

Over 1.9 mn Pfizer Booster vaccines arrive this week



AMILA PRABATH WANASINGHE

Health State Minister Prof. Channa Jayasumana said that 1.9 million doses of the Pfizer COVID vaccine are due in the country this week.

Speaking at a media briefing held in Anuradhapura yesterday (21), the State Minister said individuals who have received the Corona immunization vaccination could experience fever, cold and body aches and pain but they will not be able to spread the virus to others after being fully vaccinated. He said further that 1.5 million doses of the Pfizer vaccine will be received in the country today (22) and another 400,000 doses will reach the country tomorrow (23). **TO PAGE 02**

The Committee on Public Accounts (COPA) Committee on Friday found that foreign direct financial aid has been spent on four projects without informing the External Resources Department of the General Treasury.

COPA finds direct aid spent on four projects without informing Treasury

The revelation came as Environment Ministry officials were summoned to the Committee on Public Accounts (COPA) to examine the Auditor General's report for the financial years 2017, 2018 and 2019 and their current performance.

The Committee on Public Accounts was held in Parliament last Friday (19) under the chairmanship of MP (Prof.) Tissa Vitarana.

It was identified that three projects worth US\$ 9.96 million and one project **TO PAGE 02**

FUEL PRICE FORMULA PROPOSED TO CABINET - MINISTER

CPC DEBT OF RS. 720 BN TO BOC AND PEOPLE'S BANK

FOREIGN BORROWINGS ON LONG TERM TO SPREAD OUT THE LOSSES

RAVI LADDUWAHETTY

The Ceylon Petroleum Corporation (CPC) will propose to the Government to usher in a Fuel Price Formula (FPF) soon in the wake of the debt of US\$ 3.6 Billion (Rs. 720 Billion) that the CPC owes the Bank of Ceylon (BOC) and the People's Bank.

It is impossible to continue in this manner with successive Governments absorbing the losses of

the CPC and I will recommend to the Cabinet to bring in a FPF in the near future, Energy Minister Udaya Gammanpila told the *Daily News* yesterday.

"This will create an atmosphere where we can increase the prices when the global prices are up while we can reduce the prices when the prices are down. The absence of a price reflective mechanism was the cause of the CPC's woes," Minister

Gammanpila said. Successive Governments have not implemented a cost effective pricing mechanism and this is the debt which has accumulated over the last 20 years, the Minister said.

Responding to a question on how the CPC proposes to restructure these debts, the Minister said the Government was dealing with foreign banks and other overseas institutions to borrow at interest

rates lower than the rates it is paying the BOC and the People's Bank.

"The problem we are faced with is that fuel prices are going up and poised to go up even further. We don't have adequate Natural Gas or oil. We also have a US Dollar crisis as well".

"We have no issues with funding for petroleum products and consume US\$ 350 Million monthly **TO PAGE 02**



GN's criticisms on social media led to Circular - Ministry

No action against any officer despite caution letter

DISNA MUDALIGE

A letter was issued warning the public servants against criticizing the Government and its policies in social media, because the Grama Niladari (GN) Officers recently took to social media to overtly criticize the field tasks assigned to them, Home Affairs State Ministry Secretary H. N. Chitrananda said.

Contacted by the *Daily News* yesterday, he, however, said that the Ministry has decided not to take disciplinary action or punishment against any of them despite what was mentioned in the letter.

The Secretary's letter dated November 5, which was sent to all GN officers and District Secretaries, stated that the Ministry would take disciplinary action under the Establishment Code against those who bring the Public Service into disrepute by posting social media **TO PAGE 02**



The One Country One Law Presidential Task Force headed by Ven. Galagoda Aththe Gnanasara Thera commenced public consultations yesterday, starting from the Northern Province. Here the Committee receives the views and ideas of the public at the Organic Farmers Community Hall in Bogaswewa, Vavuniya. (Picture by President's Media Division).

'ONE COUNTRY, ONE LAW' PTF CONSULTS PUBLIC IN NORTH

The Presidential Task Force (PTF) for 'One Country, One Law' has commenced consulting public opinion from the Vavuniya District, on Saturday (20).

The consultation took place yesterday (21)

at the Valampuri Hall in Jaffna. Lawyers, professionals, religious leaders, students and civilians presented their views before the Task Force on various aspects of inequality or enforcement of the law. The Task Force said

that it will meet people in the Mullaitivu and Kilinochchi Districts today (22) and in the future public consultations will be held covering all provinces. The consultations was held at the office of the "Northern Province **TO PAGE 02**

No decision to import chemical fertilizer - Minister

Agriculture Minister Mahindananda Aluthgamage yesterday said permission has not been given to import chemical fertilizer for paddy and vegetable cultivation. Aluthgamage when contacted by the

Daily News over the reports that import of chemical fertilizer has been allowed, said that government has not taken any decision with regard to the chemical fertilizer import for paddy and vegetables.

Pro-LTTE supporters disrupt TNA MPs meeting in Canada

LAHIRU FERNANDO

A group of LTTE supporters disrupted a meeting attended by Tamil National Alliance (TNA) MPs M.A. Sumanthiran and Shanakyan Rasamanickam in Canada on Saturday while calling Sumanthiran a traitor and demanding a separate state

for Tamils in Sri Lanka. Pro-LTTE groups clashed at the meeting and the Canadian police too had to be called-in to quell the situation.

This was a meeting held to brief the Tamil community in Toronto about ongoing diplomatic efforts to push **TO PAGE 02**

SLFP members in LG Bodies can vote on free will - Minister

Sri Lanka Freedom Party members will be given the opportunity to vote independently in future Budgets of Local Government

Bodies, Environment Minister Mahinda Amaraweera said on Friday. Amaraweera stated that the Sri Lanka **TO PAGE 02**

Meters for tuks made compulsory from January

ASELA KURULUWANSHA

State Transport Minister Dilum Amunugama said that he has signed the Gazette Notification to make meters which display charges for three-wheelers compulsory from January.

This law which will come into effect from January 1, 2022 will be made compulsory for the Western Province. This law will be made effective countrywide in three months and after that three-wheelers on hire without a meter **TO PAGE 02**

Govt selling Urea at Rs. 6,500 per 50 kg pack - Farmers

ANURA DISSANAYAKE, Mallaawapitiya group corr.



The government through Agrarian Services Centres is selling a 50 kg pack of Urea fertilizer at Rs. 6,500, National Organizer of

the All Ceylon Farmers' Federation Namal Karunaratne said.

He said it is unacceptable and illegal to sell this fertilizer at such a high price as the government subsidized **TO PAGE 02**



Train services between Colombo Fort and Kandy were disrupted due to minor landslides in several area between Rambukkana and Kandy following the heavy downpour experienced in the Central parts of the country for several weeks. Sri Lanka Railway employees restoring the damaged rail track from Rambukkana to Balana. Picture by Wimal Karunatilake.

Health Budget reduced by Rs.67 bn for 2022 - UNP

SHIROMI ABAYASINGHE

The Budget allocation for health has been reduced by Rs. 67 billion compared to last year amidst the COVID-19 pandemic, UNP Deputy Leader Ruwan Wijewardene said.

He added that the current government does not have the potential to take the country forward. He also added that higher fund allocations are done only among siblings and not to the essential areas of the country, such as health.

In addition, he said that the government at any minute will create a country without dhal for the people as agriculture without fertilizer **TO PAGE 02**



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Double rail track from Sarasavi Uyana to Kandy

Transport Minister Pavithra Wanniarachchi initiated the development of the existing single-track railway line from Kandy to Sarasavi Uyana as a double track. The total length of the railway track being developed is five kilometres.

There are about 64 trains plying on this single-track route daily, including office trains and school trains. Due to this, the railway crossings are closed for a long time causing traffic congestion on the roads. Therefore, modernization of this railway line into a double track was initiated in view of minimizing train delays and road congestion, the Transport Minister said.

The construction work of this railway line will be completed in two phases. The first phase will be from Kandy to Getambe (3 km) and the second phase from Getambe to Sarasavi Uyana Railway Station (2 km).

The Railway Department plans to complete the construction of this Rs. 589 million project in two years.

Transport Minister Wanniarachchi inaugurated the construction of double track railway line on Saturday (20) and also officially inaugurated the City Bus service in Kandy.

State Minister of Transport Dilum Amunugama, Secretary to the Ministry Monty Ranatunga and General Manager of Railways Dhammika Jayasundara were also present on the occasion.



Transport Minister Pavithra Wanniarachchi inaugurates the construction work on the double track from Sarasavi Uyana to Kandy.

Bodhi Pooja for PM

A Bodhi Pooja will be held at Sambudhaloka Viharaya in Fort today at 10.00 am to invoke blessings on Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa who celebrated his birthday on November 18, in compliance

with health guidelines. The Bodhi Pooja is organized by the Progressive Employees Union affiliated to the Sri Lanka Podujana Peramuna (SLPP) of Lake House.

‘Sri Lanka beholden to foreign powers’

NAULA GROUP COR.

JVP Politburo member Samantha Vidyaratne said that as of now, the Government is facing a position where China can file legal action against Sri Lanka and in addition Sri Lanka will have to kneel down in front of India.

He was speaking at a programme to raise awareness among the people of Naula, Matale, under the *Gamen Patangamu* programme.

Vidyaratne who said that Sri Lanka is now in a situation where it is begging from Bangladesh, also mentioned that today the circumstances are such that China has Sri Lanka by the neck and is threatening the country.

The JVP member said that since the Government administrators have made a mistake regarding

the Chinese fertilizer transaction, the money to be paid should be obtained from them.

“The country should have been built based on the loans that these administrators have obtained so far. Now, people in our villages obtain loans and improve themselves.”

“The reason is because those people make proper use of the loans they get. When administrators obtain loans, the country moves the other way.”

“The situation is such now that even after selling off resources of the country and being in debt, it is not possible to bring goods to the country. The Ceypetco man has been lighting the torch for 50 years. Now it has been extinguished during the recent past. The country is being deprived of light,” Vidyaratne said.

St. Sebastian’s Fish Market to be overseen by church

A discussion on the development of the St. Sebastian’s Fish Market in Wallaveediya, Negombo and the transfer of its ownership to St. Sebastian’s Church, was held at the church on Saturday (20) under the patronage of State Minister for Rural Roads and Other Infrastructure, Nimal Lanza.

With the intervention of St. Sebastian’s Church and the Joint Fisheries Association, a new model for the development of this fish market with modern and innovative facilities was planned, but it has not yet been approved by the relevant institutions.

State Minister Lanza stated that there is no problem in developing this fish market and that the necessary permission will be granted by the Negombo Municipal Council.

The State Ministry of Rural



State Minister Nimal Lanza speaks at the event.

Roads and Other Infrastructure will also provide assistance for the development of infrastructure including the concrete and a drainage system at the fish market, he said.

Necessary steps will be taken to pass a proposal by the Negombo

Municipal Council and hand over the activities of the fish market to St. Sebastian’s Church. Negombo Maor Dayan Lanza, the parish priest of St. Sebastian’s Church and a group of residents including representatives of the United Fishermen’s Association were present.

NWSDB doing research to make seawater potable

ASELA KURULUWANSHA and L.S. EGODAWITA Central Province Roving Corr.

National Water Supply & Drainage Board (NWSDB) Chairman Nishantha Ranatunga said that research is being carried out in connection with the possibility of refining seawater and making it potable.

He said that the Board has to spend an exorbitant amount to supply drinking water to the people and that water consumers owe a sum of Rs. 7 billion.

Ranatunga was speaking to the media subsequent to a discussion held yesterday (21) at the Peradeniya University.

He said that since the price of chlorine and the cost of electricity have increased resulting in daily expenditure rising, it has been planned to reduce costs by minimizing wastage of water, obtaining

power through solar energy, and such methods. He said further that there are lands belonging to the NWSDB which are not being made use of and it is intended to earn an income by either selling or leasing them. Taking into consideration the problem of people’s sources of income being obstructed with the spread of the Covid pandemic, Ranatunga said that the Government proposed that certain concessions be granted to water consumers and that the Board has always acquiesced.

He also said that the NWSDB’s debt is larger than the financial assistance it receives from foreign countries on behalf of various projects and that the NWSDB requires an income to pay back those loans. Chairman Ranatunga who said that the NWSDB has a history of 40 years and

that within this period it has supplied water to only about 40 percent of the population also mentioned that they intend to increase this to 80 percent in the next four years.

He said that water being distributed by the NWSDB is being wasted in large quantities and that a number of actions have been taken to minimize wastage.

The NWSDB Chairman said further that 70 percent of the water we receive flows into the sea without any use being made of it and that the Irrigation Department, Mahaweli Authority and the NWSDB have a huge responsibility to ensure that plans required to use this water for the benefit of the public are implemented.

Ranatunga said that the Finance Minister has declared that by the year 2024, piped

water should be supplied 24 hours a day and that necessary actions are being taken to ensure it.

He said that water of a high quality which is provided at a cost of a large amount of money by the Board is being used by certain persons for washing vehicles and agricultural purposes and said that he requests these people to use rainwater or well water as much as possible for these tasks. The NWSDB Chairman said that due to weaknesses in the water pipes which are hundreds of years old, about 40 percent of the water being distributed in the Colombo District has been wasted and now steps required to reduce wastage to 15 percent have already been taken. He also said that this plan will be implemented throughout the island.

The bank with a heart will relocate to a new premises in **Kollupitiya**

Seylan Bank Kollupitiya branch now moves to a new location to offer you greater convenience and a more comprehensive banking experience. The branch will open its doors to the public on Monday the 22nd of November 2021. New Address: No. 490, Galle Road, Colombo 03.

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The bank with a heart

No fuel crisis in country despite Opposition claims

- Minister Gammanpila

Energy Minister Udaya Gammanpila on Saturday (20) assured Parliament and the nation that the country is not facing any fuel or energy crisis although the Opposition is claiming so at their press conferences.

The Minister was speaking during the Debate on the Budget proposal 2022 for the Sixth Allotted Day in Parliament.

The Minister said that the Opposition had misled the public on four occasions at the press conferences held at their head office misusing space and time the media allocated for the Opposition.

Minister Gammanpila said that the public do not need to fill the tanks of their vehicles fearing a fuel shortage thereby creating temporary fuel shortages. The Minister added that the real shortage occurred if petrol bowlers return empty from the Ceylon Petroleum Corporation (CPC). The Minister said that has not occurred so far. The Minister added that if the misled public bought all the fuel in a day, the filling stations, which have

storage only for one or two days would run short of fuel. The Minister added that when all the filling stations faced this situation, the country faces a temporary fuel shortage, which would take two to three days to solve as the CPC has a capacity to deliver fuel to all the stations across the country within six days.

The Minister said further that the public should not believe these press conferences held by an Additional Secretary of the Opposition Leader who is also a retired employee of a sub-company of the CPC as he had no knowledge or education enough to understand these matters.

Minister Gammanpila further said that it is true that the country is facing a number of crises including economic, foreign exchange, inflation, and budget



deficit, which are even felt by the poor in the country. The Minister added that this is the result of the Budget proposals presented with a deficit since 1955. The Minister added that the Governments took loans in Rupees since 1955 to gap the budget deficit and then since 1977, the Governments took loans in dollars.

"This is the result of higher expenditure than the income," Minister Gammanpila said. "This crisis is not a result of COVID 19 pandemic but it hastened the crisis," the Minister said.

Minister Gammanpila said that all parties joined to govern the country had contributed to this scenario and as a responsible Opposition and political parties, all should get together in such a crisis to overcome the same rather than engaging in a blame game.

The Minister added that the public has taught lessons to political parties for not being responsible.

"The Opposition, when the Government was at the crucial moment against the operation against the LTTE, humiliated it saying any bull can engage in a war, forces are going to Pamankada not to Alimankada (Elephant Pass), and 'Thoppigala is a forest'."

Thereafter at the General Election, they were defeated by the public giving 144 seats to the other side. The Minister added that when the same Opposition demanded the election, the Government postponed it due to the COVID 19 pandemic. However, they went even before Court demanding the election and they were defeated, while the present Government gained 149 seats in Parliament," the Minister said.

"But the situation now is worse and therefore, the Opposition has to act even more responsibly," Minister Gammanpila said.



SANDASEN MARASINGHE, CAMELIA NATHANIEL and AMALI MALLAWARACHCHI

This year's Tea production will pass last year's by 310 kg million

- Minister Pathirana

The last year tea production was 280 kg million, which this year has already passed. It will even exceed 310 kg million this year, Plantation Minister Ramesh Pathirana said on Saturday in Parliament.

Minister Pathirana said that this is a clear indication that the chemical fertilizer ban has not affected the Tea Industry.

The Minister added that the tea, rubber and coconut export has recorded the highest income ever, which is a clear evidence that the cultivation could be maintained even without chemical fertilizer.

The Minister was responding to Samagi Jana Balawegaya (SJB) Parliamentarian J. C. Alawathuwa during the Round of Questions for Oral Answers.

Minister Pathirana said that the amount allocated for the Plantation Sector with the budget for the financial year 2022 is Rs 15 billion, which is the high-



est amount ever allocated for the sector in a year. The Minister added that USD 1 billion is expected by the end of this year from the coconut exports, while the same amount is expected through rubber exports. The Minister added that the revenue collected from minor export crop last year was Rs 72 billion. Minister Pathirana added that the minor export crop has earned Rs 72 billion even by now and it is expected that the revenue would reach Rs. 100 billion at the year end.

Minister Pathirana said that this target has been achieved amidst the ban on chemical fertilizer.

Minister Pathirana said that the price of nano fertilizer in the Indian market is low with the concession granted by the Indian Government. The Minister added that this concession is not granted to Sri Lanka.

Opposition puts people's lives in great risk by rallying them in protests - State Minister Jeevan



Estate Housing and Community Infrastructure State Minister Jeevan Thondaman said that it was highly irresponsible of the Opposition to stage the recent protest, encouraging the public to get onto the streets in protest, which would have caused another COVID wave.

The State Minister was addressing Parliament during the Second Reading of the Budget.

"As a young Parliamentarian, I am very disappointed to witness all these in the past one year. I must also say that we have tried our best to control COVID, and we have increased our rate of vaccination to 70 per cent. But that's not enough. We should let go of our political differences and come together to find a

solution," the State Minister added.

"Tomorrow if anybody in your family, be it your aged parents or infant or anybody, contracts COVID, not a single politician will come and ensure that everything is okay in your family. Only you yourself have to look after your family," the State Minister said.

The State Minister said that it was all right to have

protests, but it should be done without encouraging the public onto the streets thereby endangering their lives at a time when the country is battling COVID. "Nobody is saying you shouldn't protest, but you must come up with new ways on how to protest. That does not mean you should bring people in this way and spread the virus," the State Minister said.

Country had not lost anything due to Bond Scam - SJB MP Rajitha

Samagi Jana Balawegaya (SJB) Parliamentarian Rajitha Senaratne said that the country had not lost anything due to the Bond Scam as the previous regime had held 12.5 billion of Perpetual Treasuries frozen accounts. "In fact, Aloysius is getting back Rs. 3.5 billion from the Government after they take Rs. 8.5 billion out of it. That is the fact and it's far better than getting nothing at all," the SJB MP said.



the MP said. MP Rajitha also said that the prices of vegetables have skyrocketed within a month. The MP said that there is no way that the people could manage to live when prices are rising in this way.

"Today, the prices of all essential commodities are sky-high and the people are finding it difficult to live. There is no government today, except in Parliament and the Pradeshiya Sabhas. The MPs in Parliament are howling lies and shouting in vain," MP Rajitha said.

The MP said that if this situation was due to the COVID pandemic, then the neighbouring countries, too, should experience the same. The MP said that even the Maldives is not experiencing such a predicament. MP Senaratne said that according to the World Bank, 11.7 per cent of the country's population is poverty-stricken.

The MP said that the figure is a 7.5 per cent increase since the present Government came into power.

The SJB MP suggested to the Government to get the Opposition and all other relevant segments for a dialog to find solutions to resurrect the country from this dire predicament.

MP Geetha claims only she of women MPs stood with Joint Opposition in 2015

Fifty two of the 53 members who stood with the Joint Opposition are Ministers today, but I am the only one who has been sidelined, which shows how well women are treated here. Galle District Sri Lanka Podujana Peramuna (SLPP) MP Geetha Kumarasinghe said on Saturday in Parliament.

MP Geetha Kumarasinghe said that she was the only woman with the United Opposition in 2015.

"For every action, there is an equal and opposite reaction and

the God will see to this injustice," the MP added.

MP Kumarasinghe was participating in the Second Reading of the Budget on the Budget Appropriation Bill. The MP said that although most people left the Joint Opposition and joined the Sri Lanka Freedom Party (SLFP), she was the only one who remained in the Opposition.



The MP said that at the time, there was no one to give the Joint Opposition even a black band and she was the one who had provided the Opposition Members with black bands.

The MP also made an appeal to the Government to pave the way for the people to have three square meals as they have only two meals now. "I

appeal to the Government to take steps to put an end to their misery," the MP said.

MP Kumarasinghe also said that this year's Budget has not done much for the cinema artistes and that all artistes have been categorised together.

The MP said, therefore, that this is a good lesson for artistes who run behind politicians and canvases for them during the elections.

The MP appealed to her fellow artistes to think about this situation and act diligently.

Opposition should not criticise Budget without solutions - SLMC MP Ahamed

The Opposition should not criticise the Budget 2022 unless they have to offer viable solutions to the trying economic situation in the country, Sri Lanka Muslim Congress (SLMC) Batticaloa MP Naseer Ahamed said while participating in the Budget Debate 2022 in Parliament yesterday (20).



MP Naseer Ahamed said that the Opposition is denouncing a budget, which was brought during an economic crisis and a global pandemic. "Never in the history of Sri Lanka had a budget been presented in such

grim economic conditions. However, it is quiet appreciable that the Budget contains many proposals for fiscal consolidation, infrastructure development and public welfare. The country is not only at a financial crisis, but also at a worldwide pandemic, which is affecting all the countries, irrespective of their level of economic development," the MP said.

"However, it is sad the way the Opposition's criticisms are only condemning the Budget without offering alternate solutions. It only reminds me Mark Twain's quote, 'if

you have no will to change, you have no right to criticise', which is well-suited to Opposition's criticisms. In the forthcoming year with new challenges brought by the pandemic, the Government will finance a total expenditure of Rs. 3.9 trillion with annual revenue of Rs. 2.2 trillion, which leaves a Budget deficit of Rs. 1.6 trillion. The real challenge the Government is facing is increasing government revenue, keeping the expenditure at a lowest possible level and maintaining public welfare at a satisfactory level.

The macro framework within which the Budget 2022 is presented includes reducing the Budget deficit from 10 per cent of the national income at present to 1.5 per cent by 2027," the MP said.

Budget 2022 has neither short-term nor long-term solutions to economic bankruptcy - MP Anura Kumara

The Budget proposals for the financial year 2022 has neither short term nor long term proposals to the economic bankruptcy or the dollar crisis the country is facing now, Jathika Jana Balawegaya (JJB) Parliamentarian Anura Kumara Dissanayake on Saturday (19) said.

The MP said that father, mother, daughter and son in the same family are in the queues for oil, LPG, milk powder and passport, which represent the economic status of the country. MP Dissanayake added that in the meantime, the farmers were

protesting to win their rights. The Ministers, were however, saying that the country is facing a crisis due to the lack of dollars.

The Parliamentarian was speaking in the Debate on the Budget proposal 2022 for the Sixth Allotted Day.

MP Anura Kumara further said that the country's foreign reserves have dropped lower than ever before. "However, the country has to pay at least USD 7 billion annually as installments for the loans. In addition, the country should have USD 8 billion for imports," the JVP leader



said. MP Anura Kumara appreciated the Finance Minister's proposal to transfer Rs. 8.5 billion earned by Perpetual Treas-

uries Limited in the Central Bank Bond scam to the Treasury.

He added that in the same manner, the Government should acquire the unclaimed Malwana mansion, money revealed by Pandora Papers and money defrauded through the Airbus deal in 2014.

MP Dissanayake said that the country has become poorer. "The people, too, have become penniless but politicians in this country have become rich. It is because the politics in this country is corrupted," the MP said.

Migrant workers' issues have been neglected - SJB MP Chaminda



The Government has not paid sufficient attention or taken measures to resolve the issues regarding migrant workers who were in the forefront in supporting President Gotabaya Rajapaksa during the Presidential Election, Samagi Jana Balawegaya (SJB) MP Chaminda Wijesiri said in Parliament yesterday (20).

The MP said that President Rajapaksa's then election cam-

paign used to refer to the foreign workers as *Rata Wiruwo* (Heroes abroad), MP Wijesiri said that the Government should take swift measures to ensure the welfare of these foreign employees.

"These migrant workers are our citizens. They undergo many hardships while working in these countries. They send the foreign exchange into the country. We need to protect and honour them

for taking up this challenge. We have seen other people migrating, taking citizenship, and returning. While the former is sending foreign exchange into the country, the latter robs public money," MP Wijesiri said.

"The Labour Ministry should initiate a special programme to secure migrant workers, especially during a crisis such as this pandemic," MP Wijesiri said.

Islandwide Freshwater Fish Industry encouraged

SIVAM PACKIYANATHAN, Batticaloa Special Corr.

The Fisheries and Aquatic Resources State Ministry has taken steps to uplift the living standards of 2,000 Samurdi beneficiaries throughout the island by providing them with financial assistance for cultivating freshwater fish.

Initially, 36 families of Oddamavadi, Valaichchenai and Kalkuda in the Koralai Pattu

Pradeshiya Sabha (PS) were granted cheques for Rs. 250,000 each by PS Chairman Jayaranjith in Valaichchenai yesterday.

Parliamentarians, Batticaloa District Development Committee Chairman Sivanasadurai Chandrakanthan and TMVP General Secretary Poopalapillai Prasanthan handed cheques over to them.

TMVP General Secretary

Prasanthan said that the Budget 2022 includes many proposals to improve the living standards of the rural people.

He said that Batticaloa must contribute substantially to the National productivity and therefore, they must expand cultivating prawns, crabs and fish.

"We must make use of the resources properly to improve the rural economy," he said.

Lankan gems dazzle at Shanghai Trade Fair

Sri Lankan Ambassador to China Dr Palitha Kohona participated as a keynote speaker at the International Jewellery Summit held together with the China International Import Expo 2021 (CIIE) in Shanghai.

The Ambassadors of Belgium and Italy spoke on video. Among the other speakers were representatives from ASEAN, Malaysia and Myanmar who also participated online.

China's e-market for Gems and Jewellery has recovered considerably and now is a key partner of Italian and Belgian industries recovering from the pandemic.

Both Belgian and Italian speakers emphasised that the gem and jewellery trade has become a key element in their economies and their trade with



Stalls at the China International Import Expo 2021 (CIIE) in Shanghai.

China. It is also a major employment generator in those countries.

China's jewellery industry will grow by 14 percent this year creating an opportunity for gem exports to become a major export and foreign

exchange earner for Sri Lanka. The world industry will grow by three to four percent.

Many who attended the lunch afterwards expressed the hope that the Sri Lankan gem and jewellery trade would be better represented at the CIIE

2022, particularly noting the wide array of Sri Lanka stones being displayed and sold by other exhibitors. The Thai, Indian and Pakistani gem displays were considerably glamorized by the impressive collections of Sri Lanka stones exhibited by them. The piece de resistance was the crystal clad porche (belonging to the royal house of Dubai) occupying the spot originally reserved for Sri Lanka's star cluster.

The National Gem and Jewellery Testing Centre of China's Director Ye Zhibin, and the Director of Geological Laboratory Standardization Yang Lixin have asked whether a formal relationship could be established with the Gem & Jewellery Authority of Sri Lanka.

Lankan Embassy in Austria facilitates donation of Covid-19 medical equipment

The Sri Lanka Embassy in Austria facilitated a consignment of rapid antigen test kits and pulse oximeters donated by the Honorary Consuls of Sri Lanka in Styria and Carinthia in Austria, the Czech Republic, Serbia, Slovakia and Slovenia. The donation was made to support Sri Lanka's efforts to contain COVID-19.

The donation was presented at a ceremony held at the Foreign Ministry in Colombo. Foreign Secretary Admiral Prof. Jay-

anath Colombage handed over the donation to State Minister of Production, Supply and Regulation of Pharmaceuticals Prof. Channa Jayasumana and Secretary of the State Ministry Dr. R.M.S.K. Rathnayake.

Ambassador of Sri Lanka to Austria Majintha Jayasinghe and the staff of the Embassy coordinated the arrangements for the dispatch of the donation and contributed to meet the cost of air freighting the donation.



Foreign Secretary Admiral Prof. Jayanath Colombage handed over the donation to State Minister of Production, Supply and Regulation of Pharmaceuticals Prof. Channa Jayasumana

University admissions to be decided in December

S.M. WIJAYARATNE Kurunegala Corr.

The University Grants Commission (UGC) intends to enroll students who have qualified to enter state universities, after passing the G.C.E. (A.L.) Examination 2020, during the first week of December, UGC Chairman Senior Prof. Sampath Amaratunge told the *Daily News* in Kurunegala yesterday. The students would be admitted to

state universities in January 2023 for academic sessions.

He also said that in 2019, 30,000 students were admitted to state universities as internal students but for the year 2020, more than 42,000 students are to be admitted as internal students from those who have passed the G.C.E. (A.L.) Examination 2020 with higher Z-score marks.

'Budget has destroyed middle class'

SHIROMI ABAYASINGHE

The Government has completely destroyed the middle class with the proposed Budget, UNP Chairman and former minister Vijira Abeywardena said.

Speaking to the media at the UNP headquarters in Galle yesterday (21), he added that none of the country's burning issues were addressed in the Budget, and the queues for sugar, milk powder, gas, and cement will remain the same.

"We have repeatedly called for the support of the International Monetary Fund (IMF). Our country has always moved forward with the support of the IMF. However, for 17 years before 1994, the country did

not develop through the money obtained by auctioning the contents of the Central Bank," he added.

He also added that the IMF has been working with Sri Lanka for a long time, and it has not caused any harm to Sri Lanka so far. "If there is no process to repay a loan, no such loan will be given to any country, not only Sri Lanka. Therefore, any loan obtained must be repaid," he added.

Moreover, he added that people in the Tourism industry will not receive any assistance with the proposed Budget. "The damage to Sri Lanka's economy has been reported in a Bangladeshi newspaper. Not only do we criticize the deplor-



able state of affairs in the country, but we always look for the solution that is needed. UNP Leader Ranil Wickremes-

inghe has proposed a way to resolve all these issues. Also, this Government has not adequately handled the international conferences that need the international community's support. The country could face a major food crisis by March next year," Abeywardena said.

He added that the Budget does not mention the importation of high-quality chemical fertilizers to Sri Lanka except for the production of organic fertilizers. The entire farming community and agriculture sector would collapse in such a situation, and the public will have to suffer the consequences in the future, he said.



Sri Lanka is known for its amazing cashew nuts and this market has some real potential, especially since demand for cashew nuts is growing. The government too has realized the importance of encouraging more farmers to advance the growing of cashew and to focus on tapping into the export market. So, cashew production has been witnessing renewed interest over the past few years.

Having considered the importance of uplifting this segment which would greatly benefit cashew farmers in his region, 34-year-old A.S. Gamage started his own small cashew business, 'Gamage Cashew', in 2019 and is currently based in Walanda, Monaragala. His business promises 'premium quality cashew nuts from Sri Lanka'.

"We buy the best cashews from local farmers. This helps us to preserve freshness and the taste of our products. Devilled cashews and dehydrated cashews are our major products," Gamage said. Cashew is mostly produced in areas such as Puttalam, Kurunegala, Batticaloa, Anuradhapura, Mannar and Hambantota. Sadly, farmers from the Uva province especially do struggle to find a market in their areas that fetches a considerable profit.

Since 'Gamage Cashew' was first formed, one hundred cashew farmers hailing from Siyambalanduwa, Buttala and Ampara are now able to sell their produce at market value and bring in earnings of up to Rs. 300,000 a year. Today, five women mostly from woman-headed families work at his small factory. They earn up to Rs. 30,000 a month. Gamage is next looking into creating more jobs for women from low-income households.

Due to the hard work and determination of aspiring businessmen like Gamage, he was able to leverage his business by way of a grant which he received with the help of the European Union funded ENTERPRISE.

This grant saw him experience immediate change with access to new machines and generator, where he increased his production capacity and in turn, profitability by about 25%.

Gamage established a new production factory and sales outlet in Weliyaya, Monaragala with his financial investment. After the opening of new premise, he plans to diversify his market and introduce new value-added cashew products like burnt cashews, sweet cashews, and salt cashews. For more details about his products, contact 0772 370 464 or visit his official business site <https://gamage-cashew.business.site/>.

The European Union funded initiative known as ENTERPRISE aims to create an enabling environment for women and youth to create and participate in micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs). Targeting the Uva and Central Provinces, it uses inclusive business models to celebrate the diverse perspectives and experiences of those involved and also functions as an incubator that works to amplify their voices. The ENTERPRISE project is being implemented by Chrysalis and the British Council in Sri Lanka, in partnership with CARE Deutschland-Luxemburg (CARE DL).

Chinese Embassy makes donation to SLAF Seva Vanitha unit

The Embassy of China made a generous donation to the Seva Vanitha Unit of the Sri Lanka Air Force (SLAF) recently.



The donation was made by the Chinese delegation led by the Defence Attaché of the Chinese Embassy in Sri Lanka, Senior Colonel Wan Dong, when they called on Air Force Commander Air Marshal Sudarshana Pathirana at the Air Force Headquarters.

The Defence Attaché presented the donation of over Rs. 1.5 million to the SLAF Commander on behalf of the Chinese Embassy.

