



Central Bank of Sri Lanka Retrospect 1963



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Central Bank moves in April

The 25 million-rupee multi-story central Bank building coming up at Queen's street, Fort, is expected to be ready for occupation in April this year.

The building is on Crown land.

Since the Monetary Board considered that the design and supervision of the construction of the Bank building required special skills not available locally, the services of a Belgian architect who was also engaged in the construction of the National Bank of Belgium, were obtained. The construction work is being carried out by a German firm of engineers and contractors.

External assets down in Sept.

Ceylon's external assets have registered a decline of Rs. 7.3 million during the month of September. This is stated in the October Bulletin of the Central Bank.

The external assets stood at Rs. 552.9 million at the end of September. However the assets have registered an increase of about Rs. 49 million over the first nine months of the year. This contrasts with a decline amounting to Rs. 33.9 million in the same period of 1962.



Miss Ranjanie Selvanayagam (Miss Lanka 1963) left yesterday by BOAC plane from Katunayake to take part in the "Miss International" Contest at Long Beach, California.

The Minister of Finance has appointed a committee to go into the whole problem of revision of the cost of living index with a view to obtain a "more representative and realistic index." The members of the committee will be Mr. A. B. S. N. Pullenayagam (Director of Census and Statistics), Mr.

This is the way the money goes FOOD TAKES 50% OF YOUR INCOME

Clothes, housing come next

-CENTRAL BANK SURVEY

Families in Ceylon spend about 10 percent of their total expenditure over a period of two months on rice (rationed and un-rationed). Total food expenditure constitutes 50 percent of total consumer expenditure.

This is revealed in the Preliminary Report of the Central Consumer Survey carried out by the Central Bank during March-April this year with the assistance of the Department of Census and Statistics. A total of 5,184 households was selected for the survey and the household was the ultimate sampling unit. Nearly 90 per cent of them possessed a lot of school books. However, this was due to the fact that the survey was conducted in the second half of the academic year.

The Report also comments on the problem of inequality in income distribution.

World Bank team here: further assistance?

A team from the World Bank has arrived in Ceylon to conduct an economy survey and also to discuss with the Government the question of further assistance.

The World Bank has already granted the Ceylon Government loans to the tune of Rs. 50 million, which are being utilized on various development projects.

Government sources added they hoped to obtain further

loans from the bank for essential development work.

The team yesterday met the Minister of Finance, Mr. T. B. Illangaratne, and officials of the Treasury, and had preliminary discussions with them regarding these matters. The team also discussed with the Minister the economic and financial position of the country particularly with reference to development.

Central Bank's rice statistics

According to the annual report of the Central Bank of Ceylon for 1962 the amount

of rice consumed was less than what was produced in the country.

Yet the report adds that last year too rice has been imported.

The Central Bank report states:- "Production of paddy in terms of rice was 624,900 tons in 1962 as against a 561,600 tons for 1961.

"Domestic consumption of rice in 1962 is estimated at 403,900 tons while imports during the year were 404,173 tons."

Mr. J. V. Fonseka, Commissioner of Agrarian Service when questioned told the press that the amount of rice consumed should be more than what was produced.

However he could not make any comment on this as he had not had a copy of the report as yet.

Bank reserve up by Rs. 16m

The International Reserve of the Central Bank, a major component of Ceylon's external assets, has registered an increase of about Rs. 16 million during October. This is in comparison with a decline of the reserve to the value of about Rs. 30 million during the previous two months August and September.

The International reserve of the Bank which was Rs. 178.1

million during September increased to Rs. 194.5 million by the end of October. The increase has been entirely due to an increase in the Bank's cash and balances abroad.

On the domestic assets side the loans and advances to Government as at the end of October was Rs. 1,190,834,256 while other assets and accounts amounted to Rs. 42,358,704.

