and State Governments.

Experience indicate that as a practical matter, it is desirable to fix a period for a development plan which is short enough to permit reasonably accurate projections and estimates to be made and long enough to cover the lead time or gestation period of a sufficient number of major projects to give a reasonably adequate indication of their effect is carrying out plan objectives.

Experience in Latin America shows that if planners attempt too much by insisting on comprehensive planning, the preparatory stage is likely to go on indefinitely without tangible results. It may lead to disillusionment with planning. The people of the provinces are in a good mood and it is easy to mobilize their support now. Tamils have a better chance of attracting foreign financial assistance if they have development plans. The Tamil speaking people can hardly afford a loss of opportunity.

## Drug Pedlars

Official police sources state that there were 1260 Lankans serving jail sentences in foreign prisons for drug offences.

997 of these were stated to Tamils and the balance were composed of both Sinhalese and Muslims. It has also been mentioned that after the Indo-Sri Lanka Peace Accord there has been a noticeable decrease of Lankans arrested abroad for drug offences.

## Immediate Aid

The World Bank delegation headed by Mr. Akralav which visited damaged areas in the North has promised 9.6 million rupees immediate aid. This assurance was given to the Government Agent Mr. M. Panchalingam.

After the "War games" jointly played by the Army, Navy and Air Force, where St. Patrick's College figured not too insignificantly — for it was bombed and shelled — there was sport of another kind. The Actors were different but the venue was the same — St. Patrick's College, grounds, on 12th September.

It was more than four years ago that a team from outside the Peninsula met in friendly encounter and it was heartening to witness a game of football unmarred by threats and tensions around.

The plaudits and appreciation must surely go to the President of the Kurunegala Sports Club, H. L. Premadasa and their Coach, N. K. Abeyasinghe who sportingly volunteered to bring a team of footballers to meet a Jaffna Club in a friendly encounter as the first ambassadors of peace and goodwill to the stricken North starved of sport for many years. The large crowd present enjoyed every moment of the ninety minutes. This gesture of peace and good will must surely be placed on record for two days after the Peace Accord was signed on 29th July, 1987, the President had agreed to bring a team of footballers as cohorts of peace.

# Ambassadors Of Peace

The match itself was evenly contested. It was a goalless first half. But after the refreshing break for lemons, the Kurunegala forwards sprang into action. The architect of their first goal was none other than their skipper, L. A. Jayatileke. Aided by the deft foot work of K. H. Sudar Sandana a second goal followed suit. The Jaffna team led by Munaz tried their utmost to make the scores even but their efforts were frustrated by poor finishes and the agile goal keeper, A. Fernando who won the accolades of the crowd and as a gesture of their appreciation of his goal-keeping, he was carried off the field by an enthusiastic crowd of spectators. The match ended two nil in favour of the Kurunegala Sports Club.

The failure of the local team to give a better account

of themselves was probably due to their lack of match practice but full marks should go to their Coaches, Messrs. Martin and Gunaretnam who did their best to field a team with the talent immediately available at short

notice. However, one was sorry to see two young Patricians, Selvarajah and Dan Fernando watch this match on the 'side-lines'.

The Chief Guest at this match was the former President of the Referees' Association, Mr. E. Kanagalingam. The match was evenly controlled by Mr. M. Devathas.

We hope to see more of such ambassadors for peace so that the spirit of camaraderie and unity could be forged on the anvil of sports. We have been informed that

the Jaffna Club has been invited to Kurunegala for their return match.

— Anton Ravindran

## Peaceful Protest

People of Kokulai, Kokkuthodavai, Mukathuvaram and Muthuraikulam in the Mullaitivu district started a sit-down strike opposite the offices of the Government Agent at Mullaitivu against the settlement of Sinhalese people in areas once inhabited by them, and requesting safeguards for them to settle therein. More than a thousand persons took part in this demonstration which prevented the public servants from entering their offices.