The donation is intended to be utilized to continue the dedicated work by the SLAF Seva Vanitha Unit to uplift living standards of families of service and civilian personnel who are in need through welfare projects in the year 2022.



Chinese Embassy Defence Attaché Senior Colonel Wan Dong makes the donation to SLAF Commander Air Marshal Sudarshana Pathirana.

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RESILIENCE IN DIVERSITY:

Financing Nature and Biodiversity

2021, a Pivotal Year for People and the Planet



reece, Turkey and California were aflame in heat wave induced wildfires, Canada was caught under a heat dome and a year's worth of rain poured over Germany, Belgium, China and Sudan within a couple of days- devastating communities with floods in its wake. The message is clear, we are in a planetary emergency. And, 2021 is pivotal because this is also the year that significant global conferences on Climate Change and biodiversity take place. Widely considered the last chance for world leaders to commit to desperately needed climate action and biodiversity conservation before we reach the 2030 deadline, the decisions made at these conferences and the actions that follow will definitively decide the future of our planet.



economies, and green financing is at the core of it.

Investing in and financing nature

So, what is green financing? A relatively new concept to Sri Lanka, green financing is any structured finance activity put towards an environmental outcome. UNEP defines it as an increasing level of financial flows (including banking, micro-credit, insurance and investment) from the public, private and not-for-profit sectors to better manage environmental and social risks, take up opportunities that bring both a decent rate of return and environmental benefit, and deliver greater accountability. For our societies and economies to thrive, we also need the natural systems that we depend on to thrive. And, investing in and financing nature is the way forward.

This is true to Sri Lanka, as well. As a country heavily dependent on nature and biodiversity, both socially and economically, the cost of de-prioritizing investments in it is high. Although Sri Lanka has historically pursued low-carbon development and has balanced achieving high levels of human development with the lowest per capita emission rates, recent policy inconsistencies and structural issues have limited the country's sustainability. According to the Financial Needs Assessment conducted through the BIOFIN programme, Sri Lanka will need a total of LKR 31 billion (US\$ 250 Million) for the period of 2018 - 2024 to reach the country's critical biodiversity targets.

Biodiversity Finance Initiative (BIOFIN)

Currently, the BIOFIN programme—a UNDP managed global collaborative partnership is striving to bridge this financing gap. The programme follows four approaches; to generate new income; increase the efficiency of existing resources; realign existing resources; and avoid future expenses.

Through a Biodiversity Finance Plan consisting of solutions into each of these four strategic approaches. Sri Lanka is currently piloting three of these solutions.

- Payment for ecosystems services that generate new income, where mini-hydropower plants invest part of their profits into conserving their catchment area.
- A sustainable tourism certification scheme,

this programme, ty Finance Plan mulated consisting of 16 financial that fit

which is a future cost avoidance strategy working with key government partners like the Sri Lanka Tourism Development Authority (SLTDA) and a host of private sector partners including hotels, to impact the environment positively through tourism operations or reduce their negative impacts significantly.

• In partnership with the Central Bank of Sri Lanka (CBSL), a finance programme that works to mainstream sustainable financing initiatives and promote sustainable investments within the island's finance landscape. This works to realign existing resources and incentivize sustainable and green activities within all levels of society.

A push towards Green Development

Delving further into the third solution, for instance, if a business owner seeks a loan to fund their operations, the bank could offer lower interest rates if the business owner makes changes to his business plan to have no impacts on the environment or if they actively work towards conserving the environment. Currently, the programme, with the CBSL, has developed a Roadmap for Sustainable Financing in Sri Lanka, established a knowledge-sharing platform through the Sustainable Banking Initiative which advances sustainable banking principles and implementation, compiled case studies, and developed an e-learning course.

At least six banks in the country have initiated sustainable financing activities voluntarily at the moment, and coupled with this momentum the BIOFIN programme hopes to engage the smaller banks in Sri Lanka to develop similar financing products. Further, as a national effort, the programme is in the process of developing the sustainable financing taxonomy with the CBSL with the aim of contributing to the country's broader policy push towards green development.

Yet, Sri Lanka needs more. As a country with significant vulnerabilities to Climate Change impacts, now severely fiscally restricted due to our two-year-long struggle with COVID-19, Sri Lanka's green and biodiversity financing is not near enough to meet the set biodiversity targets. Although there's no formal evidence, given the pace of Climate Change and impacts, we can deduce that our adaptation costs too are rising disproportionately to our adaptation finances. We have not yet fully understood the value of nature and biodiversity, and it is high time we fought to build forward better as our resilience is in our biodiversity and nature. - UNDP

A global movement for climate action

At the recently concluded high-level event at United Nations General Assembly that outlined transformative actions and financing to reverse biodiversity loss by 2030, emphasized that protecting, conserving, restoring biodiversity and sustainable usage can be nature positive and deliver multiple co-benefits for the environment, climate and sustainable development as a whole. The ongoing COP15 of the Convention on Biological Diversity will see the adoption of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework—a strategic vision and a global roadmap for the conservation, protection, restoration and sustainable management of biodiversity and ecosystems for the next decade—is a promising sign of a global movement that is pressing on much needed radical action.

The answer to our planetary emergency and economic growth largely lies in nature and biodiversity, in immediate, sustained and transformative change in our societies and way of life; but most importantly, in our policy, economic and finance infrastructures. The choices made at this juncture as we are recovering from the COVID-19 hit economic downturn, and in the wake of time-critical climate findings will determine development and fiscal policies for the next decade and the future of our planet. Yet, even today, investments in nature and biodiversity are few and far between.

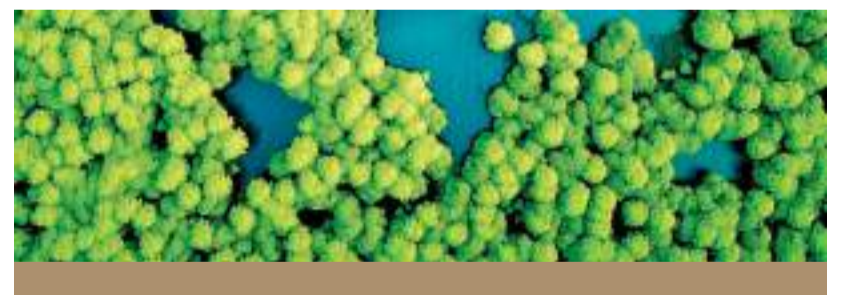
World has not yet learnt its lessons

The United Nations Development Programme's Biodiversity Finance Initiative's (BIOFIN) 2021 iteration of the Little Book of Investing in Nature reports that the current annual biodiversity conservation financing still produces a biodiversity financing gap of USD 598–824 billion per year by 2030. Even though COVID-19 starkly reinforced the need to fund actions that enhance the resilience of ecosystems and address the shortcomings in areas such as food security, climate action, water security, human health and enhanced resilience to disaster risk, it is evident that the world has not yet learnt its lessons.

According to research by the World Economic Forum, half of the gross world product is highly or moderately dependent on nature. Agriculture, construction, food and beverages are the largest sectors that are dependent on nature, and these generate USD 8 Trillion in gross value added. Yet, there seems to be a lack of understanding that our biodiversity underpins our global economic systems and our climate solutions. The 2021 State of Finance for Nature report by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) has found that investments in nature-based solutions will have to triple by 2030 and increase four-fold by 2050 if we are to have a shot at solving the planetary emergency. A move towards green development is the only sustainable growth trajectory for our societies and



The answer to our planetary emergency and economic growth largely lies in nature and biodiversity, in immediate, sustained and transformative change in our societies and way of life; but most importantly, in our policy, economic and finance infrastructures. The choices made at this juncture as we are recovering from the COVID-19 hit economic downturn, and in the wake of time-critical climate findings will determine development and fiscal policies for the next decade and the future of our planet. Yet, even today, investments in nature and biodiversity are few and far between.





An all night Pirith chanting followed by a Sangika Dana took place yesterday at the Prime Minister's office in view of the Birthday of Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa. The Prime Minister's Office underwent refurbishment recently. President Gotabaya Rajapaksa, Prime Minister's Secretary Gamage Senarath, President's Principal advisor Lalith Weeraratna and former First Lady Shiranthi Rajapaksa were present. Picture shows the President serving the meal to the Maha Sangha.



The Prime Minister in conversation with Most Ven. Kollonnawa Sri Sumangala Thera (Pictures courtesy Prime Minister's Media Division)

ANCL staffers' father passes away

B. David Perera of No 198, Koswatte, Thalagama passed away yesterday. He is the father of former Lake House Editorial Chief Administrative Officer Pushpika Perera and Budusarana journalist Deepa Perera and father-in-law of former ANCL staffer N.A.U.S. Jayalath. The remains lie at his residence at No 198, Koswatte, Thalagama and the funeral will take place today at Thalagena General Cemetery at 5 p.m.



B. David Perera

'Switching over to organic fertilizer beneficial to country'

ANANDA KANNANGARA

At a time when most countries in the world are using chemical fertilizer for their cultivation, Sri Lanka's endeavour of cultivating vegetable and fruit products using only organic fertilizer will help to develop our tourism industry too, since foreign tourists are keen on healthy vegetables and fruits, cultivated by using organic fertilizer rather than chemically cultivated food products, Environment Minister Mahinda Amaraweera said. "Although our farmers face difficulties when cultivating paddy, vegetable and fruit using only organic fertilizer, it takes few months for them to convert the

soil in their agricultural lands into organic fertilizer," he said. Quoting latest statistics Minister Amaraweera said the main reason for most diseases including heart ailments, kidney diseases, diabetes and many other ailments is due to the consumption of vegetables and fruits that are cultivated with chemical fertilizers. Minister Amaraweera also requested people to visit his home garden and see the vegetable and fruit cultivations being carried out using only home-made organic fertilizers. He said organic fertilizer could be easily prepared with kitchen waste, fruit waste, dried leaves,

straw, dried cow dung and few other refuses freely available and with liquid fertilizer using local raw materials to destroy insects. The Minister also said this is high time for all 225 Members of Parliament to get together shedding all political differences and extend their support to the cultivation of agricultural lands using only organic and Ayurvedic liquid fertilizer. He said Ayurvedic fertilizer is manufactured using raw materials such as pepper leaves, pepper powder, saffron powder, soap and few other materials without spending much money to bring them from foreign countries.

Minister Amaraweera also said Season cultivations using organic at least 65 per cent farmers in the districts of Ampara, Batticaloa, Anuradhapura and Polonnaruwa have already commenced their paddy cultivations using organic fertilizers. Meanwhile, it is reported that series of meetings, conducted by Buddhist monks recently at Polonnaruwa, Medirigiriya, Anuradhapura, Dambulla, Minneriya and Parakrama Samudraya agricultural areas encouraged farmers to begin their Maha

'Muslim community integral to Sri Lanka'

MOHAMMED RASOOLDEEN

Justice Minister Ali Sabry that Muslims who have been in Sri Lanka for more than 1,000 years form an integral part of this island nation.



Justice Minister Ali Sabry speaks at the event.

The Minister was speaking to delegates from all parts of the island at the 71st Annual Convention of the All Ceylon Young Men's Muslim Association (YMMA) held at the Auditorium of the Sri Lanka Foundation Institute in Colombo on Saturday (20).

The opening ceremony was chaired by YMMA's national President Saheed M. Rismy. The annual report was adopted by its Secretary General Sabir Sawad, while the concluding remarks were made by its Treasurer Ihsan Hameed.

Director of Muslim Services of the Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation (SLBC) N.J. Pathima Niroosiyaa graced the event as a special guest. Cader M. Ali, Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the YMMA was also present.

In appreciation of their services to the community, President of the Young Women's Muslim Association, Fawaza Thaha and President of the Oddamawady Pradeshiya Sabha A.M. Nauffer were presented awards at the event.

Justice Minister Sabry recalled that Lankan Muslims have played a predominant role in the nation building effort and they were part of the mainstream in developing the country. He said that the community should be thankful to great men such as Sidi Lebbe, T.B. Jayah, Dr. A.M.A. Azeed and Dr. Badi Ud Din Mahmud who believed in imparting the right education to form a healthier society where people can coexist peacefully. Recalling the contributions made by President Gotabaya Rajapaksa to end the war, the Minister said the services of Field Marshal Sarath Fonseka as the best Army Commander, Colonel Muthalib as the best intelligence officer and Fazly Laphir as the best army soldier, all of whom contributed to our country's success, cannot be forgotten.

"We are implementing some new projects in the Justice Ministry which include the appointment of 46 new young judges, setting up of 100 new courts and revising 84 laws keep pace with time," Justice Minister Sabry said.

"Muslim representation is mandatory in the Cabinet of this Government. I have felt it for the last two years. If there is no Muslim representation in the Cabinet, minority interests will be unrepresented," Minister Sabry said.

Speaking on women's rights, the Minister said that Muslim women have to be given their rightful place in society towards nation building. Citing examples from Malaysia, Singapore and Bangladesh, Sabry said that Bangladesh had done wonders under the leadership of Premier Sheikh Hasina who had alleviated the poverty of more than 32 million people during a short period of time. He pointed out that 71 percent of the Muslim undergraduates are women, which means they are forging ahead of men and they deserve to be encouraged to reach their goals.

Lauding the services of the YMMA in Sri Lanka, he said continuous services for the past 71 years bears testimony to the dedication of the members of the YMMA. The youth should march forward and do their best to contribute towards a better Sri Lanka, where people could live in peace, with mutual understanding and prosperity.

SUPER BALL
 Draw Number: 1569 | Colour: Blue
 Draw Date: 20.11.2021 | Date: Saturday
Winning English Letter and Numbers
M 02 14 21 68
 Total Value of Prizes: **Rs. 2,685,660/-**
 Development Lotteries Board
 No. 356, Dr. Colvin R. De Silva Mawatha, Union Place, Colombo 02
 Tel: 0112 333 546-47
 Hotline: 0114 824 824, 0112 333 778 or 1919
 SMS: DLB-appeal-LDY-appeal-08 & send to 999
 For Interactive Voice Response Service - Call 0114 825 825

ශ්‍රී ජය
 Friday | Draw No.: 3729
 Date: 19.11.2021 | Colour: Orange
Total Value of Prizes
Rs. 3,739,540/-
Winning Numbers
24 42 54 68 | English Letter **D**
 Development Lotteries Board
 No. 356, Dr. Colvin R. De Silva Mawatha, Union Place, Colombo 02
 Tel: 0112 333 546-47
 Hotline: 0114 824 824, 0112 333 778 or 1919
 For Results: www.dlb.lk
 Winning tickets are valid only for six months

SANSI
 Draw Number: 103 | Winning Numbers
 Draw Date: 20.11.2021 | 07 21 41
 Saturday
Total Value of Prizes **Rs. 1,496,280/-**
 Development Lotteries Board
 No. 356, Dr. Colvin R. De Silva Mawatha, Union Place, Colombo 02
 Tel: 0112 333 546-47
 Hotline: 0114 824 824, 0112 333 778 or 1919
 The blue and orange tickets are respectively valid on Wednesdays and Saturdays.
 The winning tickets will be valid for 6 months.

සංවර්ධන වාසනාව
 Date: 20-11-2021
 Draw Number: 461 | Colour: Red
SUPER JACKPOT
Rs. 10,882,756/-
English Letter **Z** | **Winning Numbers** **66 38 30** | **Fate Number** **4**
Total Value of Prizes **Rs. 2,589,480/-**
Next Super Jackpot **Rs. 10,989,156/-**
 Development Lotteries Board
 No. 356, Dr. Colvin R. De Silva Mawatha, Union Place, Colombo 02
 Tel: 0112 333 546-47
 Hotline: 0114 824 824, 0112 333 778 or 1919
 For Results: www.dlb.lk
 The winning ticket will be valid for 6 months.

කොට්ඨාස
English Letter & Winning Numbers
H 06 09 46 66
 Draw No: 767 | Colour: Green
 Date: 19.11.2021 | Friday
Total Value of Prizes **Rs. 3,128,340/-**
Next Super Jackpot **Rs. 86,614,755/-**
 Development Lotteries Board
 No. 356, Dr. Colvin R. De Silva Mawatha, Union Place, Colombo 02
 Tel: 0112 333 546-47
 Hotline: 0114 824 824, 0112 333 778 or 1919
 SMS: DLB-appeal-LDY-appeal-KK & send to 999
 For Interactive Voice Response Service - Call 0114 825 825
 Yellow, Pink and Green coloured tickets are valid on Sundays, Tuesdays and Fridays respectively.
 Winning tickets are valid for 6 months.

ලොක වාසනාව
SUPER JACKPOT
Rs. 2,180,905/-
 Date: 20-11-2021
 Draw Number: 3281
 Colour: Light Blue
Winning Numbers
13 35 40 52 | **LIBRA**
Total Value of Prizes
Rs. 8,910,720/-
 Development Lotteries Board
 No. 356, Dr. Colvin R. De Silva Mawatha, Union Place, Colombo 02
 Tel: 0112 333 546-47
 Hotline: 0114 824 824, 0112 333 778 or 1919
 For Results: www.dlb.lk
 The winning ticket will be valid for 6 months.

ශ්‍රී ජය
 Saturday | Draw No.: 3730
 Date: 20.11.2021 | Colour: Green
Total Value of Prizes
Rs. 4,623,320/-
Winning Numbers
09 23 24 74 | English Letter **J**
 Development Lotteries Board
 No. 356, Dr. Colvin R. De Silva Mawatha, Union Place, Colombo 02
 Tel: 0112 333 546-47
 Hotline: 0114 824 824, 0112 333 778 or 1919
 For Results: www.dlb.lk
 Winning tickets are valid only for six months

ලොක වාසනාව
SUPER JACKPOT
Rs. 2,000,000/-
 Date: 19-11-2021
 Draw Number: 3280
 Colour: Blue
Winning Numbers
03 07 10 29 | **CANCER**
Total Value of Prizes
Rs. 9,209,380/-
 Development Lotteries Board
 No. 356, Dr. Colvin R. De Silva Mawatha, Union Place, Colombo 02
 Tel: 0112 333 546-47
 Hotline: 0114 824 824, 0112 333 778 or 1919
 For Results: www.dlb.lk
 The winning ticket will be valid for 6 months.

SUPER BALL
 Draw Number: 1568 | Colour: Pink
 Draw Date: 19.11.2021 | Date: Friday
Winning English Letter and Numbers
G 36 39 58 59
Total Value of Prizes
Rs. 2,928,720/-
 Development Lotteries Board
 No. 356, Dr. Colvin R. De Silva Mawatha, Union Place, Colombo 02
 Tel: 0112 333 546-47
 Hotline: 0114 824 824, 0112 333 778 or 1919
 For Results: www.dlb.lk
 The winning tickets will be valid for 6 months.

ආදා කොට්ඨාස
 Saturday | Total Value of Prizes
 Date: 20.11.2021 | **Rs. 3,768,300/-**
 Draw No.: 1395
 Colour: Yellow
Winning Numbers
10 21 54 73 | English Letter **P**
 Development Lotteries Board
 No. 356, Dr. Colvin R. De Silva Mawatha, Union Place, Colombo 02
 Tel: 0112 333 546-47
 Hotline: 0114 824 824, 0112 333 778 or 1919
 For Results: www.dlb.lk
 Winning tickets are valid only for six months

ආදා කොට්ඨාස
 Friday | Total Value of Prizes
 Date: 19.11.2021 | **Rs. 4,980,280/-**
 Draw No.: 1394
 Colour: Purple
Winning Numbers
35 37 59 60 | English Letter **Y**
 Development Lotteries Board
 No. 356, Dr. Colvin R. De Silva Mawatha, Union Place, Colombo 02
 Tel: 0112 333 546-47
 Hotline: 0114 824 824, 0112 333 778 or 1919
 For Results: www.dlb.lk
 Winning tickets are valid only for six months

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Supernova, PATRERA, Yash, DAILY CARLO, Beverly, NEW NANI, SUPER, etc.

MOLLY, Ferasad, Pyarathna, ASB, etc.

COMFORTON, CHENARA DODGE, AMARAZ, CLASSY, etc.

Pyarathna, ASB, etc.

COMFORTON, CHENARA DODGE, AMARAZ, CLASSY, etc.

Pyarathna, ASB, etc.

COMFORTON, CHENARA DODGE, AMARAZ, CLASSY, etc.

Pyarathna, ASB, etc.

COMFORTON, CHENARA DODGE, AMARAZ, CLASSY, etc.

Pyarathna, ASB, etc.

COMFORTON, CHENARA DODGE, AMARAZ, CLASSY, etc.

Pyarathna, ASB, etc.

COMFORTON, CHENARA DODGE, AMARAZ, CLASSY, etc.

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Every Saturday & Sunday until 31st December
Credit - 20% on Keells Branded Products
Debit - 10% on Keells Branded Products
Min. Bill - Rs. 2,000/- | Max. Discount - Rs. 1,500/-

softlogic GLOMARK
Every Sunday until 30th November
Credit - 25% on Fresh Fruits, Vegetables, Seafood & Meat
Debit - 10% on Fresh Fruits, Vegetables, Seafood & Meat
Min. Bill - Rs. 2,500/- | Max. Discount - Rs. 5,000/-

Alankulama
Every Wednesday & Sunday until 30th November
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Budget and economic consolidation

There are many critics of the recent Budget, but somebody who has got it all wrong seems to be Opposition MP Kumara Welgama. He said in Parliament that the poor man has been thrown on to the street with this Budget, but that does not seem to be the case at all.

The recent budget is in essence a poor man's budget, as it has shielded the man on the street from the economic impacts of COVID. That is an achievement, as there are few countries that have not heaped burdens on low income-earners, as a result of the COVID related closures and other economic repercussions.

Welgama has said that if public service salaries are raised, there would be a knock-on effect with the private sector raising wages to keep up with public sector pay hikes. He is misinformed, because this has never happened.

The private sector has always taken cover under some excuse and has taken up the position that it has to look at revenue and the bottom-lines, whereas the Government sector it is claimed, can afford to pay 'subsidized' salaries.

There are no substantial new taxes levied on the low-income earners, and this is in stark contrast to what happened when those now in the Opposition with this MP were in power. There were tax increases on everything then, including phone calls and internet usage, with a sky-high Telecommunications Levy.

It is reported that some Government sector unions are proposing strike action because there was no pay hike, but it is doubtful it would be successful as the mood on the street is that the Government servants have it relatively easy compared to the rest of the labour force which has had to face retrenchment, salary cuts and a myriad of other woes due to the health crisis.

The Government has also had a very successful vaccination drive, and the booster shots are now being given to the more vulnerable sections of the population. Jabs do not come free, and all this has to be factored in when anyone makes an assessment of how the poor have been treated. Some exporters have complained of a 2 percentage point Turnover Tax, but they should be aware that they are taking a hit on behalf of the ordinary people who constitute the labour force for their export operations.

The Government took a share of the burden when these business enterprises were initially hit by the first round of closures etc, which helped entrepreneurs tide over bad times. Now that things are getting better in the export markets, it is time the private sector actors paid something back.

Those such as the said Opposition MP have not looked at the big picture. It is easy to criticize when one is not responsible for governance and everybody knows that, but there should be some credibility to the broadsides aimed at Finance Minister Basil Rajapaksa.

This is not the time for handouts because it is a crucial period of economic consolidation. The Opposition should provide the required support for this task by way of placing the facts before the people.

By all means the Opposition should criticize, but any analysis must be true to the facts. There are various developed nations in Europe and in Australasia which are still struggling to vaccinate all their citizens, and our budget allocations should be looked at in this context.

The country has definitely not come to a standstill despite very challenging circumstances. Schools have reopened, and sections of the Central Expressway are being completed and made available for traffic.

The tourism industry has taken umbrage saying that it was insinuated by the Finance Minister that it is not making a contribution, but the nuance of that argument should be understood. When there is a national crisis every sector must share equally in shouldering the burden. The tourism sector was starved of tourists due to COVID, but perviously, pre-COVID, it has not made the impact it should have.

It seems the private sector tourism giants have also been waiting for handouts. This sector should be earning, and not scrounging, and the Maldives is an excellent example.

Sometimes the hard facts are unpleasant and the reactions are predictably of disbelief and denial, but the sector leadership should be more introspective instead of rushing to defend the industry.

Entrepreneurs should not be drawn to the drama of television dialogue over who is to blame and for what. They should be able to go back to their drawing boards, and rectify the errors of the past.

This country is blessed and is easily a tourist paradise, but that aspect has not been exploited to the hilt. By exploit it is not meant the tourists should be exploited, needless to say, but sometimes that is what happens. It is difficult to discuss all aspects of the industry or all aspects of the post-budget economy in this comment, but it is time some of the post-budget verbal diarrhea among the critics came to a halt, and those who can make a difference in each sector got back to work.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

A Budget is not just a collection of numbers, but an expression of values and aspirations. - Jack Lew

LISTEN TO THE PEOPLE'S REAL VOICE



The renovated Marine Drive is a joy to use.

Now & Then

BY NADIRA GUNATILLEKE

Last week all mainstream and social media was full of various programmes and articles on the second anniversary of the appointment of President Gotabaya Rajapaksa as the eighth Sri Lankan President. Various politicians, journalists, professionals and many others spoke about the last two years. But what matters is what the ordinary Sri Lankan people think and say about the last two years.

It is very important to listen to the people because they are the people who vote and elect the President and the Government. Others are just contributors, supporters, well-wishers etc. One day the ordinary people will walk to the polling stations and vote. On that day they will give their judgement. Therefore people's voice matters more than anything else.

But all should very strictly remember that people's voice is not a 'fabricated voice' circulated all over the country through WhatsApp and all the other social media because, behind every post, there is someone highly paid. Those paid 'employees' of the political parties which are now trying their best to capture power again release millions of various 'posts' to social media in order to make people believe that it is the people's voice which is not and something fabricated by them. They use high technology and experts to do this.

The real voice of the people can be heard only when you are travelling in a bus, in a three wheeler, when you are waiting in a public place, when you are talking to the man who brings fish to your house, when you are talking with the man who picks coconuts in your garden, when you buy essentials from the shop you bought them during the past few decades, when you are talking to a friend who had not been brainwashed by a political party but those real ordinary people are very lazy to voice their voice in social media because they are living under pressure to a certain extent by now.

COVID-19 pandemic

This pressure has been created by the global COVID-19 pandemic and well organised local elements which work day and night to bring back the previous regime using the negative impacts of this deadly pandemic. The well planned strategy of the elements has been put into action by some top businessmen, various groups and individuals. Then the innocent poor people only experience the results and they never see the well-organised mechanism behind the outcome. This is how ordinary people see the high prices of some goods and services.

The most unfortunate situation is there are a handful of powerful politicians and other individuals who wear the masks of patriots, stand with the Government and implement the well planned strategy given to them by the elements which operate to bring back the previous regime. One factor is very clear. It is not the politicians from small / minor political parties who made huge sacrifices and worked hard from January 9, 2015 to bring this Government into power. This act is performed by certain politicians in the main political parties in the Government. They are not Opposition politicians. But they carry out the agenda of the Opposition while wearing patriotic masks inside the Government. They are the politicians who point fingers at all the others all the time.

These individuals are doing a very simple but a grave thing. That is speaking to the media during various press conferences and when they are being questioned by journalists about specific issues. There is one common factor in all their speeches. They say things that do not please people at all and things that make people very angry towards the current Government. They can simply talk about their subject or



The vaccines are given completely free of charge. Picture by Sulochana Gamage



The Government gave an allowance of Rs.5,000 to underprivileged families during the COVID lockdowns.



Do not believe everything you come across on social media.

just answer the questions posed by the journalists. But what they do is antagonize people instead of explaining things clearly and simply.

The best example for the accurate way of handling issues, things and especially media is displayed by Media Minister Dullas Alahapperuma. He knows how not to antagonize people and how not to add fuel to the fire.

Anyone who has an *iota* of brain can very clearly identify the politicians who antagonize people. They are very few in number. They hold powerful positions. They speak to the media often. They often demand benefits from the Government for themselves and for the MPs. They speak about using thuggery to crush trade union actions. They openly talk and act against health officials' instructions given on controlling COVID-19. Sometimes they please a handful of their henchmen and not the majority of people.

There are more interesting common characteristics in them. The majority of them had not entered Parliament through people's votes. Many of them are old and have done no significant service for the people in the past few decades. Sometimes young politicians from their own political party and area hate them. They should not hinder the progress of this Government and antagonize people. But they do it openly and all can see it very clearly over the television at night.

What people think about the past two years is what matters. The ordinary people of Sri Lanka who are not using social media think that the best President Sri Lanka ever had since independence in 1948 is current President Gotabaya Rajapaksa. They think that the best time of their lives spent here in Sri Lanka since independence in 1948 is from November 17, 2019 to August 20, 2020. The

COVID-19 pandemic hit the world in December 2019 and it arrived here in Sri Lanka in mid-March 2020. But six (6) months of the pandemic were included by people in the best time they spent ever after 1948. This is a great opinion by the ordinary Sri Lankan people. The two dates are very significant because it was President Gotabaya Rajapaksa who won the credit for battling a lonely war against COVID-19 without a Parliament to support him.

The ordinary Sri Lankan people who work hard in their paddy fields, other agricultural lands, factories etc. think that they are alive today to see the faces of their children and grandchildren because of President Gotabaya Rajapaksa. He gave us the essential COVID-19 vaccine free of charge. He gave it to us on time. Otherwise we would be dead by now. This is what they say.

A person who was waiting in the line to purchase a gas cylinder at Panadura said "I am waiting in this queue today because I am alive today. I suffered from COVID-19 but by that time I was vaccinated with both jabs. I have asthma. But I am alive today because of President Gotabaya Rajapaksa. I am a labourer. I have three kids and my wife at home. Today they have me. I can get the gas cylinder in a few minutes or hours. What matters to them is my life and not this gas cylinder."

Marine Drive

What is your number? I asked from the woman who sat next to me opposite the doctor's room at a leading private hospital in Colombo last Wednesday evening. Mine is eight, she said. Ah! Mine is nine I said. She started to talk. "I came by a three wheeler. In the past, by the time I sat here, my back pain and arthritis

became worse due to the long distance travelling by a three wheeler. The Galle Road has several poor sections with bumps and potholes. The doctor said not to travel by three wheeler but I have to travel by a three wheeler because I don't have money to hire a better vehicle. But today I do not feel any discomfort because we travelled through the newly carpeted Marine Drive. I travel from Ratmalana. Pajeros can travel on any road but not three wheelers. It is very pathetic to see how some selfish people blame this Government for carpeting roads while travelling along this comfortable road," she said.

Similar stories can be heard if anyone speaks with ordinary people who are not sitting inside their vehicle or inside an air conditioned room/ hotel/ shopping mall with their smartphone worth over Rs.100,000 in their hands. But the voice of the real ordinary people of Sri Lanka is heard rarely over social media. It is because they are not using social media. Some are old, some are not rich, some are not that 'high tech' people, some are not worried about their status and having a social media account.

The 'Diyavu Diyavu 3 percent gang' which changes their outfit from time to time as farmers, teachers, employees of a certain institution etc. will not be able to brainwash the ordinary people of Sri Lanka because they believe what they experienced by themselves and not what is put into their minds using social media.

We are very happy because we are alive today while millions of people in other countries in the world were killed by COVID-19, they say. They said the same on May 18th in 2009. They said it in November 2019. They will say it once again in 2024.

Sri Lanka and Bangladesh should sign FTA



PATHIK HASAN

Sri Lanka and Bangladesh should set up a Free Trade Agreement (FTA) as soon as possible for ensuring their own business interests. Sri Lanka and Bangladesh as South Asian countries share some common economic platforms. Sri Lanka and Bangladesh were parties to the SAARC Preferential Trading Arrangement (SAPTA) and the South Asian Free Trade Area (SAFTA). The two countries were also parties of the Global System of Trade Preference (GSTP), Asia – Pacific Trade Agreement (APTA), and Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC). Sri Lanka's Foreign Minister Prof. G. L. Peiris was in Dhaka recently for Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA) and BIMSTEC meetings. Earlier in the year, Sri Lanka's Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa arrived in Dhaka on a State visit and met Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina.

Sri Lanka and Bangladesh both need a bilateral Preferential Trade Agreement (PTA) to boost trade and connectivity for ensuring greater mutual interest. This will make bilateral progress towards trade and investment between the two friendly South Asian countries. Bangladesh has always expressed its keen interest to sign a Free Trade Agreement



Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa with Bangladeshi Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina

(FTA) with Colombo to exploit the huge potential of bilateral trade between Bangladesh and Sri Lanka. If signing the FTA takes a long time, the two nations could sign a Preferential Trade Agreement (PTA). The PTA will begin with a shortlist of products that could open up opportunities for expanded trade, investment, and tourism in the future. But at first Bangladesh and Sri Lanka can sign a Preferential Trade Agreement initially to tap the untapped potential. Bangladesh and Bhutan signed a PTA on

December 6, 2020. Now Bhutan and Bangladesh both are benefitting from the PTA.

TRADE TIES

Sri Lanka and Bangladesh should emphasize utilizing the huge trade potential between the two countries by signing a bilateral trade agreement. Both parties can increase cooperation in various fields including pharmaceuticals, IT, agriculture, maritime security, and disaster management. Bangladesh has already expressed keen interest to provide training to Sri Lankan nationals in the field of paddy production, climate adaption, disaster management, and Information Technology and urged Colombo to extend training programmes for Bangladeshis on marine fisheries and nursing.