Colombo's changing skyline



This aerial picture taken by one of our cameramen from the F-28 Friendship plane on a demonstration flight over Colombo highlights the city's changing skyline. Two of Colombo's newest

buildings - which are also the tallest by far - stand in close proximity to each other. On the left and nearer the marine drive (over which this picture was taken) is the

new Central Bank building and beyond to the right is the familiar outline of the Ceylon Insurance Company building, two notable landmarks of parallel progress.

Big fall in tea prices feared

"It is evident that we in Ceylon must be prepared for a fall in prices obtained at tea auctions, a fall greater and more prolonged than that which occurred late in 1961 and a fall which might occur whatever we do in Ceylon," states the annual report of the Tea Research In-

stitute of Ceylon for 1961.

It seems unlikely that a revival of the International Tea Agreement would be possible, so as to limit world productions, even if it could be revived effectively, the initial position has to be secured states the report.

Hush-hush inquiries after shock discovery CURRENCY NOTES FORGED IN JAIL Equipment found in printing works in Welikada

All the implements needed for forging currency notes were found within the walls of the Welikada jail a few days ago following a careful investigation by a prison official whose suspicions had been aroused.

Blocks for the printing of

forged currency notes were discovered in the printing works of the jail.

According to Government sources the printing of currency notes of the Rs. 5, 10 and 20 denomination has been stopped in the premises of the printing de-

partment. It was also discovered that the currency notes drawn up by the whole affair. Preliminary investigations are being handled by a Superintendent of Prisons.

Millions lost in exchange black market

An intensive check made recently on the extent of the blackmarket in tourist exchange has shown that whereas the Central Bank has recorded a turnover of only Rs. 600,000 in one month. The actual expenditure by tourist traffic for the particular month has been as much as Rs. 4.9 millions according to Tourist Bureau authorities.

The figure of Rs. 4.9 millions represents the actual expenditure declared by foreign tourists as having been made in Ceylon according to these sources.

of consumer items to obtain a true picture of the buying habits of the people. It is, however, likely that the considerations and the recommendations of the com-

The survey made reveals the existence of vast gaps in respect of transit tourist traffic from passenger liners, who do not make effective and proper declarations of the currency they bring in, Tourist Bureau sources said.

A special team of statistical officers who carried out the sample survey, checked actual currency declarations made by visitors to the country, but have pointed out that such a survey would be of little avail in a heavy black-market such as flourishes in Ceylon.

mittee will be based on data drawn from the city of Colombo. Meanwhile, the Central Bank of Ceylon has conducted an islandwide consumer survey.

New 25 cents coin will be issued shortly by the Central Bank and will be in circulation along with the existing coins of the same denomination. The new coin has been struck in cupro-nickel which is an alloy of a silvery-white colour. It is round in shape, having a diameter of 0.71 inches and is smaller than the current 25 cents coin. The new coin has a security edge similar to that on the current 25 cents coin.

The obverse side of the new coin carries the Armorial Ensigns of Ceylon. On the reverse side, the value '25', in figures, with the value in words in Sinhala, Tamil and English appear in the centre between designs derived from the 'Liyawela' motif in Sinhala Art. The word appears at the top and the date 1963 appears at the bottom.

From tape recorders to fresh fruits (apples and grapes) ...

LUXURY GOODS WILL BE ON SALE AGAIN

Import quotas to be issued in December

Import barriers will be eased in January next year to permit the import of a wide variety of luxury and semi-luxury articles.

The Import Control authorities have included the following articles in the list of importable goods for which quotas will be issued in December this year:

Tape recorders, electroplated and silver-plated ware and EPNS ware; floor tiles; carpets, rugs and floor cov-

erings; costume jewellery, cultured pearls etc; cigarettes and cigarette lighters, cameras and accessories, images, statues and curios; refrigerators and air conditioners; plastic manufacturers and domestic goods.

Wrist watches (over Rs. 200 c.i.f. value); fountain pens (over Rs. 5 c.i.f. value); table fans; electrical appliances for domestic use (washing machines, cookers etc.); fancy electrical goods (chan-

deliers, pendant lamps); textiles (over Rs. 2 per yard including sarees and other high quality textiles, clothing, readymade garments (including suits, dresses etc.); chocolates and confectionery; coffee and substitutes; fresh fruits (apples, grapes etc.); tinned fruits; jams and marmalades; soups (packeted and tinned) and footwear.