## Accord And The Discord

With the signing of the Indo-Sri Lankan Accord the majority of the Tamils thought that that they have been saved from the hands of the brutal acts of the Security Forces. Not even two months have passed after the signing of the much welcomed Accord, where are we now?

The Tamils are wondering about the fate of the Accord the amalgamation of the Northern and Eastern Provinces, the Interim Council, the devolution of power and various matters.

The Sri Lankan Government and its chauvinist officers including the Security Forces are trying to consolidate the position of the Sinhalese colonists and more State organised and supported colonization.

The Tamils who have been driven from their homeland and become refugees are not allowed to go to their own homes by the Sri Lankan Government Security Forces and officials. The Aid granted for rehabilitation by foreign governments are being utilised to promote further colonisation but the

real victims of State tyranny are being deprived of their share of aid for refugees given by foreign Governments. Is this justice? Whom is the Sri Lankan Government trying to fool?

The Tamils owe a gratitude for the Indian Government and its army-peace-keeping force for putting a stop to the unwanted slaughter of the Tamils by the Sri Lankan Security Forces. But is there any use in saving a man's life and leaving him at the mercy of the tyrant to kill him by a slow process of strangulation—depriving him of his legitimate land and legitimate rights?

Is the Indian Government acquiescing in the slow crushing the legitimate rights of Tamils? Or, is it trying to be friendly with important figures controlling the destiny of Sri Lanka and the Tamils? They may succeed in this attempt at the expense of the Tamils? How long can this state of affairs go on? A suppressed emotion and freedom is likely to burnt out and the ultimate end will be unutter destruction and chaos.

## PRE-QUALIFICATION OF CONTRACTORS

Applications are invited from reputed Contractors who wish to be considered to Tender for the Construction of a Two - Storeyed Office Building with high quality finishes at Jaffna Town Centre.

The Tender will be for a Fixed Price Lump Sum Contract and the selected Tenderer will be expected to carry out the entire works in respect of Civil Works and Services.

The proposed building includes approximately 9800 sq. ft. of Office Space of which 8550 sq. ft. will be Air Conditioned.

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The construction period has been limited to 12 months and this time period would be a prime consideration in the final selection of the successful Tenderer.

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Those interested and having the required experience may apply for short listing on prescribed forms that will be available at the office of our Consultants, on a payment of Rupees One Hundred and Fifty (Rs. 150/-) only.

PLANNING CONSULTANCY  
15, Walukarama Road,  
Colombo 3.

Application Forms for short listing will be issued at the above mentioned Office from 21-09-1987 to 25-09-1987 between 9-00 a.m and 4-00 p.m.

Completed Application Forms should be forwarded by Registered Post or hand delivered to the Asst. General Manager, Banking Services, Hatton National Bank Ltd., No. 10, R.A. de Mel Mawatha, Colombo 3. before 2-30 p.m. on 7-10-1987.

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# INTEGRAL FREEDOM

Political freedom has been the foremost target for the many struggles and heated battles waged by our youth for the last few years. With the dawn of the peace accord some measure of freedom has been guaranteed. We may believe that we are on the path to self determination with a qualified recognition of our traditional homeland. Some may be inclined to think that freedom from the tyranny and oppression of the State armed forces is the cherished freedom.

Political freedom does in no way constitute the total reality of freedom. It is only one dimension of the multifaceted reality of freedom. Mahatma Gandhi who had been in the frontier of the freedom struggle, did not consider independence from the British Empire as the entire scope of freedom for the Indian masses. He realised that there had been deeper forms of oppression right within the society by the caste people against the harijans. Freedom had to be won over not only from the foreign dominion but also from the oppressive forces within the social structure. He perceived political

freedom not as the only goal but as one aspect of freedom in the on-going process which should ensure every man his basic dignity and integrity.

What has been the depth and quality of freedom in the Tamil areas up to now? It has been a co-existence of freedom and unfreedom. While some people have every access to equal opportunities for a prosperous life, others are discriminated on the basis of caste. The feelings of caste discriminations are deeply entrenched in the minds of many people. Some people are ostracised by the evil of untouchability. Who can boast of equal freedom in the Tamil homeland when a sizable section of the people is denied equal respect? They have been contributing to the welfare of the society by their traditional professions often so looked down upon.