According to 2019 data of the Bangladesh Export Promotion Bureau, the annual trade volume between Bangladesh and Sri Lanka is about US\$ 13 Crore. Of this, Sri Lanka exports goods worth US\$ 9.86 Crore while Bangladesh's exports amount to about US\$ 3.7 Crore. This trade volume could be increased easily if Sri Lanka and Bangladesh sign a



Bangladeshi Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and Foreign Minister Prof. G. L. Peiris

FTA as soon as possible. Sri Lankan investors can invest more in Bangladesh Special Economic Zones, industrial parks, and high-tech parks.

Bangladesh can share with Sri Lanka its experiences in agriculture, particularly in rice farming and freshwater fisheries, its experiences in emergency response, disaster management, climate adaptation, and mitigation. Bangladesh can obtain technical know-how from Sri Lanka in coastal aquaculture, marine culture, and deep-sea fishing. In the education sector, both countries should have more institutionalized cooperation in capacity building, vocational training, and skills development.

In the case of the health sector, Bangladesh can put emphasis on core training of Bangladeshi nurses and other health professionals in Sri Lanka. Sri Lanka may benefit immensely by importing world-class pharmaceutical products and medical devices from Bangladesh in greater quantities. Basically, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka both would benefit from sharing experiences in the fields of agriculture, health, and education for mutual benefit.

Bangladesh is moving forward on the path of rapid development. Sri Lanka should sign a trade agreement for ensuring its maximum business interest. Bangladesh produces garments, pharmaceuticals, cement, paper, electrical items, and jute goods,

which are in high demand in Sri Lanka.

Bangladesh and Sri Lanka should identify potential investment sectors, including in the areas of Information Technology, agriculture, health, education, tourism, and services to tap the untapped potential. The investors of the two countries should come forward to exchange experiences of the development trends in the respective countries in the days to come.

PTAS AND FTAS

FTA negotiations with Bangladesh have been in the works since 2013 and signing an FTA would mean a successful completion of this discussion. It is expected that the FTA will enable both countries to overcome tariff and non-tariff barriers that exist and therefore hamper trade between the two countries.

Signing PTAs and FTAs would help both Bangladesh and Sri Lanka to address the challenges in the trade sectors. The preferential trade deals will help boost exports significantly. Bangladesh also needs to sign several PTAs and FTAs before (Bangladesh's) graduation, to reap the benefits of the Least Developed Country (LDC) category. Earlier, Both Bangladesh and Sri Lanka already agreed to sign the deal.

In 2017, both the countries had finished the required preparations to sign a FTA – but the initiatives did

not see the light of the day due to internal issues. Currently, both should give priority to PTAs. To some extent, the FTA deal is very difficult. Some issues, including revenue losses, have been involved with FTAs as all products of both countries under FTAs enjoy duty-free facilities. Bangladesh and Sri Lanka have signed six Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) to increase bilateral cooperation between the two South Asian countries. Now it is high for Sri Lanka and Bangladesh should sign a PTA as soon as possible to tap the potential. Then Bangladesh and Sri Lanka can move on the path of a FTA.

Sri Lanka is in an advantageous position in the value-added apparel industry, shipping lines and deep-sea port, financial services, ICT, and skilled technical people in different sectors. On the other hand, Bangladesh enjoys advantages in the apparel sector, skilled workforce in the garment sector, agricultural products, processed foods, and migrant workers. Bangladesh would be immensely benefited if the FTA is signed with Sri Lanka, as a portion of its exports and imports of goods are done through the Colombo Port. Sri Lanka also would benefit from signing the FTA. Although there are some complexities in the case of signing the 'FTA' deal, an effective diplomatic negotiation through dialogue can remove all the obstacles. Thus, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh should sign the PTA as soon as possible to tap the untapped potential to move forward on the issue of the FTA. Sri Lanka and Bangladesh could both benefit from initially signing the PTA and eventually, the FTA.

Pathik Hasan is a Dhaka-based NGO activist, researcher and freelance writer on contemporary international issues whose work has been published in many local and international publications. Academic background: BSS (Peace and Conflict Studies) and MSS (International Relations) under the University of Dhaka. He can be reached at pathikhasan1141@gmail.com.

- Eurasia Review



Colombo Port

TIES WITH INDIA: Differing views rattle Maldives

N. SATHIYA MOORTHY

Despite the PPM-PNC Opposition combine of jailed former President Abdulla Yameen periodically re-launching their 'India Out' campaign, drawing the larger ocean neighbour into everyday Maldivian politics, the charge couldn't be farther from the truth. The reason is straight and simple. New Delhi has a well-oiled, proven military machine to require a permanent military presence in Maldives.

At the annual Victory Day celebrations on November 3, Defence Minister Mariya Didi reiterated that India was not a threat to the nation's independence. The commemoration is in memory of the Maldivian martyrs—eight soldiers and 11 civilians—who had laid down their lives, when Sri Lankan Tamil mercenaries sought to overthrow President Maumoon Abdul Gayoom, back in 1988. Called in by Gayoom from hiding, the Indian troops ended the coup-bid through 'Operation Cactus', arrested coup leaders mid-sea to stand trial in Maldivian courts.

In a television interview, the Defence Minister also reiterated that despite claims to the contrary, there is no evidence that India poses a danger to the nation. She referred to the presence of 75 Indian military personnel to fly and maintain the two helicopters and one Dornier fixed wing aircraft gifted by New Delhi for humanitarian operations, and asserted that they were unarmed, operated exclusively under the Maldivian Defence Force (MNDF).

"Despite how many doctors, pilots, mechanics, radiologists, and gynaecologists from the Indian military there are—they cannot even come here unless with express permission from the Maldivian government," minister Mariya said. "The pilots will not take off ... unless assigned tasks by MNDF... Even the duration of their stay is determined by us." According to her, amongst the critics were

big-time drug smugglers, who have suffered heavily after MNDF deployed the Dornier on sea-watch to record highest hauls in the past two years.

In his Victory Day message from Glasgow, where he was attending the UN climate conference on the day, President Ibrahim Solih too thanked India for securing the nation's sovereignty. In his address to the nation to commemorate the day Maldives embraced Islam (falling on November 7 this year), he said that the spread of incorrect beliefs in the name of religion was one of the greatest issues facing the community, threatening lives, inciting violent attacks, and damaging properties.

Parliament Speaker and President Solih's ruling Maldivian Democratic Party (MDP) chief, Mohammed 'Anni' Nasheed was forthright in asserting the nation's 'India First' policy. The MDP has never believed that India should not be involved in Maldivian affairs, he said, as if in response to anti-India critics in the country.

Foreign military presence

Timing their revived protest to government leaders' gratitude for India, Yameen's PPM-PNC combine launched a rally, 'In defence of Independence', where speakers constantly referred obliquely and otherwise to 'foreign military presence', meaning Indian pilots and technicians and also to the bilateral agreement for New Delhi to build a dockyard for Maldivian Coast Guard in UthuruThila Falhu island, also known as the UTF agreement.

As the main speaker, coalition leader Abdul Raheem Abulla (Adhurey) said that the government has created space for things that threaten the nation's independence. As if to excite the uninitiated, he referred to the nation's long history and said that "Maldivians very well understand what flows from foreign military presence in Hani-



Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi with Maldives President Ibrahim Solih



India to develop a base for Maldives Coastguard at UTF

madhoo, Kadhhdoo, Addu and other places... that they threaten independence."

More than the rest, it's the presence and address by PPM Deputy Leader and Parliamentarian, Gassan Maumoon, son of former President Gayoom, that caused eyebrows to rise. "Maldivian people do not want any foreign military personnel to be stationed in Maldivian soil. The call of the Maldivians is that they will protect their independence themselves," Gassan said. Like other loyalists, he said that the regime-change of 2018 owed to Yameen wanting to defend the nation's independence. He also said that Yameen was being subjected to unjust harm in jail.

Another one of the India critics, Yameen's estranged former Home Minister, Umar Naseer, an ex-police officer now heading the 'Dhivehi National

Action' (DNA), said that Maldivians will not cower away from making any sacrifice for the nation's independence.

Singing out of tune

In a significant departure from the ruling MDP's consistent approach to the UTF issue, party chairman Hassan Latheef, sang a different tune when he called for the UTF agreement to be 'disclosed'. In party affairs, Latheef is identified with Speaker Nasheed in party affairs. The Government should prove to the people that it was not doing anything secretive, Latheef tweeted. "It is also beneficial (for the people) to know how the government gets aid from India," he said, without explaining the reasons for his more recent change of mind on the issue.

As if to end all further issues



New Indian High Commissioner to Maldives Munu Mahawar presenting his credentials to President Ibrahim Solih



The Dornier Surveillance aircraft gifted to Maldives by India

centred on the Indian neighbour, the Foreign Ministry in a statement reiterated the government's condemnation of 'India Out' campaign and said, "The government firmly believes that these views are not the sentiments of the general public, but rather that of a small group of individuals with the objective of tarnishing the country's long-standing cordial ties with India." The fact that the statement coincided with new Indian High Commissioner Munu Mahawar presenting credentials to President Solih, too, did not go unnoticed.

Facts state otherwise

Independent of internal squabbles centred on non-existing constituency politics, there is nothing to suggest that India is a threat to Maldivian Independence, sovereignty and

security. Through his five years in office, the Yameen leadership did not seem to have been able to dig out any records from the past, even when he wanted India to take back the two gifted helicopters towards the end of his term.

More importantly, Yameen was the brain behind the short-lived government of President Mohammed Waheed Hassan Manik, which alone sought and obtained the choppers from India. It was also the Yameen Presidency (2013-18) that sought and obtained the Dornier, but did not seek training for Maldivian pilots. It happened under incumbent Solih government, with three MNDF personnel qualified recently. Likewise, in 2014, it was also the Yameen Presidency that had initiated the UTF agreement, once again to oppose it while in the Opposition now.

There is also no logic in the motivated assumption that India wanted a military base in Maldives. On two occasions in the last 40-plus years, Indian military personnel were in Maldives, but only at the expressed request of the host government, to help the nation face off the coup-bid, 1988, and the tsunami, 2004. In 2015, Indian Air Force and Navy rushed potable water for Male after a blow-out at the capital's lone desalination plant—incidentally under Yameen regime.

On four occasions, the Indian Armed Forces left immediately after accomplishing its assigned task. It clearly indicated that New Delhi has had no motives to park its military personnel on Maldivian territory. As experts pointed out, all four occasions also underscored the fact that India did not require a military base to rush aid to Maldives at short notice.

There is a longer history to India deploying and withdrawing military personnel when sought by host governments. Both in the Bangladesh War (1971) and in deploying the Indian Peace-Keeping Force (IPKF) in common neighbour Sri Lanka, New Delhi withdrew its troops either when the immediate purpose was served and/or when the host government felt as such.

What more, in the existing and evolving Indian Ocean security scenario, Maldives and Sri Lanka have traditionally formed the first line of defence, or offence, for and against India. It would not be in India's interest to irritate even a small section of the local polity and/or population.

It is even more so when an adversarial China is knocking at its doors from all sides. New Delhi is more than alive to the possibilities in the immediate neighbourhood, exposing even the politically-motivated India-centred anxieties of a section of Maldivian polity for what it really is.

- Observer Research Foundation

Mahila Housing Trust has helped more than 2,500 households paint their roofs, which can reduce indoor temperatures by 4 degrees Celsius.



A solar-powered lighting system installed on Laxmiben Chavda's bamboo roof in Ahmedabad, Gujarat.



ADDRESSING GLOBAL WARMING: Five sustainable cooling solutions for South Asia

NATALIE TAYLOR

As the world warms, there is an urgent need to find ways to keep people cool. This year, several deadly records have been set in South Asia: in New Delhi, the highest July temperature in 90 years was recorded at 43.6 degrees Celsius. In April in Karachi, mercury levels hit 44 degrees Celsius – the highest in 74 years.

Last week, the climate analysis coalition Climate Action Tracker published research showing that even if the new pledges made by the world's Governments in the first week of the 2021 COP26 United Nations Climate Change Conference in Glasgow are achieved, global temperatures would rise by more than 2.4 degrees Celsius in this century. This coincided with the publication of research showing that with just a 2 degrees Celsius global temperature rise, a billion people will be affected by extreme heat stress.

Even at 1.5 degrees Celsius of global warming (the aspirational target set by the 2015 Paris Agreement), studies have found that deadly heat stress could become common across South Asia. Despite pledges to control greenhouse gas emissions, scientists say the world could reach the 1.5 degrees Celsius threshold in a matter of years.

There is therefore a pressing need for sustainable cooling technologies and practices that are both low-carbon and accessible to the poorest people – who are also most at risk of heatwaves. And, crucially, there needs to be grassroots support for the proposed solutions.

"We cannot agree on global multi-lateral solutions if we don't have local, appropriate implementation," said Carlos Alvarado Quesada, President of Costa Rica, speaking in Glasgow on November 4 at an awards ceremony held by Ashden, a United Kingdom charity that supports solutions to the problems caused by climate change. "Implementation has to be done locally, respecting women, respecting indigenous communities [and] working together with them."

This year's Ashden Awards, attended by *The Third Pole*, recognised the importance of sustainable cooling. Many of the projects highlighted below are recipients of finance via its Fair Cooling Fund, which aims to scale up "frontline fair cooling solutions".

Low-cost solutions

Houses in poor neighbourhoods are usually built from cement, often with plastic covers or tin sheets to keep the rain out. These materials absorb heat and create hot and stuffy living conditions. As urban



President of Costa Rica Carlos Alvarado Quesada presents Siraz Hirani, senior programme management specialist at Mahila Housing Trust, with the Ashden Award for Cooling in Informal Settlements.

populations increase and the impacts of global warming become more apparent, the problems will worsen – with knock-on impacts for sanitation and health. Women are particularly exposed, as their work often takes place within the home.

Mahila Housing Trust is a not-for-profit organisation based in Ahmedabad, India. It works in 10 cities across India to boost communities' resilience to heat stress. It provides women with advice on how to cool their homes in ways that are easily implemented and affordable: to date, more than 1,600 women have been educated about climate change and how to deal with some of its effects.

The techniques focus on passive cooling methods – preventing heat from building up within people's homes. One of the quickest and easiest to implement is painting roofs and sun-facing walls with solar-reflective paint, which can reduce indoor temperatures by 4 degrees Celsius-5 degrees Celsius. According to the Global Cool Cities Alliance, when sunlight hits a light-coloured roof, 80 percent of its energy is reflected, compared with 5 percent for a dark-coloured roof.

A second easy step Mahila Housing Trust advises is to grow potted plants and creepers on roofs, which the charity says can reduce indoor temperatures by 2.5 degrees Celsius. Vegetation has been proven to have a

cooling effect through shading and evapotranspiration. The Mahila Housing Trust has helped about 200 houses in Bhopal and Ranchi to do this.

The Mahila Housing Trust also advises on and helps with renovating roofs. The replacement structures have vents and are made from recycled materials that let more light in without trapping heat. According to the Mahila Housing Trust, these can reduce temperatures by 6 degrees Celsius-7 degrees Celsius.

Finally, the charity trains women on principles for reducing heat stress. For example, said Aneri Nihalani, Mahila Housing Trust's communications officer, considering the orientation of a building during construction can help reduce overheating. Taking these steps can help with the family's finances as well as their comfort, as they need less electricity to cool their homes.

Since 2014, the Mahila Housing Trust has helped more than 2,000 families to adopt heat-resilient measures. In recognition of its work, Mahila Housing Trust won the 2021 Ashden Award for Cooling in Informal Settlements, which was presented at the Glasgow summit.

Geothermal air-conditioning

The temperature on the surface of the Earth fluctuates constantly. But below the Earth's surface, there is little change in temperature. The founders of GeoAirCon, a company in Pakistan, have harnessed this stability to cool homes down.

In a GeoAirCon system, a "loop" of underground pipes filled with fluid is installed. Geothermal heat pumps move heat around the system. During the summer, these pipes draw heated water from the building and move it underground. (In winter, the opposite principle applies to warm the house.)

According to the company, the temperature of the Earth about 8 feet-12 feet below the surface in Pakistan ranges from 21 degrees Celsius-25 degrees Celsius. GeoAirCon systems can therefore cool buildings to this range – a comfortable temperature for the human body.

GeoAirCon says geothermal systems are twice as efficient in cooling as the most efficient conventional air-conditioning system. Cooling capacity is influenced heavily by the insulation of a building. M. Hassamuddin, Chief Executive of GeoAirCon, told *The Third Pole*, so use of passive cooling best practices is also advised.

A system costs US\$ 260-US\$ 460 to install, and costs significantly less to run than a conventional air-conditioning unit, according to the company. Hassamuddin said that though



Million Cool Roofs Challenge



Geo Airconditioning Systems have many benefits

more suited to houses with outdoor spaces, the technology can be installed in densely populated areas, with an area less than a metre wide required to make the hole for the underground pipes.

So far, GeoAirCon systems have been installed in 12 buildings in Pakistan. GeoAirCon was runner up for the 2021 Ashden Award for Cooling in Informal Settlements.

Low-impact systems

In 2015, 8 million air conditioners were installed in India. That number is expected to grow by 20 crore-30 crore in the next 20 years. But traditional air conditioning is expensive, electricity-intensive and often uses greenhouse gases like hydrofluorocarbons, exacerbating the climate crisis.

CBalance, an Indian consultancy that has also received financial support from Ashden, is working to reduce the reliance on conventional air-conditioning. It promotes passive cooling design and ventilation, fostering cooperation between architects and urban communities through its Fairconditioning programme. Hasan ul Banna Khan, an engineer working on Fairconditioning, told *The Third Pole* that in most cases a building can maintain a comfortable temperature using just passive design techniques coupled with sustainable cooling systems.

Having reduced the requirement for artificial cooling as much as possible, it also promotes technologies that reduce the energy and greenhouse gas intensity of cooling.

These include: Evaporative cooling, which uses evaporated water to cool air. Unlike conventional air conditioning, this does not use refrigeration, and therefore requires a lot less energy. In one building in Pune, this system reduces the need for conventional AC by 40 percent; Radiant or structure cooling, where cool water is circulated through a building. The technology has been used in 73 large buildings in India, including the Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology in Pune; Use of solar power to chill water; Air-conditioning units that are more energy-efficient and emit fewer hydrofluorocarbons.

Cool Roofs programmes

Under the Ahmedabad Heat Action Plan in India, a partnership between

in developing countries suffering heat stress. Ten teams are awarded grants of US\$ 100,000. In 2019, one of the finalists was the team from Bangladesh, a country with high humidity levels and where ambient temperatures are already reaching 40 degrees Celsius.

The Bangladesh team painted the roofs of two factories and 105 other buildings in Dhaka, including a nursery and a school, with average indoor air temperatures falling by more than 7 degrees Celsius.

Traditional techniques

Architects and builders can also look to traditional materials, techniques and designs, which have kept occupants cool for centuries. In one project in Rudrapur, north Bangladesh, students and architects worked with local architects and craftsmen to create houses for low-income families. Using mud and bamboo alongside manmade materials, they installed openings for cross-ventilation, insulation made from coconut fibre and glass windows.

Traditional stilt houses, such as those found in Assam, also use passive cooling. The structures enable cross-ventilation and shading. The walls, which are left unplastered, promote natural ventilation. Recently, projects have started to combine traditional models with materials to enhance their resilience to extreme weather.

Better urban planning

As global emissions drive temperatures to new highs, there is an urgent need to roll out these methods and technologies more widely, at the same time as taking urgent action to limit global warming. Both Aneri Nihalani from Mahila Housing Trust and GeoAirCon's M Hassamuddin told *The Third Pole* that finance is the main obstacle to the wider adoption of the solutions their organisations offer. Hasan ul Banna Khan from the Fairconditioning programme said there is still a lack of awareness of the impacts of conventional air-conditioning, as well as "a dearth of motivated and skilled architects and engineers in the sustainable building design sector".

Beyond that, urban planners and policymakers need to step in swiftly. In Vietnam, the Hanoi City Master Plan 2030 builds the growing need for sustainable urban cooling into the country's commitment to be net zero by 2050. It aims to prevent heat build-up throughout the city, using ventilation corridors of green and blue spaces.

As South Asia warms and urbanises, its cities will need to put similar heat adaptation and mitigation measures at the heart of their development plans.

This article first appeared on The Third Pole.



The world is warming up



An 'Air-Lite Ventilation' roof facilitated by Mahila Housing Trust at Surekhaben Patil's home in Ahmedabad. Mahila Housing Trust has enabled the installation of more than 200 of this type of roof.

Since 2014, the Mahila Housing Trust has helped more than 2,000 families to adopt heat-resilient measures. In recognition of its work, Mahila Housing Trust won the 2021 Ashden Award for Cooling in Informal Settlements, which was presented at the Glasgow summit.



A learning and resource centre in Ahmedabad, Gujarat. Large windows create better ventilation, while the white, insulated roof keeps the space 5 degrees Celsius-6 degrees Celsius cooler than outside.

Scientists mystified as Africa avoids COVID-19 disaster



AFRICA: At a busy market in a poor township outside Harare this week, Nyasha Ndou kept his mask in his pocket, as hundreds of other people, mostly unmasked, jostled to buy and sell fruit and vegetables displayed on wooden tables and plastic sheets. As in much of Zimbabwe, here the coronavirus is quickly being relegated to the past, as political rallies, concerts and home gatherings have returned.

"COVID-19 is gone, when did you last hear of anyone who has died of COVID-19?" Ndou said. "The mask is to protect my pocket," he said. "The police demand bribes so I lose money if I don't move around with a mask." Earlier this week, Zimbabwe recorded just 33 new COVID-19 cases and zero deaths, in line with a recent fall in the disease across the continent, where World Health Organization data show that infections have been dropping since July.

When the coronavirus first emerged last year, health officials feared the pandemic would sweep across Africa, killing millions. Although it's still unclear what COVID-19's ultimate toll will be, that catastrophic scenario has yet to materialize in Zimbabwe or much of the continent.

Scientists emphasise that obtaining accurate COVID-19 data, particularly in African countries with patchy surveillance, is extremely difficult, and warn that declining coronavirus trends could easily be reversed.

But there is something "mysterious" going on in Africa that is puzzling scientists, said Wafaa El-Sadr, chair of global health at Columbia University. "Africa doesn't have the vaccines and the resources to fight COVID-19 that they have in Europe and the US, but somehow they seem to be doing better," she said.

Fewer than 6 per cent of people in Africa are vac-



People are seen at a busy market on the outskirts of the Zimbabwean capital Harare on Saturday.

inated. For months, the WHO has described Africa as "one of the least affected regions in the world" in its weekly pandemic reports.

On Friday, researchers working in Uganda said they found COVID-19 patients with high rates of

exposure to Malaria were less likely to suffer severe disease or death than people with little history of the disease.

The research was presented Friday at a meeting of the American Society of

Tropical Medicine and Hygiene.

Christian Happi, Director of the African Centre of Excellence for Genomics of Infectious Diseases at Redeemer's University in Nigeria, said authorities are used to curbing out-

breaks even without vaccines and credited the extensive networks of community health workers.

"It's not always about how much money you have or how sophisticated your hospitals are," he said.

Devi Sridhar, Chair of

Global Public Health at the University of Edinburgh, said African leaders haven't gotten the credit they deserve for acting quickly, citing Mali's decision to close its borders before COVID-19 even arrived.

"I think there's a different cultural approach in Africa, where these countries have approached COVID-19 with a sense of humility because they've experienced things like Ebola, Polio and Malaria," Sridhar said.

In past months, the coronavirus has pummeled South Africa and is estimated to have killed more than 89,000 people there, by far the most deaths on the continent. But for now, African authorities, while acknowledging that there could be gaps, are not reporting huge numbers of unexpected fatalities that might be COVID-related. WHO data show that deaths in Africa make up

just 3 per cent of the global total. In comparison, deaths in the Americas and Europe account for 46 per cent and 29 per cent.

In Nigeria, Africa's most populous country, the Government has recorded nearly 3,000 deaths so far among its 200 million population. The US records that many deaths every two or three days.

Oyewale Tomori, a Nigerian virologist who sits on several WHO advisory groups, suggested Africa might not even need as many vaccines as the West. It's an idea that, while controversial, he says is being seriously discussed among African scientists — and is reminiscent of the proposal British officials made last March to let Covid-19 freely infect the population to build up immunity. That doesn't mean, however, that vaccines aren't needed in Africa.

- INDIA TODAY

Winds whip up volcanic ash from 1912 eruption in Alaska

ALASKA: Volcano scientists issued an alert Wednesday, warning that a cloud of ash — from an eruption more than century ago — was headed toward Alaska's Kodiak Island.

The ash is from the powerful 1912 eruption of Novarupta, a volcano on the Alaska Peninsula that dropped volcanic ash that is still visible today.

Strong northwesterly winds in the vicinity of Katmai National Park and Preserve and Valley of Ten Thousand Smokes on Wednesday kicked up the loose volcano ash.



This August 20, 2010 photo provided by the U.S. Geological Survey shows the lava dome of the 1.2 mile (2 km) wide vent of the 1912 Novarupta-Katmai eruption in Alaska.

"Generally, this time of year, we get these some these northwestern winds that can come down from the Katmai region and really scour

some of the free ash that that's deposited from the 1912 eruption and then bring it up to height," Hans Schwaiger, a U.S. Geological Survey research geophysicist at the Alaska Volcano Observatory, told The Associated Press. The three-day Novarupta eruption, one of the world's largest, began June 6, 1912, and sent ash as high as 100,000 feet (30,480 metres) above the Katmai region, located about 250 miles (402 kilometres) southwest of Anchorage.

- ABC NEWS

Climate Change making Amazon birds smaller

BRAZIL: Even the wildest parts of the Amazon untouched by humanity are being impacted by Climate Change, according to new research.

Hotter, drier conditions over the past four decades are decreasing the body size of the rainforest's birds while increasing their wingspans, a study published in the journal Science Advances said. The changes are thought to be a response to nutritional and physiological challenges, especially during the June to November dry season.

"The biggest takeaway for



Researcher Vitek Jirinec holding an Amazonian Motmot.

me is that this is happening far from direct human disturbance, such as deforestation, in the heart of the world's biggest rainforest," Vitek Jirinec, an ecologist at

the Integral Ecology Research Center and the paper's lead author said. Jirinec and colleagues analyzed data collected on more than 15,000 birds that were caught, measured, weighed, and tagged over the course of 40 years of field work.

They found that nearly all the birds had become lighter since the 1980s.

Most species lost an average of two per cent of body weight every decade, meaning a bird species that would have weighed 30 grams in the 1980s would now average 27.6 grams.

- DECCAN HERALD

Migrants from 12 countries among 600 found in two trucks in Mexico

MEXICO: Migrants from 12 countries were among 600 people found hidden in the back of two trucks in eastern Mexico on Friday, most of them from neighboring Guatemala, the government's National Migration Institute (INM) said on Saturday.

The INM said 401 of the people were from Guatemala, 53 from Honduras, 40 from the Dominican Republic, 37 from Bangladesh, 27 from Nicaragua, 18 from El Salvador and eight from Cuba.

There were also six men from Ghana, four people from Venezuela, four men from Ecuador, a man from India and a man from Cameroon in the two trailers discovered in Veracruz state.

The institute said 455 of the migrants were male, and



Most migrants from Central America and the rest of the world trying to enter the United States through Mexico.

145 female. The people detained would either be sent home or given the chance to have their stay in Mexico regularized, it added. The flow of undocumented migrants has surged with the inauguration of U.S. President Joe Biden, who has taken a more humane approach to the border crisis than his predecessor Donald Trump. - THE INDIAN EXPRESS

Most commonly used password in India is... No, not "12345"

INDIA: The pandemic saw a huge shift towards digital workspaces and online classes, but when it comes to cyber safety, it looks like the country still has some way to go. New research from NordPass reveals that the most commonly-used password in India is "password". This despite repeated warnings from police departments and public agencies about choosing strong passwords that cannot be cracked easily.

Global password manager NordPass analysed passwords across 50 countries and the amount of time it takes to crack each one, according to 7 News.

It found that in India, "password" was the most commonly-used password, followed by 12345, 123456, 123456789, 12345678, india123, 1234567890,



1234567, qwerty and abc123.

All of these passwords, with the exception of "india123", can be cracked in less than one second, according to NordPass.

India123 is a password that would take 17 minutes to crack. While these time frames are only indicative, they still provide an idea of how secure the password is.

- NDTV

DATE 19.11.2021 FRIDAY OFFICIAL RESULTS www.nlb.lk

MAHAJANA SAMPATHA DRAW NUMBER: 4591 Prizes won in this draw

Rs.11,296,340.00

Winning Letter: H Winning Numbers: 5 6 1 3 2 1

The super prize of next draw: **Rs. 12,250,780.00**

Govisetha DRAW NUMBER: 2886

TOTAL PRIZE WON IN THIS DRAW: Rs.5,115,080.00

Winning Letter: E Winning Numbers: 06 10 12 74

The super prize of the next draw: **Rs. 71,513,234.80**

Mega Power 10 DRAW NUMBER: 939

TOTAL PRIZES WON IN THIS DRAW: Rs. 3,714,720.00

Next Mega Super Prize: **Rs.153,862,557.20**

Next Power Super Prize: **Rs. 10,000,000.00**

Next Grand Super Prize: **Rs. 10,000,000.00**

English Letter: T Super Number: 09 Winning Numbers: 11 55 58 65

Dhana Nidhanaya DRAW NUMBER: 621

TOTAL PRIZE WON IN THIS DRAW: Rs. 3,838,380.00

Winning Letter: R Winning Numbers: 21 26 36 73

The super prize of the next draw: **Rs. 84,221,735.60**

SUPIRI VASANA DRAW NUMBER: 1635

TOTAL PRIZE WON IN THIS DRAW: Rs. 2,590,320.00

Super Number: 10 Winning Numbers: 25 27 48 60

The super prize of the next draw: **Rs. 2,000,000.00**

19.11.2021 - TOTAL PRIZE WINNERS PRODUCED BY NATIONAL LOTTERIES BOARD: 571,312

TOTAL PRIZE MONEY DISTRIBUTED AMONG WINNERS: Rs.26,554,840.00

Rs. 2,000,000 PRIZES: 02 Rs. 1,000,000 PRIZES: 02
Rs. 500,000 PRIZES: 01 Rs. 100,000 PRIZES: 20

All Winning Prizes above Rs. 500,000 are subject to government taxes
Winner has to submit National ID when receiving Prizes
All Winning Lotteries are valid only for 06 months from Draw Date

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National Lotteries Board
Tel: 011-4607000, 011-2324324
Fax: 011-4669416

32, Deshamanya N. W. J. Mudalige Mawatha, Colombo - 01.

DATE 20.11.2021 SATURDAY OFFICIAL RESULTS www.nlb.lk

MAHAJANA SAMPATHA DRAW NUMBER: 4592 Prizes won in this draw

Rs. 9,189,550.00

Winning Letter: R Winning Numbers: 0 4 5 7 1 9

The super prize of next draw: **Rs. 12,782,532.00**

Govisetha DRAW NUMBER: 2887

TOTAL PRIZE WON IN THIS DRAW: Rs.5,818,820.00

Winning Letter: D Winning Numbers: 03 23 58 78

The super prize of the next draw: **Rs. 71,666,730.40**

Mega Power 10 DRAW NUMBER: 940

TOTAL PRIZES WON IN THIS DRAW: Rs. 2,908,980.00

Next Mega Super Prize: **Rs. 154,086,066.80**

Next Power Super Prize: **Rs. 10,000,000.00**

Next Grand Super Prize: **Rs. 10,000,000.00**

English Letter: H Super Number: 02 Winning Numbers: 02 04 20 45

Dhana Nidhanaya DRAW NUMBER: 622

TOTAL PRIZE WON IN THIS DRAW: Rs. 3,406,540.00

Winning Letter: Z Winning Numbers: 37 63 65 78

The super prize of the next draw: **Rs. 84,235,632.80**

JATHIKA SAMPATHA DRAW NUMBER: 1168

TOTAL PRIZE WON IN THIS DRAW: Rs. 2,025,360.00

Winning Zodiac: 6 5 5 3 8 1

The super prize of the next draw: **Rs.10,469,540.40**

Now Jathika Sampatha brings you luck not only on Wednesdays and Saturdays but also on Mondays and Thursdays.

20.11.2021 - TOTAL PRIZE WINNERS PRODUCED BY NATIONAL LOTTERIES BOARD: 521,482

TOTAL PRIZE MONEY DISTRIBUTED AMONG WINNERS: Rs.23,349,250.00

Rs. 2,000,000.00: 01 Rs. 1,000,000.00: 02
Rs. 100,000.00: 24

All Winning Prizes above Rs. 500,000 are subject to government taxes
Winner has to submit National ID when receiving Prizes
All Winning Lotteries are valid only for 06 months from Draw Date

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National Lotteries Board
Tel: 011-4607000, 011-2324324
Fax: 011-4669416

32, Deshamanya N. W. J. Mudalige Mawatha, Colombo - 01.

Despite COVID spike, Europe sees protests against lockdowns, vaccine mandates

Pro and anti-vaccination protesters take to Australia streets

AUSTRIA, THE NETHERLANDS, AUSTRALIA:

Even as Europe has been witnessing a rising number of COVID-19 cases across the continent, lockdowns have met with protests in the Netherlands, Austria and Switzerland on Saturday. All of these nations, including Germany and Russia, which are seeing record infection levels, are imposing lockdown-like restrictions and banning unvaccinated people from venues, leading to riots and protests.

Soon after the Austrian Government announced that it would impose a lockdown starting Monday and mandated its entire eligible population to get vaccinated within February, protesters took to streets in Vienna. The protests were spearheaded by right-wing political outfit Freedom Party who have vowed to oppose the new restrictions.