The import of all these articles was prohibited from either January 1961 or Octo-

ber 1962.

On the basis of the Finance Minister's Foreign Exchange Budget, it was found that Rs. 15 million worth of luxury and semi-luxury goods could be allowed into the country.

Government sources told the "Daily News" that the decision to permit these articles into the country was taken in view of the fact that some scrupulous parties are selling some of these articles at fancy prices.

the strength of the ban imposed on their import.

The sources said that the government anticipated a revenue of Rs. 42 million in the shape of duties on these articles although the foreign exchange going out of the country was only Rs. 15 million. The Customs duties on these articles could be very high, ranging from 200 to 500 per cent.

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Buffalo on rampage in Kollupitiya: five persons hurt

FIVE people - a man, two children and two women - were injured and four cars and a row of cycles smashed when a buffalo went on the rampage opposite the office of the Indian High Commission, Kollupitiya, yesterday morning.

A POSSE of nearly 20 constables and two sub-Inspectors watched helplessly while hundreds of spectators came to watch scattered in panic in all directions. The scene was reminiscent of the opening of a bull-fighting season in a Spanish town when bulls are let loose for the townsmen to play at matadors in the streets - only, no amateur bull-fighters emerged and the buffalo had a field day.



The enraged buffalo which ran amok in the heart of Kollupitiya yesterday. Picture above: Among its victims was 50-year-old Suppiah Chettiar (above) who tries desperately to run away.



Balked by a motor car from killing him, the buffalo charges the crowd who are watching.



• ODD SPOT Some darkness please

A small electric light has been burning at the entrance to the Food Ministry for a week now - continuously, day and night. The official explanation is that there is something wrong with the switch and that the roof is too high to get the bulb off. Can someone shed some darkness on this?

Budget gap for 1962-63 Rs. 51m. more

The difference between the estimated revenue and the revised estimates of revenue for the financial year 1962-63, which ends this month is in the region of Rs. 61.9 million, Central Bank sources revealed yesterday.

The original budget estimates envisaged a revenue of Rs. 1,716.9 million while the revised estimates show a revenue of only Rs. 1,655 million.

Expenditure, too, has fallen short by Rs. 10.2 million of the original estimate, which

stood at Rs. 2,180.2 million. According to revised estimates the expenditure for the financial year 1962-63 is Rs. 2,170 million.

Deficit now Rs. 515 m.

Thus the budget deficit for 1962-63 had risen by Rs. 51.7 million from the original Rs. 463.3 million to Rs. 515 million.

The Finance Minister, when he introduced the budget in 1962 expected foreign aid to

the tune of Rs. 150 million to fill a part of the deficit. According to revised estimates foreign aid stands at Rs. 100 million.

He also estimated Rs. 40 million from the domestic market borrowing leaving an unbridgeable gap of Rs. 133 million. According to revised estimates Rs. 200 million will be from borrowing through local loans, Rs. 150 million from Treasury bills and Rs. 45 million from administrative borrowing and reduction of cash balances.



The buffalo is finally shot down near the New Town Hall.

OILMEN TO GIFT ONE DAY'S PAY

At a meeting held at the Ceylon Petroleum Corporation, Matara. It was resolved that the staff and workers of the local depot should donate a day's pay every month to make up for the stoppage of American aid to Ceylon. This donation is to continue every month until such time

as the financial position of the country comes to normal.

Nurses too

Kotte: The All-Ceylon Nurses' Union has decided to donate a day's salary of the entire membership of 2,000 to help the Government to

overcome the situation that has arisen consequent to stoppage of American Aid to Ceylon.

Mr. W. Leo Fernando, General Secretary of the Union told the "Daily News" that the Prime Minister, Mrs. Sirima Bandaranaike has been informed of the union's de-

cision.