During the last few years a large number of youth from such communities had launched into the battle field for the cause of freedom and many had heroically met with death. What awaits

those who had thrown themselves into mainstream of the freedom struggle? Are they going to be marginalised and relegated to the background with the reemergence of caste prejudices? With the new waves of political freedom, will such communities be restored to dignity and equal opportunities in life? What measures have been chalked out to correct such inhuman attitudes and for the retribution of justice?

Can religions continue to legitimize or institutionalise poverty and caste discriminations? Neither Hinduism nor Christianity can conclusively establish or perpetuate such oppressive structures. The creation of the four-caste-system tailored to four professions is a matter of convenience, for the efficient administration of the Ariyan society, in the past ages.

by **J. Thiruchelvam O. M. I.**

In its original design it never envisaged any discrimination against each other. Down the ages, the priestly caste however found it advantageous to give a Religious interpretation for the primacy of its priestly caste. In like manner the affluent high caste found it beneficial to subjugate the harijans to employ them in their lands. They justified their belief that harijans are born because of their sins in their previous births. (Karma) Such an anomaly has to be straightened out by a correct understanding of Religions.

That every man is equal in dignity is a matter established in reason and reality. It is enshrined in the charter of fundamental human rights. If Religions fail to proclaim the goodness of every man irrespective of caste and race they lose their rights to existence. But as a matter of fact what has become stronger than reason and faith is the impact of erroneous beliefs and degrading social customs. Children unconsciously assimilate unhealthy attitudes from their elders right from their infancy. As they mix up with others they begin to discriminate and despise a section of people on grounds of caste and class. What had been unquestioningly adopted as acceptable behaviour, remains unchallenged even after much education. Religious beliefs sometime do not penetrate such inhuman reality. They are rather played down to accommodate

and to justify such oppressive attitudes. Religions therefore instead of purifying and refining the corrupt elements of our customs and culture, become subservient to and supporter of evil systems.

A few instances of politicised eating together or fighting together or even a few incidents of intermarriages, do not resolve the problem. What is required first is to foster right attitudes and secondly to establish parity in social and civil spheres. It is no avail working at the level of systems. As such the problem is more structural. It is the very structure and thought patterns of our society which should be exposed and systematically eradicated, in order to build up a new fellowship founded in justice and truth.

Tamilians sometime evidence a tendency to live in the past by priding themselves in their antiquity, culture and past heritage. If it is not oriented to an equitable society then it stops short of right moral base. The militant movements can live in their past glories. What is needed is vigilance against tilting towards the past, without a dream of a more egalitarian society and without an integral vision of freedom for every citizen. Attempts can be made to build up personality cults as it had been done in Tamil Nadu and other places. Much energy can be expended in erecting statues in every nook and corner. Anything overdone can be a diversion of attention from the more vital problems of life. What has been achieved is not something new but only in part our lost political freedom. What is to be gained, is dignity and equality for every man within the frame-work of our Tamil Society.

(1) Not only the freedom movements but every responsible citizen must awaken to the task of rebuilding our society in a spirit of equality and fellowship. (2) Not only efforts at the individual and collective levels but also at the level of enactment laws which guarantee equal opportunities. (3) School text books and our system of education must open up the young minds to build up a common brotherhood. (4) The different media of communication can be fully

exploited to educate every one to respect every man, eschewing caste prejudices and class differentiations. (5) The various derogatory caste-labels should be eliminated and be replaced by more amenable nomenclature. (6) Younger generations must be encouraged to work together and socialise together. (7) More incentives must be provided to youth to take up any job without any distinction or taboos and greater remuneration must be awarded. (8) Compulsory education must be enforced up to S. L. C. to ensure literacy among the poor and the down castes. Village Schools must be given more Teachers and facilities. (9) The landless and the homeless must be entitled to own lands and be helped to build up self sufficiency. (10) Places of worship must always uphold the dignity and equality of every man even at the face of great opposition. Prophets and Sages must rise up courageously to denounce the evils of our system and to proclaim equality and justice to the poor and the oppressed.