Thousands of protesters took to Vienna's Heldenplatz chanting 'Resistance' and carried signs mocking Austrian chancellor Alexander Schallenberg and the nation's health minister Wolfgang Mueckstein, news agency AP reported.

The Austrian lockdown will remain in place for 10 days following which the authorities will take a call on whether to extend it for another 10 days. Vaccinations in Austria are one of the lowest in western Europe and at least 66% of Austria's 8.9 million people are vaccinated.

The Netherlands' Rotterdam saw violence as police were forced to fire bullets at protesters on Friday. Police arrested 51 anti-lockdown protesters on Saturday

and said that a hunt is on for more instigators.

Hundreds of protesters also took to the streets of Amsterdam on Saturday to protest against the partial lockdown imposed by Dutch authorities.

Protests are also expected to take place in Switzerland, Croatia and Italy against lockdown measures despite Europe seeing a rise in the number of cases, which health officials have attributed to not taking vaccines and not following COVID-19 preventative measures.

Meanwhile, Several thousand people took to Australia's streets on Saturday protesting COVID-19 vaccination mandates, while smaller crowds gathered to support the measures that have elevated the country to be one of the most inoculated in the world.



Demonstrators shout slogans and light flares during a demonstration against measures to battle the coronavirus pandemic in Vienna, Austria.

Nearly 85 per cent of

Australians aged 16 and above have been fully vaccinated against the coronavirus as of November 19. While nationwide vaccina-

tions are voluntary, states and territories have mandated vaccinations for many occupations and barred the unvaccinated

from activities such as dining out and concerts. Chanting 'Freedom, freedom' and carrying 'End Segregation Now' signs,

several thousand anti-vaccination protesters marched through Melbourne's downtown, Australia's second-most populous city that was hit the hardest by the pandemic.

Protesters also gathered in Sydney, Brisbane and other cities, with no immediate reports of unruly behaviour.

Despite the Delta outbreaks that led to months of lockdown in Sydney and Melbourne, Australia has had only about 760 confirmed cases and 7.5 deaths per 100,000 people, according to data from the World Health Organisation, far lower than many other developed nations.

New Zealand, which is also learning to live with COVID-19 through high vaccination rates has so far fully vaccinated 83 per cent of its population. - THE HINDUSTAN TIMES, THE MALAY MAIL

Over 1.2 bln people vaccinated against COVID-19 in China

Shanghai begins vaccination for children aged 3 to 5

CHINA: A total of 1.225 billion people in China have been vaccinated against COVID-19, including those who have only received one dose, covering 86.9 percent of the country's population, according to official figures unveiled Saturday.

In addition, around 65.73 million people have received a booster shot, said Wu Liangyou, deputy head of the disease control and prevention division of the National Health Commission (NHC), at a press conference.

More than 2.42 billion vaccine jabs had been administered nationwide as of Friday, with over 1.076 billion people in the country fully vaccinated against the novel coronavirus, NHC figures showed.

"The mass vaccination campaign has played an important role in curbing



A four-year-old girl receives COVID-19 vaccine at a vaccination site in Xuhui District of Shanghai, China on Saturday. - XINHUA

the transmission of novel coronavirus and preventing the occurrence of severe cases," Wu said.

Meanwhile, Shanghai has begun COVID-19 vacci-

nation for children aged between 3 and 5 since Saturday.

Parents would choose whether to get their children vaccinated. Every

child must be accompanied by a parent or a guardian during the vaccination.

The vaccination sites have created a child-friendly environment while paying more attention to kids' reactions.

Meanwhile, An experimental COVID-19 antibody treatment developed by researchers in China has shortened hospital stay of patients based on preliminary results, Sunney Xie, director of the Beijing Advanced Innovation Center for Genomics at Peking University, said on Saturday.

The drug, based on a potent neutralizing antibody DXP-604, has been authorized for compassionate use and delivered to 35 patient at the Beijing Ditan Hospital as of Nov 17, he said during an online academic conference. - CHINA PEOPLE'S DAILY, XINHUA

Kamala Harris held US Presidency for 85 minutes

US: U.S. President Joe Biden briefly transferred power to Vice President Kamala Harris on Friday as he underwent a colonoscopy, making her the first woman to hold the Presidential reins in U.S. history.

Biden, a Democrat, alerted leaders in Congress of the power transfer at 10:10 a.m. EST (1510 GMT) and took back control at 11:35 EST, the White House said.

The President was undergoing a routine physical at the Walter Reed military hospital outside Washington. White House spokesperson Jen Psaki said Biden spoke to Harris and White House Chief of Staff Ron Klain after the procedure and was "in good spirits." Biden's



US President Joe Biden and Vice President Kamala Harris

power transfer which lasted 85 minutes occurred while he was under anesthesia for the colonoscopy. Harris worked from her office in the West Wing of the White House during that time, Psaki said.

Harris is the first woman to serve as Vice

President of the United States; no woman has ever been President in the country's nearly 250-year history.

The US Constitution's 25th Amendment lays out a process for the President to transfer power when he is unable to discharge his duties.

Presidential power has been transferred to the Vice President before, when President George W. Bush had colonoscopies in 2002 and 2007.

After Harris' run as Acting President for 85 minutes, she was ready to travel from Washington, D.C., to Columbus, Ohio, to promote the administration's \$1.2 trillion bipartisan law that was signed by Biden earlier this week, the New York Post reported.

Biden, who turned 79 on Saturday, is the oldest person to take office as US President, leading to high interest in his health and well-being. Although speculation has persisted about whether he will run for re-election in 2024, he has said he expects to seek a second four-year term. - GULF NEWS

17 dead in Andhra Pradesh rains

At least 17 people have died and dozens are reported missing in the southern Indian state of Andhra Pradesh after days of heavy rains, authorities said Saturday.

The state has been hit by intense torrents since Thursday, sparking massive floods in at least five districts.

The death toll rose to 17 late Friday night after three people were killed when a building collapsed, police said. Ten people trapped under the debris were rescued but two are still missing.

Earlier on Friday, at least a dozen people died as heavy floods washed away the bus they were on.

Search and rescue efforts for missing passengers continued on Saturday. Rains in southern India at this time are not unusual,



A flooded area in Nellore in the southern Indian state of Andhra Pradesh on Saturday.

although the country has seen a prolonged monsoon this year with experts warning that climate change has exacerbated the

problem by making downpours more intense and frequent.

Last week, neighboring Tamil Nadu state was

struck by floods while at least 28 people in southern Kerala state died as heavy rains triggered landslides last month. - IANS

Taliban starts paying overdue salaries of Afghan Govt. workers

AFGHANISTAN: Afghanistan's Taliban administration began paying the overdue salaries of Government workers from Saturday, officials said.

Thousands of Afghan government workers are owed at least three months of salary, one of the many crises faced by the Taliban since the Islamist movement took over the country in August.

"The finance ministry

says that, starting today, the past three months salaries of all government workers and staff will be paid totally," Taliban spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid said on Twitter.

It was not immediately clear where the funds to pay the salaries would come from.

Even before the Taliban seized control last in August, many public sector workers said they had not been paid for weeks.

After the movement took power, billions of dollars of Afghan government funds parked abroad in the United States and Europe were frozen.

Foreign Governments have been unwilling to fund the Taliban-led administration directly to help with financial commitments such as payment of workers. Global financial institutions have also halted funding. Another Taliban spokesman, Inam-



Taliban Spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid

ullah Samangani, said on Twitter on Saturday that the daily revenue collections of the Taliban had been increasing daily.

- THE INDIAN EXPRESS

US teen's acquittal sparks scattered protests



Kyle Rittenhouse reacts after his acquittal.

US: The acquittal of Kyle Rittenhouse sparked scattered protests in major cities Friday night and Saturday afternoon as demonstrators called the decision a miscarriage of justice symptomatic of larger failures in the criminal system.

The jury acquitted Ritten-

house, 18, on all charges, after his legal team argued he acted in self-defense when he shot three men, two fatally, during chaotic protests in summer 2020 in Kenosha, Wisconsin. Hundreds protested the verdict at several demonstrations across the country. While there were a

few reports of property damage, authorities' concerns of widespread unrest were not realized in the largely peaceful gatherings.

Many protesters have said the handling of the case would have been different if the defendant were Black. - CNN



Musicians set the Guinness world record for the largest orchestra in Caracas, Venezuela on Saturday.

Venezuela sets largest orchestra world record

VENEZUELA: Venezuela on Saturday locked in the Guinness record for the world's largest orchestra after thousands of local musicians performed Tchaikovsky's "Slavonic March."

The performers were brought together by Ven-

ezuela's publicly funded "El Sistema" program, which was founded in 1975 and has since provided classical music training to thousands of working-class children.

Gustavo Dudamel, the music director of the Paris Opera and the Los

Angeles Philharmonic, is one of its most notable alumni.

"I can confirm that this attempt has been successful, congratulations," an official in charge of delivering the verdict announced on a screen during a

ceremony at the El Sistema headquarters.

"You are officially amazing," About 12,000 musicians, including both children and adults who are members of the country's main orchestra, the Simon Bolivar, played for

the record on Nov 13. Performance of the piece was observed by around 260 auditors from the accounting firm KPMG, charged with ensuring each musician complied with the rules to set a new record, which include not sharing

instruments and playing for at least five minutes during the score.

"This is a great achievement not just for El Sistema but for our country," said program director Eduardo Mendez. - BANGKOK POST

Foreign Minister Peiris assumes Vice Chair of IORA

Foreign Minister Prof. G. L. Peiris, accepting the Vice-Chair position of the Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA) at the 21st Council of Ministers Meeting held in Dhaka called for collective action to safeguard the maritime shipping lanes and ocean space from pollution-related disasters.

Referring to the MV-X Press Pearl disaster in May 2021, involving plastic nurdles, hazardous and noxious materials, Peiris said that the environmental impact was not only felt in Sri Lanka but with possible long-term repercussions on the marine environment beyond Sri Lanka waters.

Stressing on the importance of regional cooperation in maritime safety and security, Peiris said that Sri Lanka will take the



Foreign Minister Peiris at a discussion in Dhaka.

lead in proposing collective action that could avert or mitigate such disasters that have long term repercussions not only on the environment but also livelihoods – a critical concern for all Member States.

He also called on the global community to establish a fund

to recover environmental damage and losses considering the magnitude of the consequences of such incidents.

He thanked all Member States who extended their support to mitigate the environmental impact of the disaster. Congratulating the Govern-

ment of Bangladesh on the assumption of leadership of IORA, Foreign Minister Peiris said that Sri Lanka unreservedly has placed its confidence in Bangladesh leading IORA in the next two years which is crucial given the ongoing pandemic.

Over 50 Int'l, 11 local speakers share insights

At CIPM World HR Congress 2021

CIPM Sri Lanka – the Nation's leader in human resource management announced a line-up of 53 international and 11 local speakers including Chairpersons, CEOs, and General Managers of top Sri Lankan blue-chip companies together with leading academics in Sri Lanka who will share their knowledge and insights at the World HR Congress 2021.

The World HR Congress will be held in virtual mode from December 6 to 8 on the theme "Exalting People Professionals Amidst a Planetary Pandemic: Explore, Expand and Excel". These 64 speakers will participate in 4 plenary sessions, 4 panel discussions, and 4 rounds of concurrent technical sessions covering a wide range of topics that will deliberate the risks, challenges, and opportunities in the new world of work following the global pandemic.

"We are delighted that some of the world's renowned international speakers, and top corporate experts and academics from Sri Lanka have accepted our invitation to share their knowledge, expertise, and first hand experiences.

The strategies in managing and motivating their



Prof Peter Cheese

respective workforces to achieve and exceed business goals in the pandemic-hit world of work would not doubt add tremendous value to the HR and business leaders at the conclave in terms of shaping their people and business strategies" said Dhammika Fernando-Chairman, World HR Congress 2021 and Immediate Past President-CIPM Sri Lanka, President-Asia Pacific Federation of Human Resource Management, Board Director-WFPMA.

Johnny C. Taylor Jr – President and Chief Executive Officer, Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM) leads the list of international speakers at the conclave. With over 300,000 members in 165 countries, SHRM is the largest HR professional association in the world, impacting the lives of 115 million workers every day. He is a global leader on the future of employment, cul-



Prof T.V. Rao

ture, and leadership, and is a sought-after voice on all matters affecting work, workers, and the workplace.

Peter Cheese – Chief Executive Officer, Chartered Institute of Personnel Development (CIPD), UK is the next on the list. CIPD is the professional body for more than 150,000 HR and people development professionals around the world. Cheese writes and speaks widely on the development of HR, the future of work, key issues of leadership, culture, organization, people, and skills.

Chief People Officer – Mercedes AMG Petronas F1 Team, Paul Mills who has over 25 years of experience in HR is the next speaker in the line-up. Mills is a Chartered Fellow of CIPD and has worked for Ford, Siemens, Volvo Cars, and Jaguar Land Rover in a variety of HR roles.



Paul Mills

The next speaker in the line-up for the conclave is Prof T. V. Rao, the Chairman of TV Rao Learning Systems. India was a professor at the Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad and is the co-founder of the National HRD Network and Academy of HRD in India.

The other international speakers joining the line-up at the conclave include Ivan Livoni – Global HR Director Operations & HQ Staff Trelleborg Wheel Systems, Sarah McCann Bartlett – CEO/MD Australian HR Institute, Dr Fang Lee Cooke – Fellow, the Academy of the Social Sciences in Australia Distinguished Professor Monash Business School, Dr Lester Massingham – International Management Consultant, Executive Trainer and Speaker, Dr D. Prasanth Nair – Chief HR Advisor in TVS Capital Fundis Co-founder of Asynithis (Indus Partners),



Johnny Taylor

Udaya Indrarathna – CEO, Tourism Vertical of a large Saudi owned Global Conglomerate, Colin Blackwell – Founder, Enablecode & Hyperion Fintech AG and Dr Kazuo Yano – Fellow, Hitachi Ltd. and CEO, Happiness Planet Ltd.

Shiromal Cooray-Chairperson, Jetwing Hotels, Dinesh Saparamadu-Founder/Chairman-hSenid Group, Kapila Ariyaratne-GM/CEO, Seylan Bank, Priyantha Thalwatte-Director/CEO, Nations Trust Bank, Dr Samitha Perera-CEO, CBL Foods International, Suren Fernando-CEO, MAS Holdings, and Dr Neil Bogahalanda-Council Member, CIPM Sri Lanka are some of the expert Sri Lankan speakers at the World HR Congress 2021.

More details including the other confirmed speakers at the conclave and bios can be accessed at <https://wfpmacongress.com/confirmed-speakers/>



TBWari Lanka takes out the top spot as Lanka's Agency of the Year 2021

The 'Disruption' company, TBWari Lanka has been awarded the title of Sri Lanka's Agency of the Year for 2021 in Campaign Brief Asia's creative ranking.

Campaign Brief Asia is an entity that recognizes creative excellence in the Asian region, which awards points to advertising agencies about their success at international award shows. In 2020, TBWari Lanka's medal tally earned it the rank of number two in the 'Agency of the Year' category.

During the past year, the 'Aura Incentive Barricade' campaign showcased the creative process of TBWari Lanka, which won 2 gold and 2 bronze medals at ADFest 2020, and The Work 2020. These accolades have culminated in earning TBWari Lanka a total score of 195 points, and the title of number one agency in Sri Lanka.

TBWari Lanka is a part of one of Asia's most prominent creative networks, TBWAand has a client portfolio of well-known and well respected local and international brands, which include AIA Insurance, Prima Kottumee, Maliban, the Australian Government, 4Ever Naturals, Dulux, Lanka Hospitals, Commercial Bank, and Standard Chartered Bank to name a few.

The mantra of the company is 'Disruption' which in essence is the ability to overturn the existing market convention to create a radical change.

Managing Director of TBWari Lanka Renuka Marshall, stated "Agency rankings are a measure of creativity. This achievement sheds light on the tal-

ents and the creative capabilities of every individual within the Agency. Whilst a huge shout out goes to the trio of creatives, Shyan, Buddhika and Chaminda ranked as Sri Lanka's no 1, I have to stress that our creatives working under the guidance of Soruban along with the entire agency team, who consistently fuel the ethos of Disruption deserves recognition for their efforts, which made these projects successful."

Nathasoruban Sivapatham, Chief Creative Officer said "the Best Creative Agency of the Year is a title awarded to us in recognition of our creative talents and our ability to work as one team. I believe our success lies in our culture, which encourages thoughts and ideas from every tier in the agency."

"Being part of a global network, we also have access to an abundance of impressive creative work, which is shared amongst everyone in our team. In addition, we take every brief as an opportunity to Disrupt and elevate our creative standards. This achievement, therefore, is a nod to our creativity and the endless hours of hard work. To end, I have to say that it is invigorating to see our work make a mark internationally."

Planning for the future, TBWari Lanka is utilizing the 'Disruption' tool that has brought on all its current successes, by evolving its strategies and thinking, to be relevant in the present state of 'new normal' to offer their clients creative solutions that make an impact.

MTI awarded 'Best Boutique Management Consultancy' for Middle East & Africa

London-based Capital Finance International (cfi.co) has awarded MTI Consulting as the 2021 Best Boutique Management Consultancy for the Middle East & Africa region as part of CFI.co Awards 2021 which identifies and awards individuals and organizations that contribute significantly to the convergence of economies and truly add value for all stakeholders.

CFI.co, a print journal and online resource reporting on business, economics and finance, recognizes that the traditional distinction between emerging and developed markets is now far less meaningful as world economies converge.

Headquartered in London, the world's most multicultural city, CFI.co brings coverage and analysis of the drivers behind change. Combining the views of leading multilateral and national



MTI Consulting CEO Hilmy Cader

organizations with thought leadership from some of the world's top minds, their dedicated editorial team ensures that readers better understand the forces influencing and reshaping the global economy.

Other consultancies that have been awarded in this program include Deloitte Cyprus for the Best International Financial

Advisory Team Cyprus 2021, PwC Middle East for Best Business & Tax Services Provider Middle East 2021, and Account Ability for Best ESG Strategy Development Partner Global 2021.

"MTI is a fast-growing, internationally-networked boutique management consultancy that enables our clients to 'Analyze, Strategize, Realize' effective outcomes and we are honoured to be acknowledged by CFI for our work in the Middle East and Africa," said MTI CEO, Hilmy Cader.

A start-up in 1997 by Hilmy Cader, MTI Consulting, in the last 25 years, has worked on over 680 projects across 49 countries. This includes significant experience across the Middle East and Africa, working with Industry Leader, Multi-business Conglomerates, Governments and Family-Managed Businesses.

Thanuja Lankathilake elected Chairperson of SLAAR

The 28th Annual General Meeting (AGM) of The Sri Lanka Association of Airline Representatives (SLAAR) was held at the Taj Samudra Hotel, Colombo and Thanuja Lankathilake (GSA Air India) was elected Chairperson.

Keeping up with the new normal, the AGM was conducted as a hybrid event where several attendees participated remotely via Zoom.

Addressing the gathering, the re-elected Chairperson of SLAAR, Thanuja Lankathilake said, "SLAAR has always stood for innovation and adaptability and switched to digital platforms at the onset of the pandemic. We have had numerous discussions with the Board of Airline Representatives, tourism authorities, and other industry stakeholders during the past year to find common ground on industry-related issues in the current context".

Speaking at the event, Director Operations of Airport & Aviation Services Sri Lanka, Shehan Sumanasekera who was the Chief guest emphasized the significance of the BIA and MRIA Airports towards developing the aviation and tourism industries in Sri Lanka and briefly highlighted future advance-



Thanuja Lankathilake



Shehan Sumanasekera

ments in store for these international Airports. He also appreciated the SLAAR for its contribution towards the betterment of the aviation industry in the country.

The event also saw the successful launch of SLAAR's dynamic new logo designed to suit the futuristic vision of the Association and the modern age of Aviation. SLAAR was formed in June 1993 to provide offline Airline GSAs with a forum to take up industry-related issues, policies and matters arising from representation. The scope of the Association was later expanded to include online GSA for passenger and cargo representatives.

The newly appointed committee consists of Thanuja Lankathilake (Chairperson –), Gerard Victoria (Immediate Past Chairman – Hayleys

Aviation), Gyan Amerasinghe (Deputy Chairman – GSA Emirates), Shamith Wijethilake (Secretary – GSA Maldivian Airlines), Dumindu Amarathunge (Treasurer – Leisure Cargo Lanka), Srimath Fernando (Asst. Treasurer – GSA Saudia), Chaminda Silva (Committee Member – GSA Jazeera Airways), Niranjan Athapaththu (Committee Member – GSA Kuwait Airways Praharsini Bolling (Committee Member – GSA Singapore Airline), Sudeshinie Jayawardena (Committee Member – GSA Qantas Airways), Sashini Muthuthanthri (Committee Member – GSA Indigo), Sajith Amarasekera (Committee Member – GSA Malaysia Airlines) and Santhush Udumalagala (Committee Member – GSA Malindo Air).

Debbie Jones appointed WISTA Sri Lanka President

The Sri Lankan branch of the Women's International Shipping & Trading Association (WISTA Sri Lanka) celebrated 7 years of presence in Sri Lanka. To commemorate this significant milestone WISTA held their AGM on 29th October at the Cinnamon Grand Hotel, followed by Cocktails.

This event was graced by Rohan De Silva who celebrated 50 years of yeoman service and inspiring leadership to the Shipping and Logistics Industry in Sri Lanka. This truly was a momentous occasion for WISTA as De Silva became the recipient of WISTA personality of the year 2021 recognizing his great contributions, he has supported WISTA SL throughout their Journey being a WISTA SL Ambassador.

De Silva shared his remarkable journey with life-long experiences, challenges he successfully overcame, sharing gratitude to the people that touched his life and assisted him in his success.

Debbie Jones, Correspondent Manager P and I Division at GAC Shipping Ltd was elected as the President of WISTA Sri Lanka during the event.

Debbie brings in a wealth of knowledge and experience in the Shipping Industry to



The WISTA Executive Committee.



Rohan De Silva with the WISTA personality of the year 2021 award from - WISTA Sri Lanka President, Debbie Jones.

lead and achieve the objectives of WISTA Sri Lanka.

Diruni Chanmugam – Director / CEO of Shermans Logistics, was elected as the Vice President. Randima Krishnarate – Country Sales Manager of A. P. Moller Maersk was elected as the Secretary.

Addressing the gathering the newly elected President Debbie Jones expressed her

confidence in leading WISTA Sri Lanka to be a strong force in the industry during a very challenging period. She also stressed the importance of empowering women and encouraging more of them to join the workforce as currently women representation in the Shipping & Logistics Industry in Sri Lanka remains at a mere 3%. She also spoke about how the dynamics have

changed where the new normalcy is more flexible work patterns and hybrid work environments.

Hayleys Advantis Limited was the Official Logistics Partner for the event and South Asia Gateway Terminals continue to power WISTA Sri Lanka as the Corporate Partner and will extend their support for yet another successful year of activities that promote and strengthen gender diversity and women empowerment in the industry.

The newly elected Executive Committee for the year 2021/22 consists of Nilu Mediawake Wickremasinghe – Director of SALOTA International, Swabha Wickramasinghe - Director of WorldLink Shipping Colombo, Anoma.V Ranasinghe – Consultant Shipping and HR Services of McLarens Group Management, Sujani Kumarasinghe – Head of Customer Experience of A.P.Moller Maersk, Chamila Bandara – Director / CEO of Mountain Hawk

Express Licensee of FedEx, Amali Mudunkotuwa – General Manager Operations of Regency Teas, Shalinie de Silva – Assistant General Manager Marine of McLarens Lubricants, Felicitia Alwis – Assistant Manager Operations of GAC Marine Services, Surangi Gunasekera – General Manager NVOCC of Prudential Shipping Lines, Chandula Rambukwella – Senior Manager PR and Communication of Hambantota International Port Group, Sharmala Fernando – Manager Key Accounts Management of Mac Supply Chain Solutions, Dharshanie Illukpitiya – Group Director WorldLink Shipping, Malena Awn – Director Operations of Wilhelms Meridian Navigation, Himilika Perera – Deputy Chief Finance Manager of Sri Lanka Ports Authority & Ruwini Perera – Senior Executive Customer Solutions and Business Development of Hellman Worldwide Logistics.

The Executive Committee will work towards implementing many initiatives following the WISTA Sri Lanka mandate on improving gender parity and women empowerment in the industry.

MARKET/NEWS

ComBank's automated credit card onboarding system wins SLASSCOM award

The Commercial Bank of Ceylon, a leader in tech-based banking products and services, recently won the Banking and Financial Services Category Award presented by the Sri Lanka Association for Software Services Companies (SLASSCOM) for its case study on robotic process automation (RPA).

The RPA Award for the category was presented to the Bank for its end-to-end automation of the credit card onboarding process, launched to improve the customer experience and reduce operational costs.

Commercial Bank's case study won one of 10 multi-sector awards at the latest edition of SLASSCOM's annual conference titled 'Digital Genesis.' The Bank won in the same category last year too, for its User ID Management function which automates key Human Resources Management request processes.

Commercial Bank's automated credit card processing system enables staff to track the progress of credit card applications and automate customer notifications, authorises users to view Credit Information Bureau (CRIB) reports instantly, enables applications to conveniently consume CRIB reports via internal API, eliminates repetitive data entering, and reduces user data input errors.

This automation process has drastically reduced the average card processing time from 10 days to three days and the average time of acquiring a CRIB report from 12 minutes to two minutes, the Bank said. The project also facilitated substantial cost savings for the Bank by streamlining the processes.

Before automating the credit card onboarding process, the Bank's staff had to work on six different systems to submit a single credit card application. Moreover, the manual processing also involved delays due to multiple data entry and manual CRIB report requests and analysis, the Bank said.

It also incurred additional and unnecessary costs due to requesting and printing the same CRIB reports multiple times throughout the branch network.

The SLASSCOM annual Intelligent Automation Conference brings together the global leaders of robotics automation processes on one platform, sharing expertise in digital transformation to offer insight and education on what can be a complex environment.

This year, the conference was attended by over 300 professionals mainly representing leading Information Technology and Business Process Management organisations.

CAFTEC Sri Lanka branch office marks third anniversary



FLASHBACK CAFTEC team visiting the BOI office.

Chengdu Association for Foreign Trade and Economic Cooperation (CAFTEC) Sri Lanka Office celebrated their third anniversary on November 19.

CAFTEC was formally established three years ago and it actively built platforms for economic and trade exchanges and promoted cooperation between Chengdu and Sri Lanka enterprises in infrastructure, energy, environmental protection, agriculture, science and technology, trade and other fields.

"We appreciate the support of the International Business Council for helping us launch the office in Colombo," said Kosala Wickramanayake.

Since its establishment, the office has built close ties with over 100 Chinese enterprises in Sri Lanka; has promoted a total of more than 200 cooperations and has carried out more than 300 economic and trade exchange activities with Sri Lanka and has established friendly relations with more than 150 local government and business organizations in Sri Lanka.

These include the International Business Council, Chamber of Young Lankan Entrepreneurs, SAARC Chamber of Commerce, the Board of Investment etc, and has made economic and trade exchanges and cooperation between Sri Lanka and Chengdu smoother.

"On the occasion of the third anniversary of CAFTEC Sri Lanka office, we would like to express our heartfelt thanks to the support and assistance of various political and business organizations in Sri Lanka. We will continue to move forward and contribute to the economy and trade between Chengdu, China and Sri Lanka in the future," Wickramanayake said.



CAFTEC Secretary-General Chan thanking Kosala Wickramanayake.

CNCI hosts webinar on National Budget, Tax Amnesty on Nov. 25

The Ceylon National Chamber of Industries (CNCI), the pioneering chamber for industries in the country, has organized a webinar on Government Budget 2022 and Tax Amnesty (Finance Act No.18 of 2021). The webinar will be held on November 25, 2021, from 9.30 am to 12.30 pm via ZOOM.



The second part of the session is a panel discussion along with a Q and A session. D.R.S.Hapuarachchi - Deputy Commissioner-General Inland Revenue Department, Athula Ranaweera - Managing Director of Asset Advisory Partners (Pvt) Ltd, Canisius Fernando - Chairman CNCI / CEO Aqua Packaging (Pvt) Ltd and Kevin Edwards- Deputy Chairman CNCI / CEO Logistics, EB Creasy & Company PLC will be joined to the panel discussion. The panel discussion will be moderated by Amil Sugathapala - Treasurer CNCI / CEO Cal Exports Lanka (Pvt)Ltd.

It is CNCI's expectation for participants to make use of this opportunity to get a clear idea about Government Budget 2022 and tax Amnesty which is of paramount importance for your strategic business plan and registrations could be done by contacting the CNCI secretariat by phone or email through cnci@sl.lk

ble to the industrial sector which have to be used as decision-making tools for your strategic business plan.

The first part of the session will focus on highlights of the Government Budget 2022 and Tax Amnesty. Tax Amnesty highlights and planning of amnesty declaration will be discussed based on the 'Finance Act No. 18 of 2021'. All the important areas of the Tax Amnesty Act will be covered. The first part of the webinar will be conducted by Athula Ranaweera, Managing Director of Asset Advisory Partners (Pvt) Ltd, Partner: Ranaweera associates.

As rightly announced by Finance Minister in the Budget speech, the country is currently passing the most difficult period in its recent economic history due to five main reasons inclusive of such global pandemic threat. As he pointed out, we have the strength to come out of this recession.

In the world of industry, irrespective of fields, levels and volumes; almost all industries are becoming operationally unhealthy. All their operational plans badly need strategic review. The National Budget 2022 recently presented to the Parliament has several important proposals applica-

UMG delivers first hydrostatic bulldozer

United Mercury Group Lanka (Pvt.) Ltd, best known as UMG Lanka handed over the key of the first Hydrostatic Bulldozer to Jayaratne Construction, Gampaha.



UMG MD Asiri Walisundara handing over the keys to Jayaratne Construction, Gampaha Chairman Rohitha Jayaratne.

United Mercury Group is one of the leading partners in infrastructure development in the country with SHANTUI Construction machinery for over a decade.

SHANTUI Bulldozer is the No 1 bulldozer in China mainland and the world biggest bulldozer manufacturer in recent years.

In 2019, the world's first 5G remote-controlled high-power bulldozer was commercialized by Shantui, and thus the level of 5G technology application and intelligent manufacturing was further enhanced; China's highest-power bulldozer was successfully delivered to the customer last year, filling the technology gap of domestic high-power bulldozers and laying the foundation for the localization of

high-power bulldozers. Shantui Hydrostatic bulldozers are the most fast-growing bulldozers, UMG recently introduced its first D7 series of Hydrostatic bulldozers to the Sri Lanka market.

In the future, Shantui Construction Machinery Co., Ltd. will strive to build an international first-class brand of bulldozers, Road machinery, Wheel Loaders, Excavators, and concrete machinery, become a leader in new energy and intelligent equipment, and a construction machinery manufacturer with core technology.

hSenid Business Solutions announces Investor Forum

hSenid is to host an investor forum in line with their coming IPO. The Investor Forum will take place on the 23rd of November 2021. The forum will commence from 10.30 am

onwards at Jetwing Colombo Seven, presenting a resourceful opportunity for investors and other interested stakeholders to educate themselves on the offering of the upcoming IPO.

Monetary Board appoints four new Assistant Governors



C P S Bandara K G P Sirikumara



U L Muthugala D Kumaratunge

The Monetary Board, at its meeting held on 17th November 2021 has promoted K G P Sirikumara, D Kumaratunge, U L Muthugala, and C P S Bandara to the post of Assistant Governor with effect from 17th November 2021.

SL's merchandise... From page 17

During the first ten months of 2021, exports to the United States of America, Sri Lanka's single largest export destination, increased by 18.1% to US\$ 2,466.7 million. Exports to the United Kingdom as the second-largest trading partner recorded an increase of 0.2% to US\$ 768 million. The estimated value of services exports (ICT/BPM, Construction, Financial Services and Transport & Logistics) for the period of January to October 2021 was 2,521.1 million dollars, increasing 28.5% over the corresponding period of 2020.

Remittance inflows... From page 17

The cost of sending money across international borders remained high, around 6.4% on average in the first quarter of 2021, or more than doubles the SDG target of 3%. Remittances are expected to continue growing in 2022, but there are downside risks. Moreover, the shift from cash to digital remittance channels which was observed at the peak of the COVID-19 crisis in 2020, has likely run its course. According to the report, further growth will require greater progress in access to bank accounts (which is essential for using digital channels) for migrant populations.

S&P gains while ASPI remains stagnant - Acuity Stockbrokers

The Bourse ended the week on a mixed note this week with ASPI decreasing by 7.82 points (or 0.07%) to close at 10,658.72 points, while the S&P SL20 Index increased by 58.63 points (or 1.62%) to close at 3,674.58 points.



Turnover & Market Capitalization

L O L C Finance was the highest contributor to the week's turnover value, contributing LKR 12.06Bn or 32.74% of total turnover value. Expolanka followed suit, accounting for 12.89% of turnover (value of LKR 4.75Bn) while Sunshine Holding contributed LKR 2.45Bn to account for 6.66% of the week's turnover. Total turnover value amounted to LKR 36.83 Bn (cf. last week's value of LKR 38.24 Bn), while the daily average turnover value amounted to LKR 9.21 Bn (20.41% W-o-W) compared to last week's average of LKR 7.65 Bn. Market capitalization meanwhile, decreased by 0.01% W-o-W (or LKR 0.35 Bn) to LKR 4,756.78 Bn cf. LKR 4,757.14 Bn last week.

Liquidity (Value & Volume)

Diversified Financials Industry Group was the highest contributor to the week's total turnover value, accounting for 42.31% (or LKR 15.59Bn) of market turnover.