The letter sent to the Prime Minister states: The All-Ceylon Nurses' Union while categorically endorsing the firm attitude taken by your Government on the stoppage of American aid to Ceylon, pledges unstinted co-operation to overcome the situation in whatever possible manner that may

arise consequent to the action of the American Government.

"We are aware that a day's salary of our membership will not suffice to meet the gap - but our motive is to set an example that the Ceylonese are prepared to make sacrifices in whatever measure, in the interest of national freedom."

TREASURY ASKS: WHY NO INTERNAL AUDIT?

The Treasury has asked the Director of Agriculture to explain why the Department has taken no steps to establish an internal audit section.

This action of the Treasury follows a report made by the Acting Auditor General, Mr. B. L. W. Fernando, that although the Auditor General's Department has been agitating since 1956 for the setting up of such an internal audit section in the Agricultural Department no action has been taken by the department to do so.

A government spokesman told the "Daily News" that the Agricultural Department has nearly 400 revenue earning units but has not had an internal audit section to supervise these units which includes all the state farms and other animal husbandry projects. The department has been provided with new staff but the staff has been utilised for other work, according to government sources.

LANKA LAUGHS...



"I think my birthday gift to Betty is the best - two pounds of sugar!"



Central Bank of Sri Lanka Retrospect

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BOMB ROCKS FORT

Terrorist suicide squad rams building in explosive filled truck

Bomb rips Central Bank, fires spread to Ceylinco and other buildings



Most people had eye injuries. Apparently, they had looked up for falling objects. Some girls had their breast cut. Some had stomach injuries. Others had head or feet injuries. Some of the gashes were to horrible to look at.

Several foreigners were among those who sought treatment at Colombo hospitals.

In the Colombo General Hospital, blood was splattered all over the floors and the lifts. Blood soaked rags and clothes were seen everywhere.

Patients could not be identified by name, but only by number.

There were two or three patients on a single bed. Some sat on the floors.

By 12 noon, the raging fire at the Central



finding hydrants. Besides water pressure was very low", Fire Chief Jayantha Kanangara told one of our reporters.

Fire fighters backed by hundreds of security personnel made a valiant effort to douse the flames of all buildings by evening. Several helicopters defied billowing black fumes and searing heat to drop aquafoam on the inferno.

Official sources said Central Bank Governor A.S. Jayawardane, who was inside the building at the time of the explosion, escaped unhurt and assisted in the rescue effort. Among these rescued from the Ceylinco building was its Chairman, Lalith Kotelawala. He was later operated on at the General Hospital and was reported to be out of danger. Two women were rescued late in the evening from the ABN AMRO building and the Mercantile Building.

Rescue officials said their efforts will continue throughout the night and today as well.

The city and the environs were quickly deserted of its one million inhabitants as news of the explosion and fires spread.

Public transport was totally inadequate to meet the crisis and most workers were compelled to walk at least part of their way home.

Meanwhile, the Defence Ministry made an appeal to the public to remain calm and keep from entering the cordoned off area.



A POWERFUL bomb that exploded at the Central Bank building about 10.50 a.m. yesterday saw the Bank building, Ceylinco House opposite it and a row of adjoining smaller buildings engulfed in thick smoke and flames within minutes.

The bomb attack, widely believed to be the work of the LTTE was described by security sources as the most powerful one set off in terrorist attacks in the city so far.

According to eye witness accounts, an LTTE suicide squad had driven an explosives-packed truck into the Central Bank building firing at the security guards as

they moved in. The devastating explosion had occurred seconds later causing an inferno. They are believed to have used a RPG to destroy the front barrier before moving in.

The latest reports put the death toll at 60 and the injured at 1,150. Nearly 100 persons are reported to be in a serious condition. The magisterial inquiry revealed a death toll of 51 (see report below).