Not that the above mentioned proposals are not effectuated, but what is required is a mass movement which is systematic and concrete as to bring about a felt change of attitude. When shall we wake up to the reality of our common brotherhood that transcends the caste barriers and class distinctions—that we are all human beings with equal dignity and with a common destiny? It is only when we direct all our energies to work for an Integral freedom by stamping out all forms of domination and oppression that our land can break forth into a song in unison that we are all one people.

## Outright Grant

The Indian Finance Minister, Narain Dutt Tiwari has announced that India would give an outright grant of Rs. 550 million for reconstruction in the North and East. At the talks in New Delhi, Ronnie de Mel, Sri Lanka's Finance Minister, suggested liberalising India's imports of cloves, nutmeg, coconut oil, maize, nylon yarn—all of which Sri Lanka produces in plenty—because the Indo-Sri Lanka trade balance is tilted in favour of India.

## World Illiteracy

According to the Secretary-General of UNESCO, Ananda Mahtar M'bow there are 886 million illiterates in the world out of which 200 million are in China. Three quarters of the world's illiterates live in rural areas: 60 per cent of them are women.

## War Propaganda Banned In The USSR

The Soviet foreign policy of peace has been enshrined in the New Constitution of the U.S.S.R. Article 28 states: "In the USSR war propaganda is banned." It further states that "the foreign policy of the USSR is aimed at ensuring international conditions favourable for building communism in the USSR, safeguarding the state interests of the Soviet Union, consolidating the positions of world socialism, supporting the struggle of peoples for national liberation and social progress, preventing wars of aggression, achieving universal and complete disarmament, and consistently implementing the principle of the peaceful coexistence of states with different social systems."

Immediately after the proclamation, in 1917, of the famous Decree on Peace, Lenin said that "we have started a resolute struggle against the war" and that "it is a difficult struggle". "But", Lenin stressed, "we are not going to be deterred by the bourgeoisie's fierce hatred for us, and for our peace movement". And for the past seventy years now, Lenin's Party and the Soviet state, loyal to Lenin's behests, have been waging a consistent struggle for peace.

For the text of Lenin's "Decree on Peace" and for a study of the various peace initiatives taken by the Soviet Union for the reduction of nuclear and conventional armaments and for the complete prohibition of nuclear weapon tests, read the book "Lenin and Asia" by Attorney-at-law T. Duraisingam, a founder member of the Suriya Mal Movement (1933), the first organisation in our country to campaign against war propaganda.

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

Price Rs.10/-

Council for Socialist Studies

31, Wilson Street, Colombo 12

# INDIA AND THE TAMILS

The Tamil people in Sri Lanka are wondering what the future holds for them. Ever since politics was thrust on Sri Lanka forty years ago on the Tamils, both Upcountry and Jaffna Tamils, have been discriminated against.

For thirty years the indigenous Tamils tried every democratic method to look after their own internal affairs in areas they have occupied for centuries. When there was no response from the Sri Lankan Government, dominated by Sinhalese, the Tamils felt that the only course open to them was to separate - Eelam.

Any sagacious Government would have seen the need for dialogue and compromise which could easily have been obtained, for it was only a cry of desperation and could easily have been assuaged. Instead, repression of Tamils started, and as always violence was violence.

After the killing of Tamils all over the Island and a planned destruction of their property, a crude war has been waged in North and East amounting to near genocide. If there was any doubt that the North and East are Tamil territory, the Armed Forces have removed it. The Tamils of Sri Lanka have been through fire and the iron in them will become steel. Their prolonged ordeal since Independence culminating in the murder

of their men, the rape of their women and summary incarceration of their boys and young men, of whom remain "missing" has shown the Tamil people that if they want to survive, they must unite and look after themselves.