Industry Group's turnover was driven primarily by L O L C Finance, L O L C Holdings and Comm Lease & Fin which accounted for 92.59% of the sector's total turnover.

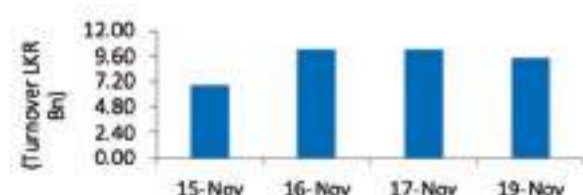
Food Beverage & Tobacco Industry Group meanwhile accounted for 17.12% of the total turnover value while Capital Goods Industry Group contributed 13.02% to the weekly turnover.

The Diversified Financials Industry Group dominated the market in terms of share volume, accounting for 42.35% (or 661.38 Mn shares) of total volume, with a value contribution of LKR 15.59Bn.

The Food Beverage & Tobacco Industry Group followed suit, adding 21.06% to total volume (328.92 Mn shares) while Capital Goods Industry Group contributed 8.44% (131.77 Mn shares) to the weekly share volume.

Dividend Announcements

Company, DPS(Rs.), Dividend Type, Date(XD);



DEMOCRATIC SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF SRI LANKA

ISSUE OF TREASURY BILLS

Rs. 61,000 million Treasury Bills are to be issued through an auction on 24th November 2021

The Details of Treasury Bill issues are as follows :

Maturity Period	91 Days	182 Days	364 Days	Total
ISIN*	LKA09122B256**	LKA18222E273**	LKA36422K258**	
Amount Offered (Rs. Mn.)	18,000	18,000	25,000	61,000

Date of Auction : 24th November 2021
 Date of Settlement : 26th November 2021
 Date of Issue : 26th November 2021
 Closing date and time of bid submission : **Wednesday** 24th November 2021, at 11.00 a.m.
 Minimum amount of a bid : Rupees five million (Rs. 5,000,000/=) and multiples of Rupees one million (Rs. 1,000,000/=) there onwards.

Bids are invited from the Primary Dealers in Government Securities.
 Bids should be made only through the electronic bidding facility provided by the Central Bank of Sri Lanka (CBSL).
 The CBSL may accept a higher or lower amount than the offered amounts for each maturity by reallocating amounts between the maturities, depending on the market conditions, but without exceeding the total amount on offer at this auction.

The general public is invited to purchase Treasury Bills from the following Primary Dealers or any other Licensed Commercial Banks

Acuity Securities Ltd.	2206297	NSB Fund Management Co. Ltd.	2425010
Bank of Ceylon	2541938	People's Bank	2206783
Capital Alliance Ltd.	2317777	Sampath Bank PLC	2305842
Commercial Bank of Ceylon PLC	2332319	Seylan Bank PLC	2456340
First Capital Treasuries PLC	2639883	WealthTrust Securities Ltd.	2675096

* International Securities Identification Number
 ** New holiday treatment for Treasury Bill maturities applies, i.e. effective from 2022, in the event the maturity falls on a bank holiday, payments will be made on the immediate following business day.

M.Z.M. Aazim
 Superintendent / Registrar of Public Debt

Issuing Office
 Public Debt Department
CENTRAL BANK OF SRI LANKA
 30, Janadhipathi Mawatha, Colombo 1.
 Telephone: +94 112477011 Fax: +94 112477687
 Web: www.cbsl.gov.lk

In commemoration of World Food Day

Get to know our food heroes

A series of stories on rural Sri Lankan farmers

Wells of hope: enhancing smallholder farmers' resilience to climate change

Living in a small house with mud-thatched walls which provides the only respite from the intense heat, Romesha and her family are no strangers to the effects of climate change. Although the single electric bulb hanging from the ceiling flickers and dies as the area is hit by yet another power outage, Romesha's face is alight with excitement as she talks of her farmland – a place filled with trailing passionfruit vines, swaying coconut trees and neat rows of vegetable, fruit and nut plants.

"I love working in my field" says Romesha. "Even when I was laid up in bed with an injured spine after falling off a tractor, all I could think of was how soon I could get back to tending my crops".

Romesha and Prasanna, a married couple, are smallholder farmers in Hambegamuwa, Monaragala. They grow and sell crops ranging from pumpkin, chillies, peanut, millet and coconut to earn an income and provide for their two sons, aged three and ten. Their farm which spans across two acres of land, is carefully and lovingly nurtured by the couple. However, not so very long ago – in the early part of 2020 – Romesha was only able to cultivate half an acre of land. Water, or rather a severe lack of it, hindered the family's agricultural efforts, with high temperatures and scarce rainfall making it difficult to farm. With a limited number of crops, Romesha was more vulnerable to price fluctuations in the market, which was already hit by the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.



Romesha with her family

This prevented her from earning a stable income which was even now barely enough to provide for her family. "In farming, we have two main seasons of cultivation – Yala and Maha", says Romesha. "Every year, we used to lose out on one harvesting season due to drought and the lack of rain. When there's no rain, we don't have adequate water to cultivate our land. In order to settle the loans we had taken, my husband and I had to leave our children with my mother and go out in search of daily labour work". According to Romesha, they sometimes had just one meal a day, which meant that she was not able to provide proper nutrition for her children. Every day seemed like an uphill battle to her.

The United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) works with small-

holder farmers like Romesha across many parts of Sri Lanka to help them break free of the effects of consecutive climate-related disasters. WFP's "R5n" project helps smallholder farmers overcome climate shocks like drought which cause significant loss of harvest, resulting in indebtedness, food insecurity and malnutrition.

Through its "R5n" project, WFP provides water-harvesting and storage facilities such as agro-wells and farm ponds, conducts training on agricultural practices, and promotes the diversification of livelihoods while strengthening capacities for commercial production. This serves to enhance the resilience of smallholder farmers and helps lift them out of the cycle of poverty and malnutrition.

WFP also adopts a 'nutrition'



Romesha in her field

focused approach to encourage dietary diversity and improve the intake of nutritious food, especially among women of reproductive age and children under five.

WFP provided Romesha with funds to construct an agro-well, giving her access to a steady water supply for her crops even during the long spells without rain. She also received farm equipment, including irrigation tubes and gardening tools, and was coached on the maintenance of these assets so that she could sustain her cultivation in the long-term. Additionally, she received training and guidance on diversifying her sources of income by growing a range of high value, nutritious and marketable crops. "The agro-well from

WFP fills me with hope", says Romesha. "Water scarcity has always been such a worry for us. With WFP's assistance, we can not only cultivate during the two main seasons but also in-between seasons when the ground is even more parched and dry. We finally have sufficient water to sustain and grow our cultivation".

With support, training and knowledge sharing from WFP, Romesha has expanded her area of cultivation four-fold, from half an acre to over two acres. She has also tripled her household income.

This she says comes as a great relief as the couple can now start to pay off their loans with these improved earnings and can attend to

their farm without having to head out in search of work. This is doubly rewarding as it gives them more family-time with their children and the ability to feed them with regular, nutritious meals. Further, with hard work and commitment, Romesha and Prasanna have now transitioned from home gardening to commercial production. Romesha looks out into her garden with hope in her eyes and a smile playing about her lips. "I have always had many dreams for my family", she says. "Now I am better equipped to fulfil them. When I think of the future, I know that no matter what challenges I will face, I can overcome them with strength and confidence".

WFP's "R5n" project supports over 86,000 people in five climate shock-prone districts across Sri Lanka. WFP's assistance will help smallholder farmers like Romesha enhance their resilience to withstand climate shocks, build sustainable livelihoods, and improve nutrition and food security on the path to achieve 'zero hunger'.

In commemoration of World Food Day, these stories of rural communities who are playing a role in helping to improve local agri-food systems towards better production, better nutrition, better environment and a better life for all, are compiled in collaboration with the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and the World Food Programme (WFP).

Gem and Jewellery Association welcomes govt moves on Ease of Doing Business



The Largest Association of Gem Dealers in Sri Lanka, the China Fort Gem and Jewellery Traders Association welcomes the Government's initiatives to promote Ease of Doing Business measures in the Gem and Jewellery industry through the Budget 2022 presented by the Finance Minister Basil Rajapakse this month.

In this respect, CGJTA also welcomes the recent decision by the State Minister for Gem and Jewellery and related activities Lohan Ratwatte to set up a one-stop fully fledged office of the National Jewellery Authority and a training centre of the Gem and Jewellery Training Centre at the China Fort Gems Tower located at the world's oldest open gem market, the China Fort Pathe International Gem Market. The China Fort Gems Tower was ceremoniously declared open by the State Minister for Gem and Jewellery and related activities Lohan Ratwatte November 13, 2021.

According to Liyakath Rasvi, Secretary to CGJTA the Chinafort Pathe



Liyakath Rasvi, CGJTA Secretary

International Gem Market is one of the most popular and vibrant open markets for gemstones in the world with buyers coming from many parts of the world – the China Fort Gems Tower and one-stop centre by the NGJA are key steps in achieving the goals stated by Basil Rajapakse in his budget speech to position Sri Lanka as the hub for Gems and Jewellery. The CGJTA has over 1,500 mem-



bers from across the country including Beruwala, Kalutara, Ratnapura, Galle, Balangoda and Colombo. It also has the highest concentration of Gem Dealer Licence holders authorised by the National Gem and Jewellery Authority and has the largest pool of exporters of all gemstones from Sri Lanka.

The CGJTA membership are at the forefront of sourcing and value addition and re-export of Sapphires and other varieties of gemstones from Sri Lanka as well as Africa.

Marjan Faleel, Chairman of CGJTA and Member of Parliament extends heartfelt gratitude of the entire industry to the Finance Minister Basil Rajapaksa, State Minister for Gem and Jewellery Related Industries Lohan Ratwatte, the Secretary to the State Ministry for Gem and Jewellery Related Industries M.S.M. Piyatissa, The Chairman of the National Gem and Jewellery Authority, Tilak Weerasinghe and the Gem and Jewellery Training Institute in this respect.

Faleel further assured that the Gems and Jewellery will continue to be a major contributor of foreign exchange earnings and highly skilled employment opportunities to the country.

BOI clarifies media reports on COPE meeting...

The Board of Investment has issued a clarification regarding statement issued by the Media Manager, Department of Communication, Sri Lanka Parliament, Sri Jayewardenepura, Kotte in response to media statement issued re: the cope committee hearing held with the Board of Investment.

The response states, "We refer to the Media statement issued under your directive on November 11, 2021 pursuant to the COPE Committee meeting held with the Board of Investment (BOI) of Sri Lanka on the above-mentioned date and wish to state the following. Consequent to the Budget Proposals 2017, the then Ministry of Development Strategies and International Trade (MODSIT) established two export processing zones in Millaniya and Bingiriya, under the guidance of the Cabinet Committee for Economic Management (CCEM). The MODSIT Ministry submitted relevant Cabinet Papers in this regard on December 15, 2017 and October 10, 2018 respectively. Approvals had been granted for the government to provide essential infrastructure facilities for the selected zones and budgetary allocation has been provided to the MODSIT in 2017, 2018 and 2019.

These activities were undertaken and coordinated by the Ministry (MODSIT) as those activities involved infrastructure development and land acquisition outside the land parcels identified for the establishment of the zones. Such developments were to be carried out by other government agencies; Electricity – CEB; Water supply – NWS and DB; Roads – RDA. The role of the BOI was to facilitate such engagements and report progress to the ministry and to develop the infrastructure within the land parcels identified for the zones.

The media statement issued by your department makes reference to the Board of Investment effecting transactions amounting to Rs 3,352.92mn to various institutions without a formal project proposal and repayment plan.



We wish to however inform you that all fund allocations for such external infrastructure were made through the 2017-19 budget proposals by the then government to the relevant Ministry (MODSIT). The financial disbursement planning was done by the MODSIT directly in consultation with the relevant infrastructure development agencies such as RDA, NWS and DB, CEB etc., while the BOI played only a facilitator's role under the directives of MODSIT. Furthermore, the Cabinet Memorandum of December 15, 2017 that was submitted by the MODSIT Ministry, sought, under section 3.3 (iv), in clear terms, to Direct the CEB, RDA and NWS and DB to commence construction and infrastructure required for the project Simultaneously to the land acquisition process using funds allocated to the ministry (MODSIT) in 2017 budget.

As such, we wish to emphasise the fact that the BOI has not made any payments from BOI accounts as stated in your media statement and based on the available and limited information shared by the then Ministry of Development Strategies and International Trade, all such financial transactions have been effected by the relevant Ministry MODSIT to the relevant government institutions.

Although the media statement issued by your department does not make reference to a time period during which such transactions have been effected, we wish to also inform you that based on the limited information that has been shared with us, and to the best of our knowledge, that these transactions have been made by the Ministry (MODSIT) during the period of 2017-2019, and that according to informa-

tion made available to the BOI, no such payment had been made thereafter for the Millaniya Export Processing Zone.

It is also pertinent to note that the Cabinet Memorandum submitted by the same Ministry (MODSIT) dated 29.01.2019 had acknowledged that there were "Acquisition issues and inadequate funds" (para 5 under section 2.0), and as such, sought approval to, "Utilize the allocation already made under Millaniya Industrial Park for the work mentioned" (grid subsection to provide power to both the Millaniya and Wagawatta EPZs and access road construction and junction improvement) through budget allocations in 2019 and 2020.

It was also brought to the attention of the COPE Committee during the hearing that the BOI would only invest its own funds in the development of new zones if and only after the identified land parcels are vested with the BOI free of encumbrances, and the ongoing development of the Eravur and Arabokka zones were highlighted as cases in point. The media statement also refers to 484 projects under 12 Export Processing Zones having either had their agreements terminated or operations suspended or closed. It does not however, refer to a time period. Our records indicate that these 484 terminations of contract and suspension/closure of operations have taken place during the 43-year life span of the BOI since its inception in 1978 and until 2021. Furthermore, we wish to also bring to your attention that 71 of these projects are expansions and cannot be considered under the categories of either being suspended/closed or agreement cancelled.

We have brought the above to your attention, as the media statement released by your esteemed department incorrectly presents the facts pertaining to the discussions held during the COPE Committee hearing.

Direct Selling Industry in Sri Lanka growing

Asia Pacific has highest share of the market

As one of the world's fastest growing industries, the direct selling industry has been long recognized as a sector that builds entrepreneurship and empowers communities. Globally, the Asia Pacific region has the highest share of the market, at 44% but the rest of Asia is also growing and expanding.

In South Asia, India leads with 05 million engaged in direct selling while 800 new entrants are recorded daily. Industry experts believe that the phenomenal growth of the industry is due to its ability to be a flexible source of income, thereby empowering individuals with the capacity and the capability

to sell products within their communities. This was the strategy that drove the global success story of Avon Cosmetics and Tupperware, two of the direct selling industry's best known brand names. Since 1886, the Avon lady has been a popular personality in her community, selling the world famous Avon cosmetics to her customers.

The famous Tupperware parties were where women gather to not just buy Tupperware but for fellowship and conversation – known as one of the world's best known direct selling mechanisms with hundreds of Tupperware direct selling personnel located throughout the world. In Sri Lanka too, direct selling companies maintain an

active presence. Since no clear guideline are available to understand the scope of their operations, such businesses are not able to optimize the potential of the industry. A contributory factor is the lack of understanding and awareness of the direct selling industry as a globally vibrant entity that is active in over 170 countries.

Companies such as Global Lifestyle Lanka have been present in the direct selling industry for over 12 years. The greatest challenge faced by them in the local context is the lack of formal recognition. Without such recognition and structural formality, the industry faces the hurdles of being misrepresented and mistaken as ambiguous operations

without adequate recognition and credentials. Industry sources say that it need not be – as elsewhere in the world, there should ideally be a mechanism whereby the direct selling operations must be recognized as yet another form of sales business.

A contributory factor is the dubious credentials of some entities masquerading as authentic direct selling operations – however, if there are mechanisms in place to recognize and elevate the industry, such operators can be weeded out, giving authentic companies the space to engage in their business.

NEWS/ADVERTORIAL

SLT-Mobitel Annual Report 2020 shines at ARC Int'l Awards 2021

SLT-Mobitel, the National ICT Solutions Provider has been conferred Gold and Silver awards in recognition of excellence for its 2020 Annual Report at the ARC International Awards 2021 held recently.

SLT-Mobitel's Annual Report 2020 'Mapping the Digital Highway' won Gold in the 'Interactive Annual Report' and Silver in the 'Financial Data' categories under the Telecommunications sector. Additionally, the report secured an honourable mention under the 'Specialized Annual Reports' category for Integrated AR & CSR - Non-Traditional Format.

SLT-Mobitel's winning entry was an Integrated Annual Report providing information in a comprehensive and clear manner showcasing the company's strategy, value creation and related performance and impact for the financial year that commenced on January 1 2020 and ended on December 31 December.

The report also provided an overview of the Sri Lanka Telecom's entire operations including its subsidiaries. Key financial aspects are discussed in the context of the Company and the Group, which is consistent with the framework adopted in the previous year.

To present the company's sustainable management performance in an easy-to-understand manner the Report drew concepts, principles, and guidance from renowned global frameworks such as the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) Standards for sustainable reporting, International IR Framework (IIRC) and Smart Integrated Reporting Methodology.

SLT Group Chief Finance Officer, Sanjeewa Samaranyake said, "We are pleased that our Annual Report 2020 has been recognised and honoured by a top global awarding authority. Through the report we strive to showcase our clear strategic path, transparent in disclosing financial data, and fulfilled social responsibility and other comprehensive information of the company while adhering to governance philosophy and unremitting efforts in investor relations and information disclosure. Moreover, we also sought to maintain consistency in the design of both cover and content in keeping with our selected theme."

ARC Awards is the world's largest international competition providing a platform for the highest standards in the annual report industry. Established in 1987 by US-based MerComm Inc., the ARC Awards honours outstanding achievements in creativity and communications in annual reports from over 35 countries.

The Awards serves to promote awareness of the annual report as an important corporate communications tool and to highlight excellence in annual report design and writing.

Chairman Richard Pieris Dr Sena Yaddheghe lamented that though the rest of the Richard Pieris group was dominating their industries the insurance segment was still widely unknown. Dr Yaddheghe had previously sold off an insurance venture he owned and had decided to re-launch one under the Richard Pieris group of companies under the Arpico brand name.

Dr Yaddheghe noted that the broader Richard Pieris group remained highly profitable with well-diversified revenue streams. He offered it took longer than usual for the Insurance Regulatory Commission of Sri Lanka to approve the product. Senanayake said, "We have to have the right weapons and as a result, we are launching this health insurance product."

Targets 10% market share Arpico Healthcare policy launched

DINESH PERERA

Arpico Insurance has launched Arpico Healthcare in order to undercut the competition and rapidly rise in market share in the highly underpenetrated Sri Lankan healthcare insurance segment. Over the next five years, the firm plans to take its share of industry-wide Gross Written Premiums from currently below 2% to 10%.

Arpico Healthcare offers coverage for over 40 illnesses and 20 types of critical illnesses. The aggressive sales strategy was launched on 16 November at the Grand Monarch Kotte.

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The health cover includes worldwide coverage (sans the US and Canada), dental care benefit, alternative medicine coverage, maternity benefit, reinstatement benefit, compensation for hospitalization in a govt

noted that in 2003 the company had a Profit Before Tax of Rs 180 million which had risen to Rs.

cine coverage, maternity benefit, reinstatement benefit, compensation for hospitalization in a govt



Arpico Insurance Chairman Viville Perera

6.5 billion in 2019. Dr Yaddheghe said, "We have an exceptional set of people capable of doing unbelievable things. I told them to double the revenue and they have been able to do so. I told them if they are as good as the rest of the group they need to have significant revenue growth and they have taken the gauntlet, 10% of the industry in the next 5 years."

Arpico Insurance CEO Kelum Senanayake noted that the product offering is very complex. Due to the range of benefits offered it took longer than usual for the Insurance Regulatory Commission of Sri Lanka to approve the product. Senanayake said, "We have to have the right weapons and as a result, we are launching this health insurance product."

The health cover includes worldwide coverage (sans the US and Canada), dental care benefit, alternative medicine coverage, maternity benefit, reinstatement benefit, compensation for hospitalization in a govt

non-paying ward, pharmacy benefit, ambulance charges, cost of prosthesis and implants, pre and post hospitalization charges, chemotherapy, radiotherapy, dialysis cover, organ donor, daycare surgery charges, self-pay discounts, telemedicine facility, second medical opinions, no claim bonus, wellness benefit, women healthcare cover, emergency cash withdrawal, loyalty reward amongst others.

The sum assured may not cover the entire cost incurred by the patient as the charges against certain expenses are capped at a total of the sum assured.

According to statistics of the group over 4.7 million, Sri Lankans visit a hospital annually. He noted that non-communicable diseases were on the rise with modern lifestyles and that healthcare coverage was a modern necessity. 87% of expenses from the private healthcare sector are borne out of pocket, with 7% borne by the employer, only 5% by insurance, and less than 1% by non-profits.

HNB Finance celebrates Children's Day with giveaway campaign

HNB Finance recently held a giveaway campaign through its Yalu minor savings scheme, to commemorate Children's Day which was celebrated in October this year.

The campaign was launched on the company's official Facebook page. Parents were requested to upload and share a family picture in celebration of Children's Day, along with the hashtag #HNBFinanceDay2021.

As a fully virtual campaign, participants were free of any risks and engaged with no limitations and a worry-free state-of-mind. The company witnessed an abundance of participants with positive engagements and announced that it would be reviewing the submissions and shortlisting a "Top 10" list with those eligible to receive exciting rewards, during the month of November.

Commenting on the campaign, HNB Finance Marketing Head Udara Gunasinghe said, "Nurturing the habit of savings in children from a very young age will help embed this conservative habit for life and we must engage with them in captivating and exciting ways to make them also enjoy the experience of saving and feel rewarded. Not only does the Yalu savings scheme offer consistent and robust interest rates, but it also rewards children who save regularly, with various valuable gifts ranging from violins and guitars to drones, scooters, cycles and more."

"We consider it our responsibility and privilege to help mould and support our future generation as they work and grow to create a better society and world. Parents have a major part to play in their development, by inculcating great qualities among children and as a responsible organisation, we are compelled to do everything in our power to encourage and inspire children for a better future," he added.

HNB Finance was established in the year 2000 and is licensed as a registered Finance Company by the Monetary Board of the Central Bank of Sri Lanka. The company holds a National Long-term Rating at 'A(ka)'; as affirmed by Fitch Ratings.

Sarasavi Book Shop opens at Horana

PRİYADARSHANI KAHAWALA
Ingiriya Central Group Corr.

The Sarasavi Book Shop opened its 27th Branch at Horana Town recently. Prof. Sunil Ariyaratne delivered a special lecture and former IGP Victor Perera, State Minister of National Heritage, Performing Arts and Rural Art Promotion Vidura Wickramanayaka, S. Godage and several book publishers were present at the opening.



Vignettes of the event

Hemas looks to route global multinationals in feminine skincare market

Range of Vivya products officially launched

DINESH PERERA

Hemas Holdings is looking to route global multinationals from their dominance in the feminine skincare market both locally and in the subcontinent through the introduction of their new Vivya range of skincare products.

The FMCG conglomerate hopes to corner the market through its better understanding of the consumer profile and honest motive of providing skincare treatment to its loyal customers.

Vivya's range of products includes Advance Radiance Day Cream, Intense Restore Night Cream, Glow Face Wash, Purifying Deep Cleanser, and Skin Recharge Serum. The products were officially launched virtually on November 15.

CEO Katsuri Chellaraja Wilson noted that Vivya was looking to unleash the beauty of youthful skin. She added that the product looked to unlock natural beauty in its natural form and for consumers to benefit from their own natural glow. Wilson hoped the product would help Sri Lankan women unlock their historical beauty.

Director Innovation Sabrina Esufally noted that 'beauty should be celebrated regardless of your skin.' Esufally also stated, "We believe that women don't have to be a certain complexion in order to be beautiful."

Business Development Manager Imeshi Sahabandu noted that unlike other multinational backed skincare regimes that promote artificial and unnatural ingredients to whiten skin, the Vivya range of products looks to make skin regain the radiance it held during the consumer's youth.

The Vivya range uses heirloom rice as a core ingredient. The product is clinically proven to be effective. Heirloom rice is rich in antioxidants and offers above-average nutrients within a normal skincare routine.

EDB Chairman Suresh De Mel opined that Hemas has managed to combine Sri Lanka's rich cultural heritage into a modern product that is well-positioned to exploit the newly formed export advisory committees for domestic ayurvedic products.

The product is expected to be popular within the Indian and the Maldivian markets. Vivya was developed and launched over the pandemic period and has gone through multiple iterations with domestic feedback from the loyal Hemas consumer base.

Parabowa Farmers Association Chairman Rasika Premasiri thanked Hemas Holdings for finding additional use cases for traditional varieties of rice that would help keep the industry alive in the modern age. He noted that the farming community had been using heirloom rice in its skincare routines already and through Hemas more people would benefit from the natural healing properties of the grain.



the loyal Hemas consumer base. FMCG MD Sriyan de Silva Wijeyeratne noted

that Hemas was under leveraging itself against global multinationals in the FMCG marketplace. Wijeyeratne noted that Hemas "holds its own on any global shelf". He went on to add that the Hemas development team was completely Sri Lankan and all R&D was carried out domestically.



Hemas CEO Katsuri Chellaraja Wilson

Akshata Grains 'N' Greens introducing Black Rice to Lankan market

Sri Lanka has its own Brand of Black Rice grown organically for the first time. With a sales growth of 35% from the time of its introduction to the market, Akshata owners Grains 'N' Green has also seen a growth of its rice brand to the country's Top 5. Akshata has achieved a considerable brand growth.

The healthy black rice variety is grown in its own fields and is available at high-end supermarkets like Spar, Glowmart and akshatastore.com and is promoted by Akshata as 'Forbidden Rice.'

Black Rice is known as the Caviar of Rice not only due to its high price, but also because of its rarity.

Managing Director of Grains N Green, Roshan Perera states, "It was a proud moment for the company and Sri Lanka as this type of Rice was thought of as virtually impossible to grow here, but after two years of trial and error a select group of farmers were able to harvest it with our guidance which goes to prove that nothing is impossible in this blessed land."

Perera further added, "Akshata was also the first to harvest large scale Heirloom Rice Varieties Like Suwandal, Kuruluthuda and Pachchaprumal which are now household names although they had been grown over 2000 years ago but had unfortunately become almost redundant once the chemically dependant rice varieties were introduced for commercial benefits."

Many companies have now followed suit and have flooded the market with lower standard products, I would not put it past them to now steal these seeds from our farmers and copy this variety as well, but as you know the best form of



MD Roshan Perera

flattery is imitation." Food nutritionists consider black rice as a modern super food. Researchers have found that black rice reduces Reactive Oxygen Species (ROS), the free radicals produced in the body which is the cause of many diseases.

Black rice is black in color due to the presence of the anthocyanin pigment on the outer layers (bran) of the rice kernel. Black rice is rich in tocopherols (vitamin E), iron and antioxidants. Black rice has high levels of protein, fiber, vitamins (Vitamin B1, Vitamin B2, folic acid) and minerals (iron, zinc, calcium, phosphorus and selenium) compared to that of white rice. The major essential amino acids present in black rice are lysine and tryptophan. It also possesses lot of health benefits like antioxidant activity, anti-inflammatory properties, lipid oxidation, anti-diabetic, anti-ageing and anti-cancer effects.

CEAT radials appointed as Original Equipment Manufacturer for Mahindra Bolero City Pik-ups

CEAT Kelani Holdings has reached another milestone in radial tyre manufacture in Sri Lanka with the Company's appointment as an Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) for Bolero City Pik-up vehicles assembled in Sri Lanka by Mahindra & Mahindra (M&M) India in collaboration with Ideal Motors.

All Mahindra Bolero City Pik-ups rolling off the assembly line at the Mahindra Ideal Lanka Automotive Assembly Plant at Welipenna, Matugama are fitted with CEAT Milaze HD radial tyres in the size of 215/75 R15, manufactured at the CEAT Kelani plant in Kelaniya, under an OEM agreement between the two companies.

CEAT has already supplied 180 of these high performance radial tyres for 36 vehicles that will be assembled in November and December this year and has committed to supply up to 720 tyres per month from January 2022 onwards for a targeted maximum of 144 vehicles to be produced monthly by the Mahindra Ideal Lanka joint venture, the Company said.

Commenting on the agreement,



CEAT Kelani Managing Director Ravi Dadlani said, "We are delighted to contribute to the local value addition component of the Mahindra and Ideal Motors venture, while doing what we do best - producing high quality tyres designed and engineered for local conditions and supporting the government's efforts to con-

serve foreign exchange. Over the past two decades, CEAT has built the equity of the 'Made in Sri Lanka' proposition in the tyre industry, and we are proud and appreciative of the opportunity, as exclusive tyre supplier, to support the aspirations of Mahindra and Ideal Motors to progress to vehicles made in Sri Lanka."

The Managing Director of Mahindra Ideal Lanka noted that "This new initiative is a step in the right direction and supports the government policy framework for Sri Lanka's migration from a market economy to a production-based economy."

The CEAT Milazetyres manufactured by CEAT Kelani for the Mahindra Bolero City Pik-up feature profiled shoulder lateral grooves that provide better heat dissipation and wide-angle circumferential grooves that resist cuts and chips. Angular transversal notches and sipes provide enhanced grip and uniform wear, while the angular notched 4-rib high land area design provides longer tyre life and durability.

No stranger to the OEM segment, CEAT Kelani Holdings has been the exclusive original equipment tyre supplier for Mahindra KUV100 compact SUVs assembled in Sri Lanka since 2019.

T'nc

To re-ignite the passions of town & country folk

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Devil not so dare



Existing symptoms

It is the task of the Yakeduru side to prescribe a thovil according to the existing symptoms and to determine the form of the Pelapali belonging to the relevant thovil. Just as there is a definite Pelapali for each thovil, the timing of the thaw is determined by observing the symptoms of the respective thorax. In some cases, the right to collect Pretha Thatu, Mal Thatu, Darahewa, etc., if the shepherd is a woman, Kumara Pideni, and Iramudun Pideni, if she has the vision of the Reeri Yaka, belongs to the chief witch.

It is a misconception that the Iramudun Pideni is a part of the Mahason Samayama, as stated in some works. Iramudun Reeri yaka The Yakuduros add an Iramudun Samayama to the temple only when they know for sure that the relics have a vision of the rest of the demons, mainly during the Iramudun Samayama. That is why Iramudun Pideniya is held alone or with the Mahason Samayama, the Rata yakuma and the Kalukumara Samayama. It is clear that the Iramudun Samayama itself is not essentially relevant to the ritual rituals of the Mahason Samayama, which is popularly known as the 'Mahason Samayama' in Ruhuna.

RAVIPATHI UTHPALA KANDAGE

The ritual performed to overcome the dangers posed by the Mahason Yaku or the Mahason deity is called the "Mahason Samayama". Ridiyagaya, Sanniyakuma and Suniyama rituals are performed in Kalutara, Galle, Matara and Hambantota but the Mahason Samayama is limited to Matara and Hambantota districts. This ritual is not very popular in the Galle District and the adjoining areas of the Kalutara District.

The "Mahason Samayama" of Benthara, one of the most important theatrical traditions of low country dance, does not exist. That is why the main "Yak Desso" Mahason Samayama in Benthara is believed to be a meaningless ritual. But it is not fair to come to such a conclusion just because there is no such thing as the Mahason Samayama. Mahasona cannot be considered a complete stranger to the Benthara Province. Only one pelapali of Sanni Yakuma is known as the "Mahason Samayama" in Benthara. If Mahasona's power in the Benthara province does not exist, the question arises as to whether a Dekona Vilakku Samayama will be held for Mahasona at the Sanniyakum Yaga.

According to the rituals practiced in the Matara and Hambantota Provinces, the Mahason Samayama itself is a very powerful peace ceremony. It is customary to dance a Mahason Samayama with "Darahewa" for the incurable and dying, after all that is possible. This shows the danger of the tomb.

Super power

It is not difficult to understand the relevant pattern of the procession, the rhythmic features of the dances, the emotional samayam dance, the Awathara Igleema etc. Recognized as a superpower, the Mahasona does not cause illness just by looking like other demons. That is why it is customary to use the term "Mahasona Geheema" to describe Mahasona's disdain for attacking and making sick at a graveyard, in a tomb, in a deserted cemetery. Mahasona's disdain for attacking is believed to have turned blue on the backside and even fingerprints after the attack. After the attack, nausea, dizziness, swelling, whooping cough, dehydration, loss of appetite and stomach ailments are common symptoms, the Yakeduras said. If there are such symptoms, it is necessary to tie the "Aepa Nool" and take the necessary steps to dance the Mahason Samayama.

Instead of calling him "Mahason Yakshaya", Yakedura is accustomed to calling him "Mahason Devathava" because of his exalted physique and his supernatural powers. Poems and mantras describing the powerful form of an elephant holding a hand and sucking its blood. Professor Ediriweera Sarachandra says that Mahason is called the Devil because of the belief that he is "born in the grave, walks in the grave and eats corpses". Prof. Sarachandra says that

Mahasona, who has wasp hair and a bear face, has an elephant in one hand and a spear in the other.

According to some Dishti mantras, the four-armed Mahasona carries a sword and a keela Pandama. He is sucking the blood of an elephant caught in the other hand.

In some cases, according to the description, Mahasona has three eyes. According to the Ishwara Awathara, "Thenneth" has become a bearer and the pig stands in the vehicle and watches the Samayam. The body color is blue, according to Mahason Baliya Ambum Kavi.



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SHE DOES HAVE HIS EYES...

No Time to Die

CHANNA BANDARA WIJEKOON

James Bond's Aston Martin is once again on the roads. Though with elementary gadgets the machine is still very capable of refuting any badass. Tuxedo-clad Bond (Daniel Craig) driving it with a gorgeous lady beside him arrives at a gala party. "Two Vodka Martinis...shaken and not stirred", he tells the bartender while the lady enhances her makeup.

'No Time to Die' the latest Bond film is supposed to be the one that bids farewell to Daniel Craig as James Bond. Craig brings a gripping performance in this movie. The storyline and the screenplay has supported him to a great extent to do it.

A mature and a retired 007 now having 'license to love' wants to raise a family. He has found the right match, a gorgeous lady with a little daughter. She is none other

than the beautiful psychiatrist Madeleine (Lea Seydoux) whom he met in the previous Bond film 'Spectre'.

Bond as usual is tough. However, he does not get distracted by saucy mademoiselles anymore. He is still fit as a fiddle and ready to show his six pack body in the beach or bedroom.

We saw many James Bonds over the decades serving her majesty's secret service. Sean Connery who was Ian Fleming's and Cubby Broccoli's initial choice as 007 had been the top-of-the-mind Bond of old school cinemagoers. Connery actually painted a credible image as James Bond on the canvas. Among his successors, Roger Moore did a good job by inducing a different outlook to Bond. Daniel Craig having slightly similar looks to Sean Connery was however perceived by many as a grumpy James Bond.

Yet Bond filmmakers wanted to portray Craig as an old fashioned Bond who sticks to basics like Connery. 'Skyfall' is a good example and actually it paid dividends.

'No Time to Die' a sequel to the earlier Bond film 'Spectre' has a plot that revolves around biological weapons and sadistic individuals with twisted pasts. Bond as always is caught in the mess and he is supported by the newly appointed 007 named Nomi who happens to be a female.

Nomi once says, "I'm not just any old double-0...I'm 007. You thought they retired it" and Bond replies, "It's just a number".

Beautiful Moneypenny is still loyal to James and stands beside him but doesn't seem to reckon the new female 007. While 'M' gives directives, 'Q' innovates gadgets and crunches data.

The movie has an epic outlook and an advanced presentation style

than a typical Bond movie. The old Bond music track is often used with marvels of Aston Martin that reminds us of Sean Connery's Bond movies in 1960s. Bond watching his girl bathing in a coral reef reminds us of Ursula Andres and Sean Connery in the first Bond film 'Dr No'.

The main villain Lyutsifer is portrayed by Rami Malek of 'Bohemian Rhapsody' fame. He would remind someone of Jason in 'Friday The 13th' horror movie, wearing a kabuki mask in the opening scene. Another villain returning from 'Spectre' is Blofeld (Christopher Waltz). Malek does his part well but Waltz would have been a better villain for this Bond movie too. Waltz has proved his supremacy as an anti-hero in films such as 'Inglorious Bastards' and 'Tarzan'.

'No Time to Die' has catchy dialogues as in other Bond films. After ridding a villain of his Bionic



eye, James says to his girl, "He is Cyclops. We ran to each other and it was an eye opening experience".

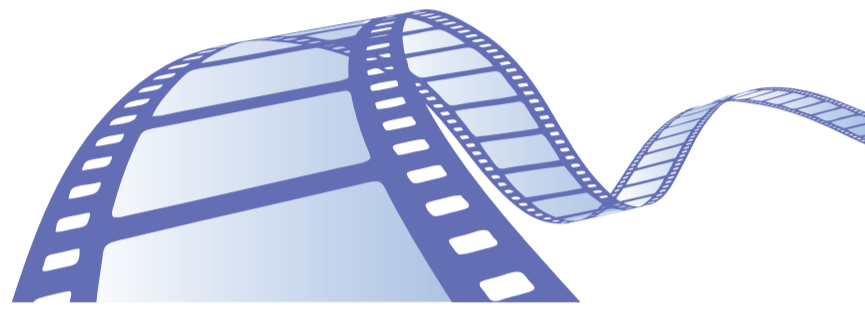
In another scene, Madeleine asks from Bond driving the Aston Martin, "Can we go faster?" and Bond replies, "We don't need to go faster. We have all the time in the world." (But did they find that time...?)

'No Time to Die' is a Bond film that rouse emotion. In the last scene, Madeleine sees missiles heading towards the lone 'poison island' where James is stranded.

And for once she hints James that he is the father of her daughter Mathilde. On a smart phone she tells, "She does have your eyes..." and James says, "I know. You have made the most beautiful thing that I've ever seen. She is perfect! Because she came from you."

Billie Eilish deserves three cheers for singing the theme song!

"Fool me once...fool me twice... Are you death or Paradise...? Now you'll never see me cry... There's just no time to die..."



REEL REVIEWS



Wedding pushed to 2022?

Alia Bhatt and Ranbir Kapoor would have been married by now if the pandemic hadn't hit our lives. It's 2021, and one of the most popular couples of Bollywood has still not tied the knot. Now, the latest report has suggested that Alia and Ranbir's wedding has been postponed again and that they will tie the knot next year.

However, their nuptials has been pushed to 2022, revealed celebrity paparazzi, Viral Bhayani. However, we don't have any official confirmation on their wedding plans.

"The marriage of the year is not going to be #aliabhatt and #ranbirkapoor but #vickykaushal and #katrinakaif The latest we hear is that their wedding is now pushed to next year due to their work commitments. We snapped Ranbir at a clinic and Alia at the airport (sic)," read his Instagram post.

In an interview with Rajeev Masand, Ranbir Kapoor had said that he and Alia Bhatt were to get married in 2020, but then Covid-19 struck. He said, "It would've been sealed had the pandemic not hit our lives. I don't want to jinx it by saying anything. I want to tick-mark that goal very soon in my life."

Alia and Ranbir have been in a relationship for more than four years. They are often spotted together at various events. The couple will soon be seen sharing screen space in Ayan Mukerji's Brahmasutra.

India Today

PRABHU

to choreograph for 'THALAPATHY 66'



Thalapathy Vijay and Nadana Puyal Prabhu Deva have had a long association in their careers over the past three decades. The latter has choreographed several hit songs of the former in his formative years.

Prabhu Deva's first Tamil film as director was Thalapathy Vijay's 'Pokkiri' released in 2007 which is hailed as one of the biggest blockbuster hits in Tamil. A couple of years later the duo once again worked together in 'Villu' which unfortunately bombed at the box office. Vijay made a special

appearance in the song Chinta Ta Ta Chita Chita in Akshay Kumar's 'Rowdy Rathore' obliging to Prabhu Deva who directed the film.

Vijay after completing 'Beast' will move on to 'Thalapathy 66' directed by Vamshi Paidipally and produced by Dil Raju which is a Tamil/Telugu bilingual. It is said that Vijay has requested Prabhu Deva to choreograph a couple of songs in the film for him since he wanted his Telugu debut to be impressive in every aspect. It is worth mentioning that the Rowdy Baby song from 'Maari 2' starring

Dhanush and Sai Pallavi was choreographed by PD and has become a monster hit on YouTube breaking all previous records.

Sources say the formalities for Prabhu Deva to join 'Thalapathy 66' is being worked around as he is pretty busy with his acting assignments starring a more than half a dozen films. The official announcement is awaited.

Prabhu Deva's upcoming films include 'Pon Manickavel' and 'Bhagheera' and has signed a couple of new movies which will be announced soon.

India Glitz

'JIM JONES' movie for DiCaprio

Hollywood star Leonardo DiCaprio is in final talks to play religious cult leader Jim Jones in MGM's upcoming feature film. Written by 'Venom' scribe Scott Rosenberg, 'Jim Jones' will also have DiCaprio on board as producer. According to the reports, the Oscar-winner will back the project via his Appian Way company alongside Jennifer Davisson. Jim



Jones was the leader of the Peoples Temple religious group, founded in Indianapolis in 1955. He was behind the November 1978 mass suicide at his Jonestown settlement that took more than 900 lives, including 304 children. Jones and his inner circle orchestrated the massacre at the jungle commune in Guyana, with the followers directed to drink cyanide-adulterated punch.

Rosenberg will also serve as executive producer on the project. DiCaprio has previously produced Alejandro Inarritu's 'The Revenant,' Martin Scorsese's 'The Wolf of Wall Street,' 'The Aviator' and 'Shutter Island', under his banner.

ANI

Certificate in acting programme, 2022

Are you keen to study drama? Are you hard-working and ambitious to become a competent artiste on stage, television and/or cinema?

When the Certificate in Acting Programme conducted by Lanka Children's and Youth Theatre Foundation (LCYTF) or popularly known as Somalatha Subasinghe Play House is the right choice for you.

The programme includes all round training such as acting, script writing and analysis, directing, movement and vocal training. Somalatha Subasinghe Playhouse, for over 35 years has been training numerous talented youth who are at present engaged in professional level work of both the theatre and television & film industry in Sri Lanka. Somalatha Subasinghe Playhouse was established by late Mrs. Somalatha Subasinghe in 1981 and later it was incorporated in the parliament of Sri Lanka under LCYTF Act No 3 of 2007.



The duration of the programme is eight months. Within this period, thirty-two in class sessions will be conducted on a weekly basis. There will be one to two sessions per week on Saturdays, Sundays and/or other public holidays.

The primary focus of the course is on acting, directing, script writing and dance theatre. Thus the participants will have the opportunity to learn free and structured movements, posture, body flexibility and physical balance, vocal training, pronunciation, voice projection, script

writing and directing, character analysis, improvisation, plotting scenes, etc.

The programme is mainly conducted by Kaushalya Fernando who is a very experienced artiste in theatre acting, training and teaching in Sri Lanka with international exposure. She is supported by Prasanna Mahagama, Nilanka Dahanayaka, Chamila Priyanka, Mayura Perera

and Thisara Imbulana in the areas of acting for camera, directing, script writing and analysis. In addition, other professional artistes from specialised fields will conduct sessions.

Those who are interested in joining the programme, primarily should possess a love for theatre and should be prepared to offer her/his full commitment to the training. Ambition and Willingness to work hard is also expected. The candidates will be selected for the programme through an interview.

The programme is scheduled to commence in January 2022. Details of the programme and application are available on www.playhousekotte.org or facebook/Playhousekotte.org. You can also write to The Coordinator, Somalatha Subasinghe Play House, 166/1, Parliament Road, Kumbukgahaduwa, Kotte 10100 or call 075 9858002, 077 0881708 for more information.



'Acting must be worth leaving home for'

English actor Benedict Cumberbatch has revealed he wants his acting projects to be able to justify spending time away from his wife Sophie Hunter and their sons Christopher Carlton, Hal Auden and Finn.

In the new issue of magazine, Cumberbatch said: "I mean... I like a challenge. I really enjoy my work."

"When I do work, I want to work hard. It has to be worth leaving my family and home for. To make them... Oh, this sounds weird but I guess to validate me not being there. And if I can get away with a new skill and call it work, lucky me, you know? That saves me a few night classes or, you know, time I don't have."

Cumberbatch stars in the new Western film 'The Power of the Dog' as rancher Phil Burbank, who torments his brother George (Jesse Plemons) and his new partner Rose Gordon (Kirsten Dunst), and



admits that his brutal alter ego went "deep into his psyche".

The 'Sherlock' star explained: "It leaves an indelible mark. When you're crafting a character like that, going deep into your psyche, it gives you sympathy and reverence. He wasn't a monster. He was somebody trying to lead an authentic life."

Cumberbatch is also reprising his role as Dr Stephen Strange in the Marvel Cinematic Universe (MCU) sequel 'Doctor Strange in the Multiverse of Madness' and he said he is feeling the pressure to succeed after the success of the first film.

He added: "I've got the Second Album Fear with this one, because the first one was such a riotous success and he's become a much-loved character."

IANS



Freshly emerged common tiger on their favorite Andanahiriya flowers

ISHARA JAYAWARDANE

There are two worlds. The home garden is one and then there is the world beyond the home garden. There are no tangible boundaries that prevent living beings from crossing over to the home garden from the world beyond. The world outside is becoming hostile to these living beings. So they cross into our world looking for a new home. Green Thumbs speaks to Dr. Dulekha Kasturiratne, an experienced home gardener and an Associate Professor at the University of Plymouth, UK, who has encountered such 'visitors' that came into her world. It was an experience that changed her life.

Covid19 has surfaced unexpectedly, but Dr. Kasturiratne feels that the lockdowns have given us alternative ways to enjoy life. She says that during the two years she has spent in Sri Lanka due to the pandemic, she has kept her sanity through gardening and by observing nature more closely. When she came across a young anguna vine that was being destroyed by a drove of hungry black and white caterpillars, she was dismayed that the plant was being eaten by these caterpillars who were rapidly running out of their food source as the plant was young with only a few leaves.

"I had no idea whether those caterpillars were moth caterpillars or butterfly caterpillars. I hastily took pictures and shared them with the Lanka Organic Gardeners Circle (LOGC) Whatsapp group. I learnt from them that those caterpillars were the larval stage of the Blue Tiger Butterfly. The LOGC members mobilized to send me anguna leaves to keep the caterpillars fed until they pupated into chrysalides. So began my first involvement in the butterfly life cycle, and I have never looked back since," said Dr. Kasturiratne

WONDERFUL CREATURES

She has learnt so much about the world of butterflies from experience, by researching and from others. During this time, she has raised and released about 300 butterflies into her garden. She has grown many host and nectar plants in her home garden in order to attract these wonderful creatures. Host plants are those on which butterflies lay eggs and on which their emergent caterpillars feed. Nectar plants are on

The

"At the beginning, I often avoided taking in butterfly eggs and the early hatchlings as they are so delicate and fragile and the slightest touch tends to injure them. Thus, I stayed well clear of these early stages. However now that I have grown in experience, confidence and knowledge, I have been successful in handling and supporting these as well. The eggs are really tiny and an untrained eye would completely miss this miniscule cream-coloured speck on the top or bottom of the leaves of the host plant. These hatch in about 3-4 days after which the first Instar caterpillar emerges."

butterfly effect



Dr. Dulekha Kasturiratne



Freshly emerged blue tiger on their favorite Andanahiriya flowers

which the butterflies feed. Both types of plants are needed if you wish to attract butterflies to your garden. "Even small garden spaces can attract butterflies as long as we follow a few simple steps. Adding just a handful of host and nectar plants will be a great start. In addition to butterflies, my garden attracts a number of birds, reptiles and cats. So, there are many butterfly predators that often eat up almost all of the butterfly caterpillars and some of the butterflies. The success rate of a butterfly egg becoming a butterfly is less than 2 percent in nature. However, with a little bit of support from us humans, their chances can increase to over 80 percent. So if there are many predators or if I find injured butterflies, I take them in and give them a gentle helping hand before releasing them back into the garden."

Dr. Kasturiratne explained to Green Thumbs how she gets involved in the Butterfly life cycle.

"At the beginning, I often avoided taking in butterfly eggs and the early hatchlings as they are so delicate and fragile and the slightest touch tends to injure them. Thus, I stayed well clear of these early stages. However now that I have grown in experience, confidence and knowledge, I have been successful in handling and supporting these as well. The eggs are really tiny and an untrained eye would completely miss this miniscule cream-coloured speck on the top or bottom of the leaves of the host plant.

These hatch in about 3-4 days after which the first Instar caterpillar emerges. An Instar is the interval between the moults of the larval stage. Butterfly caterpillars usually have five instars during which time they shed their skin as they grow. The length of their lifecycle would of course depend on the type of butterfly. Most of my experience is with Blue Tiger butterfly lifecycles. But I have also raised and released Glassy Tiger, Plain Tiger, Common Rose,



Common Mormon chrysalis

Grass Yellow, Mottled Emigrant and Mormon butterflies," pointed out Dr. Kasturiratne.

She added that the caterpillars must be handled very gently if you're taking them in to be raised. Aim to pluck the leaf that they are on rather than picking the caterpillar off the leaf to avoid injury.

UNFASTENED NETTING

"If I have a large number of caterpillars, I sought them according to their size. The smallest ones are placed in to what I call a nursery box. The other two boxes are named junior school and senior school. I take old regifoam boxes, put a few layers of paper serviettes on the bottom and cover the top with net. The net is then firmly secured to the box so as not to lose any caterpillars who might wriggle out of unfastened netting. When the caterpillars are in their fifth and final instar I put them into the largest box (senior school) and keep them undisturbed as much as possible as this is when they will begin to form their chrysalides. They create a blob of silk on the underside of the net, on the sides of the box or on any sticks/branches that you place in the box. They then attach themselves to the silk and hang vertically in a 'J' shape for several hours before turning into a chrysalis. In my experience this happens during the night and early hours of the morning," explained Dr. Kasturiratne.

The nursery box can be smaller and this is where she keeps the smallest caterpillars in their first and second instars. Caterpillars in junior school



Pupa and freshly emerged blue tigers

usually belong to the third and fourth instars and stay in a medium sized box with pinned netting on top.

"If I have taken in eggs, then these stay separately and not in any of the other three boxes as the other caterpillars can unknowingly eat the eggs with the leaf they are on. The boxes must be cleaned regularly to prevent disease. The frequency of this depends on the number of caterpillars and the size of the box in which they are placed. I usually clean each box at least once a day to prevent the build-up of frass (caterpillar droppings).

This is easy to do as it is a matter of removing the soiled paper serviettes and putting fresh ones in. However, I clean the boxes thoroughly and wash the netting and dry them in the sun between each batch of caterpillars so as not to pass on any disease or germs to subsequent batches of caterpillars. It is very important to keep everything clean and maintained hygienically. Also, I wash my hands before and after handling the caterpillars and their enclosures, as good practice to ensure that I don't introduce germs. I have now managed to get hold of butterfly enclosures specially made for the butterfly life cycle which you can find online. These are very similar to pop-up netted laundry bags and are less cumbersome than having to pin the netting to the regifoam box as these specialized enclosures have zips to open and close that makes things so much easier."

She goes onto explain that caterpillars must never go without their food source. Dr. Kasturiratne plucks fresh



Common Mormon caterpillar

leaves for them twice a day so that they have juicy leaves rather than withered ones. Her trick to keeping the leaves fresh is to keep them in water. However, the water container for the leaves should be done in such a way that the caterpillars do not accidentally fall into the water and drown.

"I use a broad based container such as a margarine box. I cut a few small holes to the lid and then fill the container with water and stick the stems of the leaves through the holes which keep the leaves juicy and fresh for longer. This keeps the caterpillars safe from open water yet fed with fresh leaves. Fourth and fifth instars in particular have ferocious appetites. Thus, it is important to ensure that their enclosure always has enough food without which the caterpillars might pupate prematurely. Early pupation can lead to all sorts of problems as the caterpillars will not have enough energy to form the full chrysalides thus dying in the process or will not have enough energy to emerge from the chrysalis or will emerge ill-formed and unable to fly," added Dr. Kasturiratne.

FRESH VENTILATION

She keeps her boxes indoors at room temperature and away from direct sun and wind. This is important as too much direct heat can scorch them and the wind can topple the box hurting the caterpillars inside. Dr. Kasturiratne's enclosures are kept close to a window which gives enough light and fresh ventilation but not direct sun and wind. The Blue Tiger life cycle takes about

three weeks to complete from egg to butterfly. However, this can depend on certain environmental conditions such as humidity and nutrition. Chrysalides will hang for about 7-12 days depending on the variety of butterfly. Butterflies tend to emerge from their chrysalis during the morning hours and hang on to the chrysalis for a couple of hours drying their wings and pumping liquid in to their wings strengthening them for flight. Your box should be large and tall enough so that the caterpillars have plenty of space to hang when making their chrysalis. The chrysalis should be at least 4-5 inches from the floor of the box which enables the emerging butterfly to hang safely without their wings touching the bottom to ensure strong, straight wings.

"You will see that they are ready for flight after a few hours in the box. At that point open the netting and gently release them in to your garden on a dry day, safe from the rains. They will fly off on their own. If they need encouragement to fly away, place your finger gently in front of them and they will crawl on to your finger," said Dr. Kasturiratne.

This is truly a very rewarding experience that has kept her busy and happy during the lockdowns, being able to positively and gently help more butterflies through their life cycle.

To date, she has released close to 300 butterflies during which time she has also increased the number of nectar and host plants to ensure that those released hang around in her garden.

"A few firm favorites of butterflies for nectar are balu nakuta, andanahiriya and zinniyas.

The most common host plants to name a few are thiththa anguna, ranawara and sapsanda. Note however that butterflies are seasonal and regional. So do not despair if your garden is not always abundant with butterflies. We also must be realistic about which butterflies we can attract, as some are regional depending on the zones (dry, wet etc.) that we live in and the extent of flora in the areas around us. Hence, I try to encourage my neighbors and local authorities to use pollinator friendly flora in our environments which attract more pollinators including butterflies to our neighborhoods."

Entities such as the Federation of Environmental Organizations (FEO) are actively taking steps to re-green Colombo and support schools and other organizations to grow butterfly friendly (and medicinal) plants in their premises. With inspiration from them, I am working with my alma mater Bishop's College to set up their first butterfly garden which will be a place of learning for the students.



Myriad of chrysalides ready to emerge



Beautiful blue tiger caterpillar



Nursery box, junior school and senior school



Hand rearing a flightless common rose butterfly



First flight of female common mormon butterfly



Feeding an injured blue tiger butterfly

Pumpkins come in unique shapes, sizes and hues and have diverse flavours. They are a rich source of Vitamin A, potassium and fibre. Unlike vining gourds and cucumbers, they do not require a trellis or stakes for support. As the fruits are large and heavy, plants are allowed to spread on the ground. Ideally grown on the edge of a garden bed where it receives adequate sunlight, they can also be grown in large troughs or grow bags.



Pumpkin magic!

As with most plants, they thrive in loose, well-drained soil and under direct sunlight which allows the fruit to ripen evenly. Most kitchen gardens have a few pumpkin vines growing with companion crops, or even on a compost heap. Though they are considered monsoon crops, pumpkins can be grown throughout the year — successive planting will provide a steady supply of fruits. Look for local varieties like amir or new hybrids like arka suryamukhi, ambili, suvarna and sooraj in succession for a wide range of flavours and textures.

Soil: Pumpkins and other cucurbits grow best in neutral or slightly acidic soil. Choose a sunny location with well-drained soil. Add neem cake or neem solution to the soil a week before planting. Mix organic matter, wood ash and well-rotted manure into the soil. Pumpkins grow best when sown on a raised soil base with a depressed ring below to keep it moist but well-drained. The mound should be about 8-12 inches high and around 2 feet circumference at the base. This can also be done on a long raised ridge with the same proportions.

Sow: Soak the seeds in warm water for a day to promote germination. The seeds can be start-

ed in a nursery and shifted later, but for best results sow directly in prepared beds. If they are to be planted on flat ground, keep a distance of 3 feet for the vines to spread out. For raised soil, flatten the top of the heap and press the seeds an inch deep — 3 seeds per mound or 3 feet apart if it is on a ridge. For terrace gardens, use large deep troughs with at least 1.5 feet depth and sow 2 seeds in each.

Moon Phase: Pumpkins, like all cucurbits, are best sown after the second quarter, as the

moonlight increases and the gravitational pull decreases.

Companion Plants: Corn, radish, Marigold and nasturtium grown alongside will deter pests. In turn, the leafy foliage of the cucurbits deters weed growth, which is a boon for its companion plants.

Care: Once the seeds have sprouted, restrict weed growth around the seedlings with an organic mulch of leaves or grass cuttings. Remove weak seedlings at this stage. As the long vines supply nutrition to the plants, they should be well-maintained by trimming dead leaves and weak side vines. Watering is best done in the evening, preferably by drip tubes which supply water directly to the roots; excess water on the leaves can cause powdery mildew. Deep drench-



ing once a week is sufficient to keep the soil and plant moist. Protect against aphids, ants and other pests by spraying with a neem solution; peppermint solution is another insect repellent which can be sprayed once a week. Look for squash bugs under the leaves and remove them by hand. The plants should be nourished weekly with compost tea or diluted panchagavya. Once the flowers appear, sprinkle wood ash around the plant on alternate weeks to supply potash.

Pumpkins produce male and female flowers on the same plant and are naturally pollinated by insects. Often, nature doesn't comply and the plant will produce malformed fruit. To ensure this, pollination can be done manually. Identify the flowers — the female flower has a small fruit at the base and the male is distinguishable by its absence. Rub the male flower over the female flower to transfer pollen. This will increase chances of healthy well-proportioned vegetables.

Harvest: Most pumpkin varieties can be harvested after three months, when the fruit has ripened on the vine.

Saving Seeds: Save enough seeds from the 'best-of-the crop' for the next season. Let the pumpkin ripen on the vine and leave to soften further. Remove the seeds and leave to dry completely in direct sun. Mix with ash and store in an airtight container. *The Hindu*



JANATHA ESTATES DEVELOPMENT BOARD

Ministry of Agriculture

Vacancies (Contract)

Applications are hereby invited from qualified and eligible candidates to recruit for undermentioned posts vacant at Janatha Estates Development Board

01. DEPUTY GENERAL MANAGER - FINANCE (CONTRACT)

Responsible for formulating Policies, Office Guidance and provide information to Management on financial planning, budgeting for control, accounting, costing & financial reporting, credit & collection, banking & cash management, auditing and insurance. Liaise with outside parties such as Auditor General's Office, Ministry, Inland Revenue Department and Banks. Ensure timely and accurate preparation and submission of financial reports, preparation of annual budget and responsible for improving and monitoring the sound financial system of the Janatha Estates Development Board.

Qualifications and Experience :

A Bachelor's Degree in Finance / Accountancy / Commerce / Accounting & Financial Management / Business Administration / Public Administration / Public Management or Management Degree which is recognized by the U.G.C.

OR

Membership of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Sri Lanka (ICASL)

OR

Membership of Chartered Institute of Management Accountants (CIMA) UK

OR

Membership of Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA) UK

AND

A Postgraduate qualification (Masters') in Management or in a related field with minimum of fifteen (15) years post qualifying experience in Managerial Level in a Government Department/Corporation/Board or a reputed private sector institution.

02. ASSISTANT MANAGER - FINANCE (CONTRACT)

Attending to financial activities of the Board. Establish Financial controls for manual and computer systems, Monitor bank balances of bank accounts and controlling payments, Monitor income of divisions, regional network, Coordinate, streamline and computerize the work of various financial activities relating to different divisions, Liaise with outside parties such as Auditor General's Office, Ministry, Inland Revenue Department and Banks. Ensure timely and accurate preparation and submission of financial reports, preparation of annual budget.

Qualifications and Experience :

A Bachelor's Degree in Finance / Accountancy / Commerce / Accounting & Financial Management / Business Administration / Public Administration / Public Management or Management Degree which is recognized by the U.G.C.

OR

Passed the Intermediate Examination of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Sri Lanka (ICASL) or Part I & II of Chartered Institute of Management Accountants (CIMA) / Association of Certified and Corporate Accountants (ACCA).

WITH

Minimum of three (03) years post qualifying executive level experience in Accounting and Finance in a Government Department / Corporation / Board or a reputed Private Sector Organization acceptable to JEDB.

Note: Exposure to computerized accounting environment is a distinct advantage.

03. LEGAL OFFICER (CONTRACT)

Handling letters of demand, defamatory cases, appeals and revisions of cases, FR matters, lands cases and matters, appearing in Courts for above matters, preparing agreements, contracts, Board papers and other Legal drafts.

Qualifications and Experience :

Should be an Attorney at Law and Notary Public.

Bachelor of Law (LLB) from a recognized university is an added qualification.

Minimum three (03) years post qualifying experience and authority to function as a Notary in Sinhala and English.

Experience in drafting agreements will be considered as an added qualification.

Preference will be given to applicants with experience in handling Labour issues, Labour Tribunals, Labour inquiries and lands related cases/issues.

04. ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT (CONTRACT)

To assist the Superintendent on Tea, Rubber, Coconut growing and manufacturing activities, Labour management and provide relevant information to the management time to time.

Qualifications and Experience :

Diploma in Plantation Management/Agriculture or Production Management in a Government recognized Institute (e.g. NIPM).

AND

With minimum of five (05) years post qualifying experience in the relevant field.

Salary and Allowances : Negotiable. An attractive salary and fringe benefits await the right candidate.

Age : Post 01 - 03 Should be not less than 35 years and not more than 55 years.
Post 04 Should be not less than 30 years and not more than 45 years.

Applications :

Applications along with relevant certified copies of Educational, Professional qualifications, Experience and other Certificates should be forwarded under Registered Cover to reach the Chairman, Janatha Estates Development Board, 55/75, Vauxhall Lane, Colombo 02 on or before 10.12.2021. The post applied should be indicated on the top left-hand corner of the envelope in capitals. Incomplete or late applications will be rejected. Any form of canvassing would be a disqualification. Only short listed eligible candidates will be called for the Interview.

Chairman

Janatha Estates Development Board

22.11.2021

REGIONAL DIRECTOR OF HEALTH SERVICES DIVISION RATNAPURA

Procurement Notice

BURIAL OF UNCLAIMED BODIES - YEAR 2022

Tenders are invited for the undermentioned activities in Balangoda, Kahawatta and Eheliyagoda Base Hospitals of the Ratnapura Regional Director of Health Services Division of the Sabaragamuwa Province. The relevant activities are as shown below:

- Disposal of parts of umbilical cord from the labour room (if bulk, monthly)
 - Disposal of abortion waste from the Labour Room or from the Operation Theatre
 - Disposal of unidentified, identified infant dead bodies but unclaimed by caretakers (Unit)
 - Disposal of unidentified, identified adult dead bodies but unclaimed by caretakers (Unit)
 - Disposal of parts of tissues and human body parts (in bulk, monthly)
02. Tender forms should be obtained from 23.11.2021 up to 12.00 noon on 07.12.2021 by depositing a refundable sum of Rs. 2,000.00 and payment of a non-refundable fee of Rs. 250.00 to the Office of the Regional Director of Health Services. Accepting of Tenders will close at 10.30 a.m. on 08.12.2021 and these tenders will be opened immediately after closing of accepting tenders.
03. All tenders should be sent by registered post addressed to Chairman, Procurement Committee, Office of the Regional Director of Health Services, New Town, Ratnapura or may be hand delivered to the Tender Box kept in this office. The words, "Tender for burial of unclaimed dead bodies" and the name of the institution applying for tender should be marked on the top left-hand corner of the envelope containing the tender. (eg: "Tender for burial of unclaimed dead bodies - Base Hospital, Kahawatta"). You or your authorized representative could be present on this occasion. Further details regarding this matter could be obtained from the Office of the Regional Director of Health Services, Ratnapura.

Regional Director of Health Services, Ratnapura.

The Housewives' companion Classifieds on Daily News

CANCELLATION OF SPECIAL POWER OF ATTORNEY

I, Gangodawilage Renuka Malkanthi holder of NIC No. 677151145V of No.400/1A, 10th Mile Post, Werahera, Boralesgamuwa in the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka do hereby inform the Government of the said Republic of Sri Lanka and the presently of and the General Public that the Special Power of Attorney No. 7381 dated 15th August 2017 attested by M.N. Prieson Fernando Notary Public of Colombo appointing Niantha Janaka Kumara Wickramaratne holder of NIC No. 713189360V of No. 119/10/01, Raigam Uyana, Kothalawala, Bandaragama as my legally appointed Power of Attorney Holder registered in the Delkanda Registrar General Office under Registry of Power of Attorney Folio and Volume No 28/208 of day book No. 5098 dated 14.09.2017 is cancelled revoked from now and onwards.

Gangodawilage Renuka Malkanthi
Power of Attorney Grantor

CANCELLATION OF POWER OF ATTORNEY

I, Rajapakse Dewage Amitha Rajapakse (NIC No. 677471409V) of No. 650/50, Batagewatta, Sudawila Road, Ranala do hereby give notice to the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, the General Public and all others who may be concerned that I do hereby cancel and revoke the Power of Attorney given by me to Delgoda Arachchige Thamod Dilshan Jayasinghe (NIC No. 199917610540) of No. 650/50, Batagewatta, Sudawila Road, Ranala by Power of Attorney No. 3263 dated 19th July 2018 attested by S. Abeywickrama, Notary Public.

REVOCAION OF POWER OF ATTORNEY

This is to inform the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka and General Public that the Special Power of Attorney No. 6160 dated 06th July 2021 attested N.Y. Kunaseelan, Notary Public of Colombo registered under Folio 64 Volume 263 under Day Book No. 2467 dated 14th July 2021 at the Deputy Registrar General, Western Zone in favour of Mohamed Ibrahim Ahmed of Nos. 117 and 119, Dam Street, Colombo 12 and granted by us City Cycle Industries Manufacturing (Private) Limited and having its Registered Office at 119, Old Galle Road, Henamulla, Panadura, is hereby cancelled and revoked with effect from 03rd November 2021 and henceforth we shall not be held liable for any act or deed under this said Special Power of Attorney.

City Cycle Industries Manufacturing (Private) Limited
22.11.2021

Procurement Notice

Provincial Road Development Authority (W.P.)

(Provincial Ministry of Provincial Roads, Transport, Cooperative Development and Trade, Housing and Construction, Estate Infrastructure, Industries and Rural Development - Western Province)

Supply of ABC Metal (Mixed Metal) and Metal

Open quotations are invited for the supply of ABC Metal (Mixed Metal) required for the following Executive Engineer's Offices and Divisional Secretariats and kinds of metal required for the Wagawatta Asphalt Yard of the Provincial Road Development Authority (W.P.).