No body in the world can help them, neither India nor Sinhalese till they begin to help themselves. If I may be forgiven for striking a personal note, all my working

life, I served in Sinhalese areas and my best friends are and remain Sinhalese. And yet today, after seeing how the Tamil people have been tortured and humiliated without any public protest by the Sinhalese people, I feel a homeland where I can live in safety and dignity is a must. This does not mean I want to be cut off from my Sinhalese friends. They will be welcome here just as I will be in Sinhalese areas. Permanent residency will conform to local rules.

The Sri Lankan Government will do everything possible to divide the Tamils in the North and East. If they succeed, the Tamils will be with only the Northern Province. This should not dishearten us. We can plan to develop the Northern Province to suit our needs and culture. Our first aim should be to provide Basic Needs to all - Food, Water, for Drinking, Irrigation, Clothing, Shelter, Health Services and Education. The provision

of all these will provide for employment. We Tamils must alter our thinking to suit altered conditions. In Jaffna I see Private Tutories (cram shops really) with rows of bicycles (mostly girls, the boys are missing) coaching students for G.C.E. (O.L./A.L.)

We hope that the flower of Tamils still left will rise up and build a New Home out of the ashes.

—Dr. Crosette Thambiah

## Detention Camps

According to a news item in a local Tamil Daily, the Indian authorities have reportedly requested the Sri Lankan Government to close down the detention camps in Trincomalee. The report further adds that although peace has been established after the signing of the Indo-Sri Lanka Accord, Trincomalee seems to be the bone of contention among the militants and the Tamil speaking people in these areas do not seem have felt the impact of the Accord.

## Unseen Hand

Romesh Bhandari, Head of Congress (I) Foreign Affairs Committee fears that other countries may go all out to wreck the Indo-Sri Lanka Accord. This was the gist of a statement made to

the Committee in Jaipur but he expressed the hope that the Indian Peace Keeping Force would forestall such moves.

## An Appeal: After Accord

The Tamil detainees at the prison at Pelawatte in Matugama - B.A. Cader (P.16462), T. Sothilingam (P.13725), P. Somasundaram ((P.12583) T. Manickampillai (P.13244) and P. Mahalingam (P.14366) have sent a Memorandum to President Jayewardene and Secretary of the Jaffna Citizens' Committee enlisting their assistance and

co-operation in obtaining their release in accordance with the Peace formula stipulated in the Indo-Sri Lanka Accord of 29th July, 1987. This appeal is on behalf of all detainees.

Their release they have stated is going at a snail's pace while in comparison the rehabilitation of Sinhala refugees in Kankasanturai has gained greater momentum.

They state that there more than 6,000 political detainees in jails scattered over many camps in the South. Many of them were taken as hostages during the military operations in Vadamarachy and other areas. About 500 of them had been released but about 38 of them are languishing without any indictment being framed against them. There were others where cases were proceeding or were being charged. One of them was Rev. Fr. A. Singaray who was released at the instance of the Attorney General preferring a 'Nolle prosequi' claim. It is also

further stated that since July 1983 their lives are at stake and at any moment anything could happen to them.

If the letter and spirit of the Indo-Sri Lanka Accord is to be kept and for all the world to know, it is necessary that all political detainees should be released for the World to know that this has been done.

## Drug Pedlars

Official Police sources state that there were 1260 Lankans serving jail sentences in foreign prisons for drug offences 997 of these were stated to Tamils and the balance were composed of both Sinhalese and Muslims. It has also been mentioned that after the Indo-Sri Lanka peace accord there has been a noticeable decrease of Lankans arrested abroad for drug offences.

## 550 Million Outright Grant

The Indian Finance Minister, Narain Dutt Tiwari has announced that India would give an outright grant of 550 million rupees for reconstruction in the North and East. At the talks in New Delhi, Ronnie de Mel-Sri Lanka's Finance Minister has suggested the liberalising the imports of Cloves, nutmeg, Coconut Oil, maize, nylon yarn which Sri Lanka produces in plenty because the Indo-Sri Lanka trade balance is tilted in favour of India.