Bid Summary

Bid No.	Description	Metal M3	ABC Mixed Metal M3	Tender Form Fee (without VAT) Rs.	Value of the Bid Security	
					In Cash Rs.	Bank / Insurance Guarantee Rs.
PRDA/WP/PRO/2021/53	Executive Engineer's Office, Avissawella	-	2000	2,000.00	32,500.00	65,000.00
PRDA/WP/PRO/2021/54	Executive Engineer's Office, Colombo	-	3000	2,000.00	48,500.00	97,000.00
PRDA/WP/PRO/2021/55	Executive Engineer's Office, Moratuwa	-	3000	2,000.00	48,500.00	97,000.00
PRDA/WP/PRO/2021/56	Executive Engineer's Office, Nittambuwa	-	5000	2,000.00	80,850.00	162,000.00
PRDA/WP/PRO/2021/57	Executive Engineer's Office, Udugampola	-	5500	2,000.00	89,000.00	177,850.00
PRDA/WP/PRO/2021/58	For Divisional Secretary's Divisions of Negombo, Ja-Ela, Wattala and Katana (Executive Engineer's Office, Negombo)	-	10945	2,000.00	177,000.00	354,000.00
PRDA/WP/PRO/2021/59	Executive Engineer's Office, Kirindiwela	-	3000	2,000.00	48,500.00	97,000.00
PRDA/WP/PRO/2021/61	Invitation of Bids for the supply of kinds of Metal required for the Wagawatta Asphalt Yard (0-5, 5-10, 10-20 sizes)	13400		2,000.00	192,100.00	384,200.00

02. Sets of bid documents for this may be obtained from the Procurement Division of this Authority upon payment of the abovementioned Tender Form Fee (except Suppliers registered with the Authority) between 9.00 a.m. and 2.45 p.m. on weekdays from 22.11.2021 until 03.12.2021. Bid security may either be paid in cash or submitted by a bank guarantee as per the conditions mentioned in the bid documents to the value mentioned above.
03. To be eligible for the award of the bid, bidder should submit Registration Certificate issued by the Registrar of Companies under Paragraph 8 of the Public Contracts Act No. 03 of 1987 with the bid when the bid amount exceeds Rs. 5.0 million.
04. Bids will be closed at 2.30 p.m. on 06.12.2021 and will be opened at the same time on that date at this office and the bidder or his authorized representative may be present at the time of opening of bids.

Chairman
Procurement Committee
Provincial Road Development Authority (W.P.)
No. 59, St. Sebastian Hill, Colombo 12.
Telephone No. 011-5676903

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AVAILABLE AT

Invitation for Bids

Department of Agriculture

Sealed bids are invited from local bidders for the following supplies to the Farms of Nuwara Eliya Zone of the Seeds and Planting Materials Development Centre of the Department of Agriculture.

A Ser. No.	B Work Description	C Contract No.	D Bid Security Amount and the Validity Period			E Bid Document Fee
			If in Cash	If by Bank Guarantee	Validity of the Bid Security	
01	Supply of Plastic Crates for Seed Potato Stores at Nuwara Eliya	SPD/2/5/4/76(2021)	35,100/-	70,200/-	28.03.2022	Rs. 3,000.00

Interested bidders should submit bids using the bid forms obtained for the above and bid documents may be obtained between **9.00 a.m. and 3.00 p.m.** on working days of the week from **23.11.2021 until 10.12.2021** from the Administrative Officer of the Seeds and Planting Materials Development Centre on submission of the receipt obtained from the Shroff of the Department of Agriculture upon payment of the non-refundable fee mentioned in Column E of the table above.

Relevant bidders should be registered with the Registrar under the Public Contracts Act No. 03 of 1987 and a certified copy of the Registration Certificate should be submitted with the bid.

All sealed bids prepared according to the bid instructions may either be sent by registered post addressed to **"Chairman, Regional Procurement Committee, Seeds and Planting Materials Development Centre, Department of Agriculture, Peradeniya"** or deposited in the bid box kept in the above address.

Every bidder should deposit the bid security amount mentioned in Column D in the table above and if the bid security is submitted by a bank guarantee, it should have been obtained from a commercial bank approved by the Central Bank of Sri Lanka.

Bids will be closed at **10.30 a.m. on 13.12.2021** and the bids will be opened immediately thereafter. Bidder or his authorized representative may be present at the time of opening of bids.

**Chairman
Regional Procurement Committee
Seeds and Planting Materials Development Centre
Department of Agriculture
Peradeniya**

Tel. 081-2388122

22.11.2021

HAMBANTOTA MUNICIPAL COUNCIL

Registration of Suppliers for Year 2022

Applications are invited up to 3.00 p.m. on 27.12.2021 for the registration of manufacturers and suppliers for the supply of following materials and services for year 2022.

Manufacturers and suppliers who wish to register should pay the specific fee for each supply/service in cash or by cheque for registration. Applications may either be sent by registered post addressed to **"Municipal Commissioner, Municipal Council, Hambantota"** or hand delivered and the caption, **"Registration of Suppliers - Year 2022"** should be mentioned on the left-hand top corner of the envelope containing the application. Cheques should be drawn in favour of **"Municipal Commissioner, Hambantota Municipal Council"**. A self prepared application or the application form issued by the Municipal Council should be used for registration and copy of the Business Registration Certificate and Tax Registration Certificate should be attached to the application.

	SUPPLIES	APPLICATION FEE (RS.)
1	All Office Stationery (including Calculators, Computer Toners and Cartridges)	500.00
2	Linen (Uniforms, Raincoats, T-shirts, Overcoats etc.)	500.00
3	Tyres, Tubes and Batteries (For all vehicles including Tractors, Double cabs, J.C.B., Buses)	500.00
4	Vehicle Spare Parts	500.00
5	Computers, Photocopiers, Fax Machines, and related accessories	500.00
6	Office Equipment, Wooden and Steel Furniture	500.00
7	Accessories required for the provision of electricity	500.00
8	Printing Works (Printed Forms, Documents, Date Stamps, Rubber Stamps, Name Boards)	500.00
9	Building Materials and Equipment	500.00
10	Sanitary Materials and Water Treatment Chemicals (Harpic, Pynol, Chlorine etc.)	500.00
11	Lubricants required for Vehicles	500.00
12	Supply of Drainage Equipment	500.00
13	Supply of Cooked Meals and Dry Foods	500.00
	SERVICES	
1	Repairing and Servicing of Vehicles	500.00
2	Repairing of Office Equipment (Computers, Printers, Air Conditioners)	500.00
3	Repairing of Steel Furniture and General Equipment	500.00
4	Registration of ICTAD registered contractors for the development projects implemented by the Municipal Council (Roads, Buildings etc.)	500.00
5	Contract Societies (Farmer Organizations, Rural Development Societies, Community Based Societies etc.)	500.00

Office of the Hambantota Municipal Council
17.11.2021

M.K.A. Anjala Amali
Municipal Commissioner
Municipal Council, Hambantota.

ELECTION COMMISSION

Registration of Suppliers for supplying of Goods & Services - 2022

Applications are hereby invited from reputed manufacturers / suppliers / agents and reputed organizations, who wish to register themselves for supplying of following goods and services to the Election Commission for the year 2022.

Item No.	Item	Item No.	Item
SUPPLIES		23	Fixing of accessories and additional accessories of automobiles including tyres, tubes, batteries
1	Stationery	24	Supplying of foods (including short eats)
2	Envelopes (Printed / Unprinted)	25	Healthcare items including Face Masks, Hand Sanitizer, Hand Wash, Thermometers, etc;
3	Cardboard products including Cardboard Boxes	26	Indelible Ink
4	Polythene, Polythene bags, printed polythene bags and polysack bags	SERVICES	
5	Security stickers, tape, printed tape, locks and Plastic lock	27	Repairing and maintenance of buildings
6	Seal types (rubber, self ink, Date stamps)	28	Repairing of furniture and office equipment
7	Office furniture (wooden/steel/melamine)	29	Repairing and servicing of computer servers, printers, UPSs, scanners, laptops, multimedia projectors
8	Office equipment and machineries	30	Repairing and servicing of air conditioners, generators, fire protective system, finger print machines, photocopy machines, duplo machines, fax machines
9	Computer software and computer accessories including computer servers, printers, UPS, scanners, laptops, multimedia projectors, networking accessories, compact disks	31	Repairing and servicing of electronic accessories and camera systems
10	Equipment namely refrigerators, air conditioners, generators, finger print machines, photocopy machines, duplo machines, fax machines etc.	32	Maintenance and servicing of internal telephone systems
11	Printing	33	Control of pests and termites
12	Building materials	34	Cleaning services
13	Cameras and security cameras (Digital)	35	Supplying of personal security services
14	Telephones and accessories	36	Repairing and servicing of electronic systems and air condition systems of motor vehicles
15	Electric / Electronic equipment and accessories	37	Repairing of automobiles
16	Fire protective systems and fire extinguishers	38	Servicing of automobiles
17	Sanitary accessories, P.V.C./G.I. pipes and water pipe accessories.	39	Trilingual language services with media equipment
18	Water supplying accessories including water motors, water dispensers	40	Demolition of building and removal of debris
19	Preparation of name boards, banners	41	Interior decorating and landscaping, removal of trees
20	Plastic Cans and Plastic Bottles		
21	Preparation of Departmental Identity Cards		
22	Hiring of Automobile		

- Separate payments should be done for Registration of each aforesaid supply and service.
- All applications should be obtained from the Elections Secretariat upon payment of a non-refundable fee of Rs. 500/= for an item to the Accounts Branch of the Elections Secretariat, Rajagiriya between 9.00 a.m. and 3.00 p.m. from 22nd of November 2021 to 03rd of December 2021 on working days.
- Duly filled applications together with a copy of the receipt for payment should be submitted by hand to the Elections Secretariat, Sarana Mawatha, Rajagiriya, at or before **2.00 p.m. on 07th of December 2021**. The words, **"Registration of Suppliers of Goods / Services - 2022"** should be written on the top left-hand corner of the envelope.
- Although the quotations will usually be called from registered suppliers, Election Commission reserves the right to call for quotations from other suppliers as required. The names of the suppliers who fail to submit quotations when called for or who fail to supply goods or provide services by the agreed time or not in conformity with the stipulated specifications and quality level will be removed from the register of the relevant goods/services without prior notice.

Saman Sri Rathnayake
Election Commissioner General

**Election Commission,
Elections Secretariat,
Rajagiriya.**

22.11.2021

GAMPAHA PRADESHIYA SABHA

Tender Notice

LEASING OF MEAT STALLS, FISH STALLS AND STALLS IN THE GAMPAHA PRADESHIYA SABHA FOR YEAR 2022

- Sealed tender applications will be received by me up to 10.30 a.m. on 13.12.2021 for the leasing of trading rights in the Meat and Fish Stalls mentioned in Schedule 01 from 01.01.2022 until 31.12.2022 and the stalls at the Weliveriya Public Market mentioned in Schedule 02 from 01.01.2022 until 31.08.2023 which are situated within the limits of the Gampaha Pradeshiya Sabha.
- Bids should be submitted only on bid forms obtainable from this office upon payment of the specific security amount and the form fee (along with VAT) and on submission of the National Identity Card. Bid forms will be issued up to 2.00 p.m. on 10.12.2021. Specified fees will be accepted only in cash for obtaining the bid documents.
- Bid documents will be issued in duplicate (original and duplicate) and those two copies should be inserted in separate covers, sealed and may either be sent by registered post addressed to **"Chairman, Gampaha Pradeshiya Sabha, Henarathgoda, Mudungoda"** or deposited in the Tender box kept at this office to receive before the specified time and date. Name of the tender should be mentioned on the left hand top corner of the envelope containing the bid.
- Bids will be opened immediately after closing of bids at 10.30 a.m. on 13.12.2021. Tenderer or his authorized representative may be present at the time of opening of bids. Security deposit of bidders who quote below the minimum bid will be forfeited. Tender Board of the Gampaha Pradeshiya Sabha reserves the right to accept or reject any bid.
- Tender documents will not be issued to the blacklisted individuals or institutions in the previous years regarding tender activities and to those who have any arrears for the current year regarding tender activities.
- Selected bidders should pay the relevant key money as a lump sum and should deposit three times of the monthly rent out of the bid amount as a security deposit.
- Selected lessee should pay the electricity bill / water bill for the relevant month for the leased property.

Gampaha Pradeshiya Sabha
Tel. No. 033-2222020
19.11.2021

W.A. Ranjith Gunawardena
Chairman, Gampaha Pradeshiya Sabha

SCHEDULE 01

Meat Stalls and Fish Stalls to be tendered for year 2022

Ser. No.	Description of the Stall	Tender Form Fee (Rs.)	Refundable Security Deposit (Rs.)	Minimum Bid (Rs.)
01	Pork Stall No. WF 03 at the Weliveriya Public Market	1,000.00	15,000.00	780,000.00
02	Mutton and Chicken Stall No. WF 04 at the Weliveriya Public Market	1,000.00	15,000.00	330,000.00
03	Fish Stall No. WF 08 at the Weliveriya Public Market	1,000.00	5,000.00	90,000.00
04	Stall No. WF 09 at the Weliveriya Public Market	1,000.00	5,000.00	90,000.00
05	Dry Fish Stall at the Weliveriya Public Market	1,000.00	3,000.00	36,200.00

SCHEDULE 02

Leasing of Stalls to be leased in the Trade Complex near the Weliveriya Public Market

Ser. No.	Description of the Stall	Tender Form Fee (Rs.)	Refundable Security Deposit (Rs.)	Minimum Bid (Rs.)
01	Stall No. 15 at the Weliveriya Trade Complex	1,000.00	15,000.00	102,000.00
02	Stall No. 16 at the Weliveriya Trade Complex	1,000.00	15,000.00	102,000.00
03	Stall No. 25 at the Weliveriya Trade Complex	1,000.00	15,000.00	102,000.00
04	Stall No. 31 at the Weliveriya Trade Complex	1,000.00	15,000.00	102,000.00
05	Stall No. 32 at the Weliveriya Trade Complex	1,000.00	15,000.00	102,000.00

Replies to Classifieds & Casual Advertisements published C/o the **Daily News** should only be sent by ordinary post. Replies sent under registered cover will not be accepted.

NOTICE
DAMBULLA MUNICIPAL COUNCIL
Budget for the year 2022

Notice is hereby given in terms of Section 212 (A) of the Municipal Councils Ordinance (Chapter 252) that the Draft Budget containing the Estimated Income and Expenditure of the Dambulla Municipal Council for the year 2022, will be kept open for a period of 07 days commencing from **23.11.2021** at the office of the Dambulla Municipal Council for the inspection by the General Public, during working hours.

At the Office of the Dambulla Municipal Council
Date: 19th November, 2021
H.H.A.D.J.H. Opatha
Mayor

Dalugama Premises and Ragama Medical Faculty Premises
Procurement Notice
Supply of Cleaning Service
University of Kelaniya

Sealed quotations will be received by me for the cleaning and disposal of garbage in the buildings, hotels, canteens and surrounding premises of the University of Kelaniya and cleaning and disposal of garbage in buildings and surrounding premises of Medical Faculty at Ragama from institutes with not less than 03 years experience over relevant work, up to 2.30 p.m. on 14.12.2021.

A pre-bid meeting regarding these tenders is scheduled to be held at 10.30 a.m. on 07-12-2021 at Dalugama at the Registrar's Office. Tender forms and other relevant details could be obtained up to 2.30 p.m. on 13.12.2021 from the Assistant Registrar (General Administration) on submission of the receipt obtained for the payment of a non-refundable tender fee of Rs. 2000/= per each tender to the Shroff of the University or deposited in the Account Number 055100110667549 of People's Bank, Kelaniya Branch. The premises relevant to Kelaniya University and the premises relevant to Ragama Medical Faculty could be inspected by meeting the Garden Conservator of the University and the Assistant Registrar of Ragama Medical Faculty respectively.

Duly perfected tenders in duplicate as original and the duplicate enclosed in two separate sealed envelopes marked as "Tender for the cleaning of Dalugama premises of University of Kelaniya/Tender for the cleaning of Medical Faculty of University of Kelaniya" on the top left-hand corner should be deposited in the Tender Box of General Administration Division kept in front of the office of Chief Security Officer, Dalugama premises of University of Kelaniya. Bids should be submitted separately for each item. Incomplete tenders will be rejected without valuation.

Tenders will be opened at 2.30 p.m. on 14.12.2021 at the Dean's Committee Meeting Hall. Tenderers or their authorized representatives will be allowed to participate at the time.

Chairman,
Procurement Committee,
University of Kelaniya.
22-11-2021

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

Representations to the Advisory Board established under and in terms of Section 13 of the Prevention of Terrorism Act No. 48 of 1979 (as amended).

The President of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka has appointed the following members to the Advisory Board under and in terms of Section 13 of Prevention of Terrorism Act No. 48 of 1979 (as amended).

Justice J.A.N. de Silva Esq, Retired Chief Justice, the Chairman
Hon. Suhada Gamlath Esq, President Counsel, Retired Solicitor General, Member

Hon. A.A.R. Heiyanthuduwa Esq, Retired High Court Judge, Member

Office of the Advisory Board is located in Room No. 201, Second Floor, Building No.4 of the Bandaranaike International Conference Hall, Colombo.

Any person in respect of whom any Detention Order or Restriction Order has been made under and in terms of the Prevention of Terrorism Act No. 48 of 1979, may in person or any other person on his/her behalf make representations to the Advisory Board.

If any person, detained on a detention order or restraining order has been made under and in terms of Prevention of Terrorism Act No. 48 of 1979, his or her representative may make submissions in writing or oral to the Advisory Board.

The Secretary of the Board will notify you under the authority of the Advisory Board's response to such submissions and will request that you provide a clear and perspicuous required address or any other system.

Secretary,
Advisory Board established in terms of the Prevention of Terrorism Act No. 48 of 1979
Block No.4
Room No. 201,
Bandaranaike International Conference Hall
Colombo 7
Telephone No: 0112691671
Fax: 0112691671
Email: advisoryboardpta@gmail.com

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TENDER WILL BE CLOSED ON 29th November 2021
Vehicle Inspection during week days from 22nd November 2021 to 29th November 2021 from 9.00 am to 4.30 pm
UB Finance reserves right to remove any vehicle without prior notice whatsoever
For Details Contact :
Arjuna - 0712 628 552 | Chaminda - 0703 070 102
UB FINANCE
A UNION BANK COMPANY

REGISTRATION OF CONTRACTORS AND SUPPLIERS FOR PROVIDING REPAIRING AND SERVICING WORK FOR THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF HEALTH SERVICES, GAMPAHA FOR THE YEAR 2022

Applications are invited up to 13.12.2021 from reputed contractors, suppliers and repairing and servicing institutions who wish to be registered in the Office of the Director of Health Services for providing supplies and services mentioned below for the year 2022.

- Should submit a copy of the CIDA registration for Building Construction and Repairing and a copy of the Business Registration Certificate
- Repairing of motor vehicles
- Tinkering and painting of motor vehicles
- Cushioning / Carpeting / Fixing Canopy of Motor Vehicles
- Fixing the Air-conditioning System of Motor Vehicles
- Fixing the electrical system of motor vehicles
- Servicing motor vehicles
- Attending to wheel balancing and alignment
- Servicing three wheelers
- Cushioning of three wheelers
- Repairing three wheelers

- CONDITIONS:**
- Applications should be submitted relevant to construction, repairing and servicing. A non-refundable amount of Rs. 1,000.00 should be paid to this office for registration. Further details could be obtained by calling on Tel.No. 033-2222874
 - Quotations for constructions, repairing and servicing will be called from registered contractors and suppliers. However, the Director of Health Services, Gampaha, retains the right of obtaining quotations from offer contractors and suppliers according to the requirements of the office of the Director of Health Services, Gampaha.
 - Business Registration No. (A copy of the Certificate should be submitted).
- Director of Health Services**
Gampaha District

PROCUREMENT NOTICE

STATE MINISTRY OF LIVESTOCK, FARM PROMOTION AND DIARY & EGG RELATED INDUSTRY
DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL PRODUCTION AND HEALTH

The Department of Animal Production and Health invites sealed bids from qualified bidders below mentioned constructions and services required for this department.

1. Services

Activity No.	Subject	Description	Bid Bond (Rs.)	Non-Refundable Bid Document Fee (Rs.)	Bid Documents Issuing Period	Bid Documents Receiving Period
1.1	Obtain the service of Milk Reporters & Milk Inspectors		5,000.00	500.00 each	From 22.11.2021 to 10.12.2021	11.00 a.m. on 13.12.2021
1.2	Catering service for the Trainees of Institute of Distance Education	Menu and further details are given in the bid document.	50,000.00	2,500.00 each		

2. Constructions

Activity No.	Subject	Minimum ICTAD Registration	Engineer's Estimate (Rs.)	Bid Bond Amount (Rs.)		Non-Refundable Bid Document Fee (Rs.)	Bid Documents Issuing Period	Bid Documents Receiving Period
				By a Commercial Bank (Rs.)	By Cash (Rs.)			
2.1	Expansion of Cattle & Buffalo Unit of School of Animal Husbandry, Karandagolla	C7 or above	9,016,743.57	90,500.00	45,250.00	3000.00 each	From 22.11.2021 to 10.12.2021	11.00 a.m. on 13.12.2021

- Relevant Bid Documents may be obtained from the Director (Finance)'s Office of the Dept. of Animal Production and Health during office hours (from 9.00 a.m. to 3.00 p.m.).
- Sealed bid documents may be deposited in the relevant Tender Box placed in the Finance Division or may be sent by registered post to the below mentioned address to reach on or before the closing date and time of the bid receiving date. **Relevant name of the item should be written on the top left corner of the envelope enclosing the bid document.**
- Further details of bid documents in respect of relevant activity are given in the web page of the Dept. of Animal Production and Health. (Web : www.daph.gov.lk).

Director General/ Chairman (Dept.P.C.)
Dept. of Animal Production and Health
No. 1020, P.O. Box. 13, Getambe, Peradeniya.
Tel : 081-2388197/ 081-2388227
081-2385701
081-2388120/ 081-2388189
Extension - 290/292

MINISTRY OF FISHERIES
STATE MINISTRY OF ORNAMENTAL FISH, INLAND FISH & PRAWN FARMING, FISHERY HARBOUR DEVELOPMENT, MULTIDAY FISHING ACTIVITIES AND FISH EXPORTS
NATIONAL AQUACULTURE DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY OF SRI LANKA

VACANCIES

Applications are invited for the under mentioned post from citizens of Sri Lanka possessing the requisite qualifications and experience.

- (1) Post : Director (Coastal Aquaculture Development) – HM 1 - 1**
- Qualifications & Experience – External**
- B.Sc General Degree in Bio- Science or B.Sc Special Degree in Zoology or Aquaculture/Fisheries or Bachelor's Degree in Food Science & Nutrition/ Agriculture/Veterinary Sciences Which is recognized by University Grants Commission.
- AND
- Post graduate qualification (MSc/MPhil) relevant to the field of Aquaculture/ fisheries which is recognized by University Grants commission with a minimum of 15 years' experience in "Managerial level" in a Corporation, Statutory Board/ Institution or a reputed private institution.
- Qualifications & Experience – Internal**
- Being an employee in Manager category (MM), Grade I with minimum of five (05) years' service related to the field of Aquaculture/ Freshwater/ Coastal/ Extension work at NAQDA.

- Salary Scale: HM 1-1-2016: Rs. 81,670- 15x2,270 – 115,720**
- General Conditions:**
Application form the Government/Local Governmental Department/Corporations/ statutory bodies should channel their applications through the heads of their institutions.
- Applicant should be a citizen of Sri Lanka.
 - Should be physically and mentally fit to perform the duties entrusted to the post and serve in any part of island.
 - Age should be not less than 35 years and not more than 55 years. The upper age limit will not apply to the internal candidates.
 - Should have an excellent and moral character.
 - The appointment will be on permanent basics.

- Other benefits offered by National Aquaculture Development Authority of Sri Lanka.**
- Medical benefits.
 - Professional allowances approved other allowances for approved by government.
 - An assigned Vehicle with the approval fuel allowance & Driver or transport Allowance will be provided by NAQDA in terms of the prevailing public enterprise circulars.
 - EPF & ETF.

Following information should be submitted when sending in your applications for the above-mentioned post.

- Bio data'
- Certified photo copies of the certificates to prove the qualifications and experience.

Applications giving the full particulars should be Clearly mentioned and sent under the registered cover with the name of the post applied for stated on left hand corner of the envelope to reach "Chairman, National Aquaculture Development Authority of Sri Lanka, No. 41/1, New Parliament Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla. on or before received with in 14 sdays of publications of this notice.

Chairman
National Aquaculture Development Authority of Sri Lanka.

PROCUREMENT NOTICE

Invitation for Bids

STATE MINISTRY OF RURAL AND DIVISIONAL DRINKING
WATER SUPPLY PROJECT DEVELOPMENT

Department of National Community Water Supply

The chairman of the Department Procurement Committee invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for following works:

SUPPLY OF PVC/GI/DI PIPES & FITTINGS FOR CBO WATER SUPPLY SCHEMES

Procurement Committee invites sealed bids from PVC/GI manufacturers/Suppliers for the contracts described below.

Name of Contract	Qualifications	Non-Refundable Fee (Rs.)	Bid Security in Rs. (Bank Guarantee)	Place of Issuing of Document & Contact Person and Bid Closing Date
1. Supply of PVC Pipes and fittings Contract No: DNCWS/ PRO/2021/PVC/03	PVC Pipe Manufacturers & Suppliers	6,000.00	275,000.00	Director (procurement) Department of National Community Water Supply, No.1114, Pannipitiya Road, Thalawathugoda TP - 0112774927 Bid closing date and time 7th of December 2021, 10.00 am.
2. Supply of GI/DI Pipes and Fittings Contract No: DNCWS/PRO/ 2021/GI/03	GI/DI Suppliers	4,000.00	200,000.00	

CONSTRUCTION WORKS FOR CBO WATER SUPPLY SCHEMES

Procurement Committee invites sealed bids from contractors for works described below.

#	Description	Minimum ICTAD Registration & Experience	Value of Bid Security (Rs)	Non-Refundable Fee (Rs)	Bid Validity period (Days)	Place of Issuing of Docs, Contact Person & closing date		
Puttalam District								
01	Construction of 60m ³ /12m height Ferrocement water tank in Henepola, Madampe in Puttalam District. DNCWS/PRO/2021/CV/03/PU/15	C7 and above	65,000	3,500	120	Director (Procurement) Department of National Community Water Supply, No. 1114, Pannipitiya Road, Thalawathugoda TP: + 9411 2774927 Bid closing date & time 07th of December 2021, 10.00 a.m.		
02	Construction of 60m ³ /12m height Ferrocement water tank with plant room in Panangoda, Mahawewa in Puttalam District. DNCWS/PRO/2021/CV/03/PU/18	C7 and above	75,000	3,500				
Kurunegala District								
03	Construction of 6m Dia 8m Depth concrete dug well, 80m ³ Ferro cement ground tank, 60m ³ capacity 12m height Ferro cement elevated tank, 3m x 3m Pump House in Pothuwila 350, Polpithigama in Kurunegala District. DNCWS/PRO/2021/CV/02/KN/05	C6 and above	130,000	5,000				
04	Construction of Pump house, 30m ³ Ferrocement elevated tank, Fence in Randiya Dahara, Lihinigiriya, Polgahawela in Kurunegala District. DNCWS/PRO/2021/CV/04/KN/20	C7 and above	90,000	3,500				
Mullaitivu District								
05	Construction of 80m ³ - 13m Height Elevated Tank, Dug well, 3m x 3m Pump house & Valve chamber at Ethavetunuwewa Randiya bidu Gramiya CBO, Ethavetunuwewa, Welioya in Mullaitivu district. DNCWS/PRO/2021/CV/05/MU/04	C6 and above	125,000	4,000				
Mannar District								
06	Construction of 60m ³ - 12m height elevated tank, type 1 valve chamber in St. Joseph Rural Water Supply Society CBO, Achankulam, Nanattan. DNCWS/PRO/2021/CV/01/MN/01	C7 and above	70,000	3,500				
Polonnaruwa District								
07	Construction of 20m ³ Elevated tank in Samagi Jala Pariboghi Samithiya, 239 Alawakumbura, Dimbulagala in Polonnaruwa District. DNCWS/PRO/2021/CV/04/PO/04	C8 and above	40,000	2,500				
08	Construction of 80m ³ Elevated Tank, (6m Dia x 8m) Dug well, (3m x 3m) Pump house at Elikimbulawa CBO, Diyabeduma, Elahera in Polonnaruwa District. DNCWS/PRO/2021/CV/07/PO/07	C6 and above	125,000	4,000				
Anuradhapura District								
09	Construction of 3m x 3m Pump House, 40m ³ capacity Ferro cement Elevated tank in 607 Keeriyagaswewa, Kekirawa in Anuradhapura District. DNCWS/PRO/2021/CV/02/AN/02	C8 and above	25,000	2,500				
Galle District								
10	Construction of Dug well, Pump house, 60m ³ Elevated tank, in Sisilasa Diyadana, 215 Aluththanayamgoda pahala, Nagoda in Galle District. DNCWS/PRO/2021/CV/04/GA/24	C7 and above	80,000	3,500				
Kilinochchi District								
11	Construction work at Urvanikanpattu water supply society, Mukavil, Pachchilaippalli in Killinochchi District. DNCWS/PRO/2021/CV/03/KI/02	C7 and above	90,000	3,500				
Badulla District								
12	Construction of Weir intake, 20m ³ Ferro cement ground tank, Retain wall 2.1m height, Barbed wire fence and fixing gate in Seelathenna, Haldummulla in Badulla District. DNCWS/PRO/2021/CV/02/BA/01	C8 and above	45,000	2,500				
13	Construction of Weir intake, 20m ³ Ferrocement ground tank, Retain wall 2.1m height, Barbed wire fence and fixing gate in Murutahinne, Haldummulla in Badulla District. DNCWS/PRO/2021/CV/02/BA/02	C8 and above	40,000	2,500				
14	Construction of Weir intake, 20m ³ Ferro cement ground tank, Retain wall 2.1m height, Barbed wire fence and fixing gate in Nikapotha West, Haldummala in Badulla District. DNCWS/PRO/2021/CV/02/BA/03	C8 and above	40,000	2,500				
Kandy District								
15	Construction of Intake well, Pump house, Fence, Gate & Drains at Nil Diya Dahara, Gamunupura, Ganga Ihala Korale, Gamunupura RWS DNCWS/PRO/2021/CV/07/KA/14	C8 and above	25,000	2,500				

General instructions and conditions for above subject

- Bidding Documents will be issued on submission of a written application on the applicant's letterhead and deposit slip of non-refundable fee (Director General, Department of National Community Water Supply, Account No: - 0007040440 BOC) to the Department of National Community Water Supply.
- Bidding Documents can be collected between 09.00 hours and 15.00 hours up to 06th of December 2021 on normal working days (please make an appointment to collect documents via telephone) and also through email, by sending a copy of deposit slip & request letter to (dncwsfortender@gmail.com) due to the period of travel restrictions imposed.
- Interested bidders may obtain further information from Department of National Community Water Supply and inspect the bidding documents free of charge at the place during normal working hours.
- Duly completed bids shall either be deposited in the Tender Box which is placed in the 2nd floor of the department or dispatched by registered post or courier to the address given below, at or before 10.00 a.m. of 07th December 2021.
- All bids will be opened at the same address on 07th of December 2021 at 10.15 a.m. in the presence of the bidders' representatives who choose to attend. Late bids will be returned unopened.
- Bid security should be addressed to Director General, Department of National Community Water Supply, No. 1114, Pannipitiya Road, Thalawathugoda and valid up to (Minimum 120 days from the Bid Opening) 07th April 2022.

Chairman,
Department Procurement Committee,
Department of National Community Water Supply,
No. 1114, Pannipitiya Road, Thalawathugoda.
22/11/2021

Nuwara-Eliya Municipal Council

Draft Budget - 2022

It is hereby notified that the draft budget of the Nuwara Eliya Municipal Council for the year 2022 prepared in terms of Section 212 (b) of the Municipal Council Ordinance (Chapter 252) will be kept for public inspection at the Office of the Nuwara-Eliya Municipal Council, the Public Library, District Secretariat and the Divisional Secretariat from 23rd November 2021 up to 29th November 2021.

It is also available on our website
(www.nuwaraeliya.mc.gov.lk)

P.D. Chandana Lal Karunaratne,
Mayor,
Nuwara Eliya Municipal Council.

19.11.2021

GOVERNMENT OF THE DEMOCRATIC SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF
SRI LANKA

MINISTRY OF ROADS AND HIGHWAYS



ROAD DEVELOPMENT

AUTHORITY

INVITATION TO BID

LOCAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING

- The Chairman, Procurement Committee, Executive Engineer's Office, Hambantota, Road Development Authority (RDA) invites sealed Bids from eligible Suppliers for the Development, Construction & Maintenance including 100,000Km Road Project by Executive Engineer's Office Hambantota to Supply Material/Vehicle/Machinery under 5 million Procurement limit for each bid.