## Can One Use Ahimsa Both As A Violent And Non-Violent Weapon?

Whenever we think of ahimsa we always tend to identify it with Gandhi; because Gandhi was not only responsible for popularising the word but it was he who applied ahimsa in his day to day life and tested its force.

According to Gandhi, Truth is God, and ahimsa is one form of manifestation of that very truth. Hence he upheld ahimsa as a pure weapon to achieve his ends.

Ahimsa is pure in the sense that it does not add karma to our work. In other words, Gandhi said that ahimsa is the only weapon with which we can fight against any oppression without doing any harm to your enemy either by word, deed or actions even when one is dying in the hands of his enemy. By your actions of ahimsa you not only act in

a higher mental plane but you also try to elevate your enemy to that very level.

What made Gandhi to choose ahimsa? He chose ahimsa because he believed in God and saw God in everything and in all forms of life. This realization of Gandhi brought home that by doing harm to your enemy you are doing harm to your very own self - i.e., God within!

This realisation made Gandhi to surrender all his actions to God. As a result his non-violent struggle became the struggle of the very Lord Himself! As God is being the 'Unmoved Mover' of all things (i.e., friends as well as foes) the path of ahimsa becomes the easiest one for a non-violent fighter to achieve his ends.

But now the question arises whether a non-believer in

God uses ahimsa in his struggle becomes violent because he uses ahimsa only when he is deprived of all his accessibility to violent methods. Bobby Sands' fast unto death was a good example to this. Hence a non-violent weapon becomes a violent one in the hands of a non-believer in God. His ahimsa weapon such as fast unto death can be identified with a suicidal act for a cause! But what is redeeming in his act is that he is prepared to die at any moment for genuine cause. This act of self-sacrifice has a force and it can be equal to a divine force! But a person who performs this act of self-sacrifice must see that this force should not be dissipated by the wrong actions of his fellow workers.

— M.P.

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# Saturday Review

SRI LANKA

## ON WHOSE SIDE IS INDIA?

Text of a resolution which the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam 'has been reluctantly compelled to adopt'.

Whereas on the various assurances given to us by Hon. Rajiv Gandhi the Prime Minister of India, the L.T.T.E laid down its arms and surrendered them in stages;

Whereas the Interim Government for the Tamil Provinces already announced has not been constituted but the Government of Sri Lanka is going ahead with its policy of colonising Tamil areas with Sinhala people;

Whereas the Tamil refugees have not been cared for but rehabilitation funds are being diverted for Sinhala colonisation of Tamil homeland under the pretext of rehabilitation;

Whereas the Tamil refugees are unable to return to their homes because of the threats meted out to them by the Sinhala Army, Police and the so called Home Guards;

Whereas the Government is opening up Police Stations in the Northern and Eastern Provinces in a hurry contrary to the assurances that the Interim Government would be in charge of the Police including recruitment; and

by **Mohan**

Whereas more than 1½ months have elapsed since the signing of the Accord between India and Sri Lanka and still thousands of detainees and prisoners under the Prevention of Terrorism Act, both males and females have still not been released.

The L.T.T.E. in defence of the freedoms of the Tamil people and the Tamil Homeland has decided to draw the attention of the people and Government of India by launching on a fast unto death by its cadres and picketing of Government offices. The L.T.T.E. however will call off its fast unto death and picketing campaigns if

the Indian Government would assure:-

1. The immediate stoppage of all forms of Sinhala colonisation of the Tamil Homeland under the pretext of rehabilitation.
2. The stoppage of the so called re-habilitation work until the formation of the proposed Interim Government;
3. The immediate suspension of opening up of Police Stations in the Northern and Eastern Provinces;
4. The surrender of all arms under the supervision of the Indian Peace Keeping Force by the so called Home Guards and the commencement of the closure of all Army and/or Police Camps situated in Tamil villages and schools;
5. The release of all those still in prisons or detention camps under the Prevention of Terrorism Act.