S. No.	Description of Supply	Quantity	Quotation No.	Bid Bond (Rs.)
01	Quarry Dust for Hospital Square Project	700m ³	RDA/EE/H/QUO/2021/248	Rs.5,000.00
02	Quarry Dust for Banking Square Project	700m ³	RDA/EE/H/QUO/2021/249	Rs.5,000.00
03	Quarry Dust for Divisional Secretariat Division - Kataragama	180m ³	RDA/EE/H/QUO/2021/250	Rs.5,000.00
04	Hiring 40 Ton Low Bed Machines (40 Ton Prime Mover)	01	RDA/EE/H/QUO/2021/251	Rs.5,000.00
05	Hiring Concrete Truck Mixers Machines (2.5m ³)	02	RDA/EE/H/QUO/2021/252	Rs.5,000.00
06	Hiring Concrete Truck Mixers Machines (5m ³)	02	RDA/EE/H/QUO/2021/253	Rs.5,000.00
07	Hiring Concrete Truck Mixers Machines (7m ³)	02	RDA/EE/H/QUO/2021/254	Rs.5,000.00
08	Hiring Wheel Loaders (2.83m ³)	02	RDA/EE/H/QUO/2021/255	Rs.5,000.00
09	Hiring Excavators (120HP or above)	02	RDA/EE/H/QUO/2021/256	Rs.5,000.00
10	Hiring Excavators (200HP or above)	02	RDA/EE/H/QUO/2021/257	Rs.5,000.00
11	Hiring Bobcat Machines	01	RDA/EE/H/QUO/2021/258	Rs.5,000.00
12	Hiring Tractor with Trailer	04	RDA/EE/H/QUO/2021/259	Rs.5,000.00

- Bidding will be conducted through National Competitive Bidding procedure.
- Bids should be valid for **91 calendar days until 06.03.2022** from the closing of bids.
- Bids should be accompanied by a bid security for the value mentioned in the above table which should be valid until 06.03.2022 bids without a valid bid security will be rejected.
- Bidding documents may be inspected free of charge and can be purchased from Executive Engineer's Office, Road Development Authority, Magam Ruhunupura Administration Complex, Hambantota.
- A complete set of Bidding Documents in Sinhala language shall be purchased by interested bidders by following link and from the Executive Engineer's Office, Road Development Authority, Magam Ruhunupura Administration Complex, Hambantota from **22.11.2021 until 03.12.2021** between 09:00 hrs and 15:00 hrs upon payment of a non-refundable fee of Rs 1080.00 for each (inclusive of VAT) before at 13:00 hrs on 03.12.2021.

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1MWJ7z4ngBHPpJqln602omtWG60s9MDLs?usp=sharing>
<http://shorturl.at/uBNu5>

- Further details related to the biddings are attached with bidding documents.
- Sealed Bids may be dispatched either by registered post or hand delivered as follows at or before **2.00 p.m. 06.12.2021**. Late bids will be rejected. Bids will be opened soon after the closing. Bidders or their authorized representatives are requested to be present at the opening of Bids.
- Offers shall be marked with the Contract No. and Material/Vehicle/Machinery name on the top left-hand corner of the envelope.
- For further details, please contact Executive Engineer's Office, Road Development Authority, Magam Ruhunupura Administration Complex, Hambantota on Tel. No. 047-2256666

THE CHAIRMAN
PROCUREMENT COMMITTEE
EXECUTIVE ENGINEER
ROAD DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
RUHUNUPURA ADMINISTRATION COMPLEX
HAMBANTOTA

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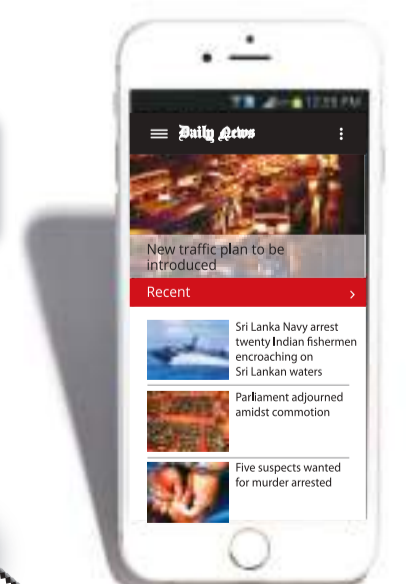
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The Uva Wellassa University is setting new trends in Undergraduate, specialty, Corporate as well as Continuing Education by focusing on value addition to the national resource base. The academic programs of the University have been carefully designed to bring up a new generation of graduates competent in creating value to their employers. You could also become a partner in this great national endeavor.

Procurement Notice

The Chairman, Procurement Committee of Uva Wellassa University invites bids from eligible bidders to provide the following service.

No.	Description	Bid No.	Value of Bid Security
01	Supply of Manpower Service	UWU/GA/05/MPS/2021-2022	Rs. 720,000.00

A complete set of bidding documents may be purchased by any bidder on submission of a written application to the Senior Assistant Registrar (Admin) and upon production of a receipt in respect of payment of a non-refundable fee of Rs. 10,000.00 to each tender to the Shorff of the Uva Wellassa University between 9.00 a.m. and 3.00 p.m. on any working day or directly deposit cash to the Bank of Ceylon A/c No.3114820 from 22.11.2021 to 13.12.2021. The bidder can also download the bidding documents from the University website: <http://www.uwu.ac.lk/procurement/>. Those who are obtaining bidding documents from the University website should submit the complete documents along with a Bank Draft drawn in favour of the "Uva Wellassa University" for Rs. 10,000.00 as non-refundable fee for the payments could be made at any branch of the Bank of Ceylon to Uva Wellassa University, A/c No.3114820 and the cash receipt / deposit slip to be attached with the bidding documents. Bidders may also examine the bidding documents free of charge.

Bids must be delivered or sent under registered post to reach at or before 2.30 p.m. on 14/12/2021 and bids will be opened immediately thereafter. Bidder or his authorized representative (with a letter of authorization) is allowed to be present at the time of opening of bids. The tenders enclosed in a sealed envelope and should be marked "UWU/GA/05/MPS/2021-2022" on the top left corner of the envelope and should be sent either by registered post to the Chairman, Procurement Committee, Uva Wellassa University, Passara Road, Badulla or can be deposited in the tender box at the Registrar's Office of Uva Wellassa University.

Further details could be obtained from Deputy Registrar (Admin) on telephone No.055-2226470.

**Chairman
Procurement Committee
Uva Wellassa University
Badulla**

22.11.2021



Sri Lanka Sustainable Energy Authority (SLSEA)

INVITATION FOR BIDS

INVITATION OF BIDS FOR SUPPLY, INSTALLATION, COMMISSIONING AND MAINTENANCE OF SOLAR POWERED WATER PUMPS FOR RAJANGANAYA & MEDAWACHCHIYA FARMERS' ORGANIZATIONS

Procurement Number : SEA/PD/RES/36-2021

- The Chairman, Department Procurement Committee for the above procurement invites bids from suitable service providers under National Competitive Bidding procedure.
- Interested bidders can inspect Bidding document from official web site: www.energy.gov.lk free of charge and complete set of bidding documents in English language may be obtained by interested bidders from the above web site. Non-refundable tender fee of **LKR 2,000/=**, has to be made for tender document and payment shall be deposited to SLSEA general current A/c No 0074944408 of Bank of Ceylon (code is 7010) - Torrington Square branch (code is 453) clearly mentioning the procurement reference SEA/PD/RES/36-2021. (Swift Code is BCEYLKX). Cash Deposit Slip or e-receipt (for on-line transfer) of non-refundable tender fee shall be submitted with the bid. The bids without the copy of the payment receipt will be rejected.
- Bids shall be valid up to 15th March 2022 and bids should be accompanied by a Bid Security of **LKR 250,000/=** valid till 15th April 2022 as mentioned in the bid document.
- The sealed bids marked "SEA/PD/RES/36-2021" on the top left-hand corner shall be sent to reach Procurement Division, Sri Lanka Sustainable Energy Authority, No. 72, Ananda Coomaraswamy Mawatha, Colombo 07 by registered post / courier/hand delivery at or before **11.30 hrs on 14th December 2021** Sri Lankan time (GMT + 5: 30 Time Zone). Late bids shall be rejected.
- Due to Covid-19 situation in the country, the bids will be opened and read out the prices through a "Google Meet" without physical participation of bidders and will be opened on **14th December 2021 at 11.30 hrs** Sri Lankan time (GMT + 5: 30 Time Zone). Bidders who wish to participate in this online bid opening shall mark an email address and telephone number in the outer side of the envelope (of the bid).
- Further details may be obtained by calling on telephone numbers +94112575030 or 0762915930 during office hours or by writing to Deputy Director (Solar Technology) through soorislsea@gmail.com

**Chairman
Department Procurement Committee
Sri Lanka Sustainable Energy Authority
No. 72, Ananda Coomaraswamy Mw., Colombo 07, Sri Lanka.**

**Tel : 94 (0) 112575030 Fax: 94 (0) 112575089
Email : soorislsea@gmail.com
Web : www.energy.gov.lk**

22/11/2021



WASTE MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY (W.P.)

PROCUREMENT NOTICE



Quotations are invited from local suppliers for the supply of a van on hire basis (for a period of one year) and for purchase of uniforms, protective equipment and printed fertilizer packing bags for the Western Provincial Waste Management Authority.

No.	Item	Details	No. of Limits	Bid Document Sets		
01	Van (on hire basis for one year)	Dual Air-conditioned 08 seater	01	A		
02	Purchase of Uniforms and Protective equipment	Uniforms	T-Shirt Long	69	B	
			T-Shirt Short	258		
			Shirt Long	23		
			Shirt Short	19		
			Bottom	217		
		Trouser (Denim)	96	C		
		Protective equipment	Gumboots		94	
			Protective Footwear		86	
			Protective Gloves		Soft Rubber	952
					Soft Cloth	1212
Heavy Rubber	1754					
Protective glasses	56					
Raincoats	52					
Umbrellas	63					
Helmets	13					
Hats (Headgear)	81					
Nose Cover (with activator carbon layer)	2808					
03	Fertilizer Packing Bags	50Kg (60x105) cm	30,000	D		

A set of Procurement Documents containing specifications for this purpose could be obtained from 22.11.2021 up to 2.00 p.m. on 13.12.2021 from the Western Provincial Waste Management Authority located at No. 204, Denzil Kobbekaduwa Mawatha, Battaramulla upon payment of a non-refundable fee of Rs. 1,000.00.

Bid documents with procurement forms should be sealed and inserted in the Tender Box kept in the Waste Management Authority at Denzil Kobbekaduwa Mawatha, Battaramulla to receive before 2.00 p.m. on 14.12.2021 or could be sent by registered post.

A pre-bid meeting relevant to the supplies mentioned above will be held on 01.12.2021 at 10.00 a.m. at the Western Provincial Waste Management Authority Office premises.

Bids will be opened at 2.15 p.m. on 14.12.2021 in the Western Provincial Waste Management Authority Office and the bidder or his authorized representative could be present on this occasion.

**Chairman,
Waste Management Authority (W.P.)
No. 204, Denzil Kobbekaduwa Mawatha,
Battaramulla.**

Tel.No. 0112092996 / Fax: 0112092998

22.11.2021

State Ministry of Rural Housing and Constructions & Building Materials Industries Promotion

NATIONAL EQUIPMENT & MACHINERY ORGANIZATION

(An organization established under State Engineering Corporation of Sri Lanka)

Tel: 077-1201704 / 077-1201673 / 077-1201707

REGISTRATION OF SUPPLIERS & SUB-CONTRACTORS FOR THE YEAR 2022

National Equipment & Machinery Organization (NEMO) is an organization established under State Engineering Corporation of Sri Lanka with a new vision of implementing construction and infrastructure development projects throughout the island. Applications are invited from interested suppliers, direct importers, authorized agents, manufacturers, public & private companies to supply the materials / goods and services listed under the following categories.

- Interested suppliers should state clearly the areas: District / Province that they can supply goods / materials & services.
- The suppliers should indicate a minimum of 60 days credit period.

1. Materials / Goods categories

- | | |
|---|-----------------------------|
| 1.1 Construction items and Building Materials | 1.5 Paints |
| 1.2 Vehicles & Heavy Machinery spare Parts | 1.6 Stationery |
| 1.3 Electrical items & Fittings / Accessories | 1.7 Office equipment |
| 1.4 Plumbing items/Fittings | 1.8 Security & Safety Items |

3,500/-

2. Service Categories

- | | |
|---|--------------------|
| 2.1 Vehicles & Heavy Machinery Hiring | 2.3 Printing |
| 2.2 Vehicles & Heavy Machinery Repairing and Services | 2.4 Other Services |

Application along with the relevant conditions can be obtained from the Head Office of NEMO by paying a non-refundable fee of Rs. 3,500/= (Three Thousand Five Hundred).

A. Sub contract work (with material)

- | | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| A.1 Earth work | A.14 Fire Fighting and fixing of safety equipment |
| A.2 Piling work | A.15 Supply of Telephones and Data systems |
| A.3 Steel work | A.16 Fixing of Elevators |
| A.4 Zn / Al Roof work | A.17 Landscaping |
| A.5 Aluminium work | A.18 Road Construction work / Building construction |
| A.6 Ceiling work | A.19 Pipe work (PVC, GI, HD, PE) |
| A.7 Carpentry and joinry work | A.20 Floor Finishing work |
| A.8 Stainless Steel work | A.21 Tempered / Toughened work |
| A.9 Water proofing work | A.22 Interior Decoration work |
| A.10 Pest Control work | A.23 Gas systems |
| A.11 Painting work | A.24 Treatment plant (Sewage / Waste Water / Water) |
| A.12 Electrical Mechanic work | A.25 Soil Testing work |
| A.13 Air conditioning work | |

6,500/-

Application along with the relevant conditions can be obtained from the Head Office of NEMO by paying a non-refundable fee of Rs. 6,500/= (Six Thousand Five Hundred).

B. Sub Contract work

- (Concrete and steel supplied by NEMO)
B.1 Shuttering work (with material), reinforcement work and placing concrete.

C. Labour sub contract work.

- | | |
|----------------------|---|
| C.1 Earth work | C.8 Steel work |
| C.2 Piling work | C.9 Painting work |
| C.3 Form work | C.10 Electrical work |
| C.4 Bar bending work | C.11 Pipe fitting work (PVC, GI, HDPE) |
| C.5 Concrete work | C.12 Marble laying |
| C.6 Masonry work | C.13 Building construction using pre-stressed accessories |
| C.7 Carpentry work | C.14 Supply of skilled / unskilled labour |

2,500/-

Application along with the relevant conditions can be obtained from the Head Office of NEMO by paying a non-refundable fee of Rs. 2,500/ (Two Thousand Five Hundred).

Completed applications should be handed over to the below address on or before 31.12.2021.

**Chairman,
National Equipment & Machinery Organization,
Theme Park Building,
Negombo Road, Peliyagoda.**

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Employment

327 **Positions Wanted**

Overseas Gulf Local well experienced person looking for managerial position at Marketing / Recruiting / HR / Admin / House-keeping / Real Estate. Contact Mob - 0760165492. 073073

SRI LANKA PORTS AUTHORITY
Invitation for Bids (IFB)

RECTIFICATION OF INTERNAL ROADS 'C' & 'D' AT JCT I & II IN PORT OF COLOMBO

- The Chairman - Department Procurement Committee, Sri Lanka Ports Authority (SLPA), on behalf of the Chairman, SLPA invites sealed Bids from eligible and qualified bidders for the **Rectification of Internal Roads 'C' & 'D' at JCT I & II in Port of Colombo (Contract No. EW/JCT/02/2021/01)**.
- To be eligible for the Contract award,
 - The Bidder shall meet the **ICTAD Registration Grade C6 Contractor** specialized in Road Works.
 - A valid certificate of registration issued under **Public Contracts Act No 03 of 1987**, registration required under Section 8 of the said act.
- Pre-Bid meeting followed by a site visit will be held at **10.30 hrs on 01.12.2021** at Technical Library, Sri Lanka Ports Authority, 45, Leyden Bastian Road, Colombo 01.
- Amount of Bid Security shall be Rs. 200,000/= and shall be an unconditional guarantee issued by a bank operating in Sri Lanka and approved by the Central Bank of Sri Lanka.
- Bidding Documents will be issued between 9.30 hrs and 14.00 hrs on working days from **23.11.2021** till 12.00 noon of **06.12.2021** (both days inclusive) by the Chief Engineer (Civil), Civil Engineering Division, Sri Lanka Ports Authority, No: 45, Leyden Bastian Road Colombo 01, on a payment of a non-refundable tender fee of **Rs. 2,000.00** (inclusive of VAT). Bidding Documents may be inspected free of charge at the same office.
- Bidding Document enclosed in a securely sealed cover and marked "**Rectification of Internal Roads 'C' & 'D' at JCT I & II in Port of Colombo (Contract No. EW/JCT/02/2021/01)**" on the top left hand corner, shall be sent by registered post addressed to the Chairman - Department Procurement Committee, Sri Lanka Ports Authority, C/o Chief Engineer (Civil), Civil Engineering Division, Sri Lanka Ports Authority, No.45, Leyden Bastian Road, Colombo 01 or placed in the Tender Box kept in the office of the Chief Engineer (Civil) at the above address.
- Bids in duplicate shall be submitted by **14.30 hrs. on 07.12.2021** and the Bids will be opened immediately after closing of the Bids. Bidders or their authorized representatives are requested to be present at the opening of the tender.
- Any Further particulars may be obtained from Engineer (JCT) on the above address. (T.P. 011 - 2482878)

Chairman,
Department Procurement Committee
Sri Lanka Ports Authority

Replies to Classifieds & Casual Advertisements published C/o the **Daily News** should only be sent by ordinary post. Replies sent under registered cover will not be accepted.

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National Tourism Policy of Sri Lanka
Request for Public Opinion

The Ministry of Tourism has taken steps to formulate a National Tourism Policy for Sri Lanka. It is expected that these tourism policies will assist in the promotion and development of the tourism industry with a view to ensuring the creation of a sustainable tourism industry, and for this task technical support and assistance have been provided under the United Nations Development Programme.

In formulating this National Tourism Policy, all the rules and regulations, guidelines pertaining to the tourism field have been taken into consideration. Further, comments and suggestions gathered from these State Institutions and Provincial Councils involved in the tourism sector along with the comments and suggestions made by the private sector and other relevant stakeholders and representatives too were taken into consideration.

The meticulous management of the future challenges connected with the utilization of the resources in the tourism sector has been mainly focused on four(04) main tourism potentialities when drafting the new national policy.

Accordingly, the draft national tourism policy has been published on the official website of the Ministry of Tourism www.tourismmin.gov.lk

The Ministry of Tourism requests those interested to send in their valuable comments and suggestions before 22.12.2021 by post or e-mail to secretary@tourismmin.gov.lk

Secretary
Ministry of Tourism,
2nd Floor, Asset Arcade Building,
No. 51/2/1, York Street,
Colombo 01.

GENERAL HOSPITAL - AMPARA
Registration of Suppliers and Building Maintenance Contractors for Year 2022/2023

Applications are invited from registered Co-operative Societies, registered business organizations and individuals who wish to be registered for the supply of items and services mentioned below for the year 2022.

01. Supplies

- Medical Equipment, Surgical Implements, medical equipment spare parts
- Dental Medical Equipment and spare parts
- Laboratory Equipment, spare parts & chemical equipment & reactive material
- Papers X-Ray used for medical equipment, Film Rolls needed for C.T. Machines
- Drugs and Dressings
- Powdered milk varieties
- Stationery & Office Equipment, Library Books
- Hardware Material
- Consumable material inclusive of brooms, ekel brooms, soap powder & laundry chemical materials & garbage bags
- Electrical Equipment, electrical accessories
- Household goods, household equipment & hospital equipment, fibre mattresses & rubber mixed mattresses
- Tyres & Tubes, Vehicle spare parts & batteries
- Textile items including uniform materials, curtain materials
- Computers and computer accessories
- Fuel & Lubricants
- Household gas and welding gas.
- Wooden items and timber varieties
- Supply of printed stationery (Printed tile covers)
- Supply of rubber stamps

02. Services

- Repairing vehicles, servicing, electrical work, cushion work and providing insurance
- Repairing of Buggy Carts, electrical work and supply of spare parts
- Repairing all types of electrical equipment & machinery equipment
- Repairing of Office Equipment like Computers, Roneo Machines, Riso Machines
- Repairing of Medical Equipment
- Repairing Telephones
- Repairing and Maintenance of Laundry Equipment

03. Registration of Building Construction and Maintenance Contractors

Applications will be issued only to Building Construction Contractors registered with the Institute for Construction, Training & Development in the relevant grade or an above grade under the National Scheme of Grading.

Eligibility - C9, EM05 or above (According to amended registration procedure)

The relevant applications could be obtained from the Accounts Division of this hospital on working days of the week from 22.11.2021 to 22.12.2021 between 9.00 a.m. and 3.00 p.m. by submitting the receipt obtained after paying the non-refundable fee of Rs. 1000/- to the shroff of the Ampara General Hospital as Registration Fees for each category (for each supply/service). (Money orders/stamps or cheques will not be accepted).

Applications should be enclosed in an envelope and sealed. Bids will be accepted up to 10.25 a.m. on 23.12.2021 and they will be opened at 10.30 a.m. on the same day in the presence of the Procurement Committee of this hospital. The bidders or their representatives could be present on this occasion.

Sealed bids should be addressed to the Director, General Hospital, Ampara and sent by registered post to be received before the specified date and time or should be inserted in the Tender Box kept in the Accountant's Office. The words "**Registration of Suppliers and Building Maintenance Contractors and Buildings for the year 2022**" should be marked on the top left-hand corner of the envelope containing the application.

Quotations are normally called from the registered list of suppliers for supplies and services. However, the Procurement Committee of the hospital has the right to call for quotations and select suppliers from outside the registered list of suppliers when deemed necessary.

Applications received late will be rejected. The final decision regarding applications lies with the Procurement Board.

Dr. Upul Wijenayaka,
Director,
General Hospital, Ampara.
063-2222261 Ext. 240

INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)



MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT
TOWNSHIP DEVELOPMENT COMPONENT OF
GREATER COLOMBO URBAN TRANSPORT DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

PROCUREMENT OF RENTING SPACE AT
MAKUMBURA MULTI MODEL CENTER - KOTTAWA.

The Chairman Project Procurement Committee, Township Development Component Greater Colombo Urban Transport Development Project of Ministry of Transport invites sealed bids from eligible bidders.

Procurement No.	Item Descriptions	Bid Security (Rs.)	Non Refundable Bid Document Fee (Rs.)	Bid Closing Date & Time
MoT/3K/MMC/BD/2021/20.3/IB	Juice Bar (194 sqft)	30,000.00	3000.00	6-12-2021, 2:00 pm
MoT/3K/MMC/BD/2021/20.19/MB	Milk Bar (128.4 sqft)	30,000.00	3000.00	6-12-2021, 2:00 pm
MoT/3K/MMC/BD/2021/20.21/VS	Veggie Shop (99.2 sqft)	30,000.00	3000.00	6-12-2021, 2:00 pm
MoT/3K/MMC/BD/2021/20.30/VarS	Variety Shop (320 sqft)	30,000.00	3000.00	6-12-2021, 2:00 pm
MoT/3K/MMC/BD/2021/20.31/CS	Coffee Shop (99.8 sqft)	30,000.00	3000.00	6-12-2021, 2:00 pm
MoT/3K/MMC/BD/2021/20.9/FH	Front Hoarding (30'x50')	30,000.00	3000.00	6-12-2021, 2:00 pm

- Bidding will be conducted according to the National Competitive Bidding (NCB) Procedure.
- A complete set of Bidding Documents could be inspected and purchased upon submission of a written request to the Project Director, Township Development Component of Greater Colombo Urban Transport Development Project, GB-01, Ground Floor, Sethsiripaya - Stage II, Battaramulla, during **9:00hrs to 15.30 hrs. From 22nd November 2021 to 6th December 2021 (during working days)** upon payment of the non-refundable fee. The method of payment is cash only.
- Interested bidders may obtain further clarifications from Project Director, Township Development Component of Greater Colombo Urban Transport Development Project, GB-01, Ground Floor, Sethsiripaya, Stage II, Battaramulla. Tel: 0112186094 / 011 2034471, Fax: 011-2186096.
- A site visit will be commenced at **14.30 hrs. On 28th November 2021** at Makumbura Multi Model Center - Kottawa and a Pre-bid meeting will be held immediately after the site visit at the same address.
- Procurement No.& the Subject should be clearly mentioned on the Top Left Corner of the envelop and should be sent through Registered Post or Handover to the **Project Director, GB-01, Ground Floor, Sethsiripaya, Stage II, Battaramulla.**
- Bid shall be delivered in duplicate to the address given below and submitted on or before **14.00 hrs. On 6th December 2021.** Late submissions of bids shall be rejected. Bids will be opened soon after closing time.

Project Director,
(Township Development Component of Greater Colombo Urban Transport Development Project)
GB-01, Ground Floor, Sethsiripaya, Stage II, Battaramulla.

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Base Hospital – Kalmunai (North)

Registration of Suppliers for year 2022

Applications are invited from Multipurpose Cooperative Societies, registered Business Establishments and suppliers for registration as suppliers for the supply of goods and services to the Base Hospital, Kalmunai (North) for year 2022.

Perfected applications mentioning “Registration of Suppliers for year 2022” on the left-hand top corner of the envelope and may either be sent by registered post addressed to “Medical Superintendent, Base Hospital, Kalmunai (North)” or directly delivered to the Office of the Medical Superintendent to be received before 3.00 p.m. on 18.12.2021.

Goods Required :

Category No.	Description of Goods	Category No.	Description of Goods
G - 1	Office Furniture (Tables, Chairs, Almiraes and all kinds of office furniture)	G - 11	Maintenance Equipment (Welding and Fitting Works, Iron, Aluminium)
G - 2	Cooking Gas	G - 12	Milk Powder
G - 3	Office Stationery and Writing Utensils	G - 13	Laboratory Equipment and Chemicals, Bandages and Consumables, Dental Equipment and Consumables
G - 4	Building Materials (Cement, Sand, Bricks, Roofing Sheets) and related Goods	G - 14	Paper Covers for Medical Equipment, Paper covers for X-ray Cards and Scan Cards
G - 5	Electrical Equipment	G - 15	Medical Equipment and Accessories
G - 6	Computers, Photocopiers and Accessories (Toners, Printers, Riso Ink, Ribbon Items and Master Roll)	G - 16	Vehicle Spare Parts, Tyres, Tubes and Batteries
G - 7	Mattresses	G - 17	Hospital Cleaning Items (Soap, Washing Powder, Battery and other Consumable Items)
G - 8	Fuel	G - 18	Uniforms and other Linen, Curtains
G - 9	Maintenance Equipment (Electrical, Plumbing) Hardware Goods	G - 19	Buyers of used Bottles, Cardboards, Saline Bottles and containers
G - 10	Garbage Collecting Bags (Garbage Bags, Grocery Bags, All polythene items, Dustbins) and other Plastic Goods	G - 20	Drug Envelopes

Category No.	Description of Services
S - 1	Repairing and Servicing of Electrical Equipment and Electronic Equipment
S - 2	Repairing and Servicing of Office Photocopiers, Riso Machines
S - 3	Repairing and Servicing of Computers, Printers
S - 4	Servicing of Vehicles
S - 5	Repairing of Vehicles
S - 6	Repairing and Maintenance of Washing Machines
S - 7	Printing Works and Making Official Stamps
S - 8	Repairing and Maintenance of Medical Equipment
S - 9	Intercom Maintenance Services and Maintenance of CCTV Camera System
S - 10	Repairing and Maintenance of Air Conditioners
S - 11	Painting, Cushioning of Chairs, Repairing of Furniture

Applicants should pay a non-refundable registration fee of Rs. 500/- for each supply or service and this amount should be credited to Account No. 7040265 maintained at the Kalmunai Branch of Bank of Ceylon in favour of “Medical Superintendent, Base Hospital, Kalmunai (North)” and the bank slip should be attached to the application and submitted.

When purchasing goods and services for year 2022, purchases will be effected from registered suppliers but the Medical Superintendent reserves the right to purchase goods and services from Suppliers outside the registered suppliers when there is any necessity.

Medical Superintendent also reserves the right to strike off the names of the suppliers who default the conditions or suppliers who fail to supply goods and services of the agreed quality and standards from the list of registered suppliers.

Note : Cheques for payments will be issued only to the name given in the Business Registration Certificate.

- Please note that the goods to be supplied should have been mentioned in the Business Registration Certificate. If not the registration for the goods and services not mentioned in the Business Registration Certificate will be cancelled.

For inquiries : Tel. No. 0672224602

Applications should be prepared as per the Specimen given below.

Registration of Suppliers – 2022 – Base Hospital – Kalmunai (North)

- Name of the Business Institution :
- Address of the Business Institution :
- Telephone No. :
- Fax No. :
- Business Registration No :
- (Copy should be attached)
- Nature of Business :
- Category of Goods / Services for which registration is sought :
- Credit Period offered :

Category No.	Description of Goods / Services

I hereby certify that the information given by me is true and correct. I agree that my registration as a supplier will be cancelled if it is found out that I have submitted false information. Certified copy of the Business Registration Certificate is attached.

Signature of Applicant :

Date :

Official Seal :



NWP IRRIGATION DEPARTMENT

PROCUREMENT NOTICE

CLIMATE SMART IRRIGATED AGRICULTURE PROJECT (CSIAP) - CREDIT NO: 6346LK

- The Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka has received a Credit from the International Development Association (IDA) towards the cost of the Climate Smart Irrigated Agriculture Project (CSIAP) of the Ministry of Agriculture and it intends to apply part of the proceeds of this Credit to eligible payments under the Contracts given in the table below.
- The Chairman, Departmental Procurement Committee, NWP Irrigation Department on behalf of the CSIAP, Ministry of Agriculture now invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for Rehabilitation/Modernization works as described in the table below.

Contract No.	Description of Works	Estimated Cost Excluding VAT (Rs. Mn)	Required Grade & Speciality	Contract Period	Required Bid Security		Non-Refundable Fee (Rs.)
					Bid Security Amount (Rs.)	Validity of the Bid Security	
LK-MOA-255461-CW-RFB	Piduruwellawa Cascade Rehabilitation of Pahala Yanthampalayagama Wewa & Ihala Bogaha Wewa	11.00	C6 or C5 (Irrigation and Drainage Canals)	105 Days	120,000.00	Up to 29 th March 2022	5,000.00
LK-MOA-255462-CW-RFB	Piduruwellawa Cascade Rehabilitation of Bulana Wewa & Palugama Wewa	18.27	C6 or C5 (Irrigation and Drainage Canals)	120 Days	190,000.00	Up to 29 th March 2022	6,000.00
LK-MOA-255458-CW-RFB	Piduruwellawa Cascade Rehabilitation of Pahala Bogaha Wewa & Walaliya Maha Wewa	15.54	C6 or C5 (Irrigation and Drainage Canals)	120 Days	160,000.00	Up to 29 th March 2022	6,000.00
LK-MOA-255454-CW-RFB	Piduruwellawa Cascade Rehabilitation of Walpaluwa Wewa & Waduressa Game Wewa	16.07	C6 or C5 (Irrigation and Drainage Canals)	120 Days	170,000.00	Up to 29 th March 2022	6,000.00
LK-MOA-255464-CW-RFB	Piduruwellawa Cascade Rehabilitation of Uda Walaliya Wewa	18.47	C6 or C5 (Irrigation and Drainage Canals)	120 Days	190,000.00	Up to 29 th March 2022	6,000.00

- Bidding will be conducted through the National Competitive Bidding procedure.
- To be eligible for Contract award, the successful bidder shall not have been blacklisted and shall have been registered in the field and grade mentioned in the table above with the Construction Industry Development Authority (CIDA).
- Qualification information is indicated in section 4 of the Bidding document. Additional details are provided in the Section 5 of the bidding document.
- Interested Bidders may obtain further information from The Director, NWP Engineering Department, 2nd Floor, Provincial Council Office Complex, Kurunegala (Tel : 037-2222700 / 037-2222057 / 0372227665, Facsimile : 037-2223186, Email - director@engdept.nw.gov.lk) and inspect the bidding documents at the same place on working days from 09.00 hrs. to 15.00 hrs.
- A complete set of Bidding Documents in English language may be purchased by interested bidders on submission of a written application to the Director, NWP Engineering Department, 2nd Floor, provincial Council office Complex, Kurunegala from 22nd November 2021 until 13th December 2021 from 09.00 hrs. to 15.00 hrs upon payment of a non-refundable fee specified in the table given above. The method of payment will be in Cash.
- Bids must be delivered in duplicates to the The Director, NWP Engineering Department, 2nd Floor, Provincial Council Office Complex, Kurunegala at or before 10.00 hrs on 14th December 2021. Electronic bidding will not be permitted. Late bids will be rejected. Tender box will be kept at the Conference Hall in the 3rd Floor of the NWP Engineering Department. Bids will be opened soon after closing in the presence of the bidders or their representatives who choose to attend. Bid for each contract should be submitted separately.
- All bids should be valid up to 01st March 2022.
- All bids shall be accompanied by a Bid Security as per the information given in the above table.
- Bidders shall submit the Certificate of Registration under the Public Contracts Act, No. 03 of 1987.
- Pre-bid meeting will be held on 01st December 2021 at 10.00 hrs at NWP Engineering Department, 2nd Floor, Provincial Council Office Complex, Kurunegala. Interested Bidders may participate in this meeting at their own expense.

Chairman,
Departmental Procurement Committee
NWP Irrigation Department
2nd Floor, Govigedara
Dambulla Road, Kurunegala.
Date : 22/11/2021

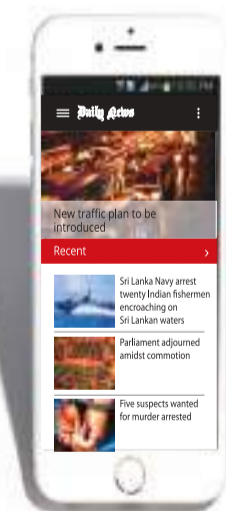
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