## TRINCO'S ORDEAL

There are 18 hamlets in the village of Thampalakam. Thampalakam is an AGA's Division. In the 18 hamlets there are 1,691 Tamil families. The entire Tamil residents about 7,186 had to leave the village as refugees and take shelter in the adjoining villages Soovangal, Kakkamunai, Kurinchakerny and such Muslim villages. They had to leave the place on account of incidents of violence. Their houses had been burnt, damaged and looted. We had no difficulty in Thampalakam in 1977, 1978, 1979, 1980, 1981, 1982 and 1983 and even in 1984. During these periods there were lot of disturbances in other places. It is after the setting up of a Security Camp at Puthukudirrupu, Thampalakam, the disturbances started. It is after this, the residents left the village:-

1. No. of persons - 83
2. No. of persons missing 69
3. No. of persons taken into custody - 76
4. 183 houses were burnt
5. 796 partly damaged
6. 43 houses were damaged and completely burnt.

Recent events in Tamil districts involving Tamil youth have such tragic character, that it is too distressing to talk about them. They have been picked up with such glee by sections of the media that supported genocidal state policies against Tamils, that it has become superfluous to mention them. The Special Task Force whose damnable history is yet to be written, is now made to look very moderate and even benign, by claiming to afford protection to sections of Tamil youth. After all this suffering, how did we come to this moral impasse, this self-laceration? We must re-examine many assumptions that have been taken for granted.

Recent political trends in Jaffna give cause for immediate concern. There are urgent concerns confronting Tamils and Muslims in the East such as colonisation, rehabilitation and security. These call for a radical overhaul of the state machinery. Such changes require a constructive approach and dialogue with the Indian arbiters. But a dominant concern of politics in Jaffna deals with metaphysical issues. We see Indian hegemonism in everything and are busy warning India of dire consequences and protesting that we are not Indians. In 1984 one of our leaders wrote a well-publicised letter to President Reagan advising him that we Tamils of Ceylon

were the most powerful minority in the world. Events of the succeeding years showed, and no amount of rhetoric can hide, our physical and moral nakedness. The vanity of the Jaffna man's concerns, can only serve to cut him off from the needs of Tamils outside the peninsula and finally give the initiative over to the Indians, or less likely, to the Sri Lankan Government. Given the Tamil capacity for infighting, mischievous suggestions by Ministers Devanayagam and Rajadurai, who did next to nothing to protect the Eastern province Tamils from their own Government, are likely to gain credibility. They have recently suggested that the East needs no interim administration, and that the present administration is satisfactory. If we do not get our act together and make a constructive approach to the situation, our loss of freedom may become a self-fulfilling prophecy. This is best done without rhetoric.

Serious account must also be taken of Muslim fears. Instead of insisting that they are also Tamils, we must try to understand why they feel different. Recent conduct of some Tamil militant groups as well as the conduct of the Indian forces in Kalmunai have only increased their feeling of alienation. If this continues, a destructive Tamil nationalism may find itself confronted with a destructive Islamic fundamentalism. In the interests of peace, the Indian Forces must be humble enough to admit mistakes and ensure that they are not repeated.

## Sammanthurai AGA Shot

W. Wiknarajah, AGA Sammanthurai in Batticaloa district was shot dead by unidentified gunmen near his home after midnight on 15.09.87. He was one of the 70 people reported killed in a series of massacres in the Eastern Province. He was 54 years old and father of 3 children.

## Censorship Lifted

Press Censorship has been lifted from midnight 16th September, according to an announcement over the SLBC. A censorship was imposed on 31st July, 1987 and had been in force for the last 48 days.

## World Illiteracy

According to the Secretary-General of UNESCO, Ananda Mahtar M'bow there are 886 million illiterates in the world of which 200 million are in China. Three-quarters of the world's illiterates live in rural areas and of which 60% are women.



The Tiger Flag Flies Atop the Pannai Police Headquarters. Outside are women demonstrators blocking public entry.