The vibration triggered by the explosion damaged many buildings in the city's commercial centre. Hundreds of their occupants were injured by the fly-

ing glass splinters and falling debris. Among the buildings damaged were Mercantile Building, Ceylon Hotels Corporation, ABN AMRO, Cargo Board, George Steiner, Lanka a

A laminated card found at the scene of the blast had carried the message that the vehicle was carrying 4,000



ing glass splinters and falling debris. Among the buildings damaged were Mercantile Building, Ceylon Hotels Corporation, ABN AMRO, Cargo Board, George Steiner, Lanka a

disrupted for some time.

The staff of the General Hospital and several other hospitals were working feverishly. Doctors attended to more serious injuries, nurses and attendants were engaged in treating the others.



kilos of explosives and any attempt to stop it would lead to the detonation of the explosives. The message was in Sinhala, Tamil and English.

The impact of the blast was heard as far as Ratmalana. Several residents were shaken and the city police supplied first aid to community members who were

Bank building had reached the topmost storey and tongues of flames were seen issuing forth from the windows. Mean-



while the other high rise, the Ceylinco House was enveloped in thick smoke and several trapped employees were seen on the topmost 'Akasa Kade' frantically calling for rescue.

The city fire brigade reached the scene within 10 minutes of the explosions. But fire fighting and rescue operations were stalled for several precious minutes by some initial problems, eye witnesses said.

"We had difficulty in



Glass windows of Hotel Ceylon Inter-Continental and Galadari Hotel were damaged. The World Trade Centre and the Bank of Ceylon Headquarters suffered slight damage. The of-



THREE MONTHS REMEMBRANCE



CENTRAL BANK OF SRI LANKA

It is with deep sorrow that the Central Bank of Sri Lanka remembers the demise of its employees as a result of the explosion which occurred opposite the Bank on 31st January, 1996.

On the occasion of the completion of three months of this unfortunate incident Homage is paid to the following deceased officers who were so dear to us in the Bank.

1. Mr. S A Somaratne	Banking Department
2. Mrs. Ira Amarasinghe	Currency Department
3. Mr. P H Dhanasiri	-- do --
4. Mr. W W Weerasinghe	-- do --
5. Mrs. Sriyani Hamid	Development Finance Department
6. Mrs. P S Nelum Karunaweera	-- do --
7. Mr. H Palangasinghe	-- do --
8. Mr. P Samaragunaratne	-- do --
9. Mr. K D Silva	-- do --
10. Mrs. Soma P Weerasinghe	-- do --
11. Mr. M C Wimalasena	-- do --
12. Mr. D Alahakoon	Employees Provident Fund
13. Mr. Robert de Alwis	-- do --
14. Mr. H M D Chandrathilake	-- do --
15. Mr. D Vidyaratne	Exchange Control Department
16. Mrs. Shirani N Cooray	Information Department
17. Mr. H Dayananda	-- do --
18. Mrs. Ranjani Fernando	-- do --
19. Mrs. Nirmala Fernandopulle	-- do --
20. Mr. S A Karunaratne	-- do --
21. Mr. N B Peiris	-- do --
22. Mr. W A Shantha	-- do --
23. Miss K V Srma F de Soysa	-- do --
24. Mr. H A Thillakarathne	-- do --
25. Mrs. B Padma Wickramasinghe	-- do --
26. Mr. J Senanayake	Public Debt Department
27. Mr. S L Yahampath	Premises Department
28. Mr. M D Piyasena	-- do --
29. Mr. K U Dabarera	Secretariat Department
30. Mr. S Chandrasiri	Security Services Department
31. Mr. D Ekanayake	-- do --
32. Mr. W M Gunapala	-- do --
33. Mr. K Ratnapriya	-- do --
34. Mr. J Susantha Pushpakumara	-- do --
35. Mrs. Kamala Thambirajah	Supervision of Non Banks Financial Institutions Dept.
36. Mrs. Vinifreda Vithanage	Statistics Department
37. Mrs. P Nita Hapuarachchi	Training Department
38. Mrs. Violet Ranasinghe	-- do --
39. Mr. S Vishnumohan	-- do --
40. Mr. K M P Wijekoon	-- do --
41. Mr. J Bandara Wijekoon	-- do --

The dedicated services rendered by them will be long remembered by all. The loss, the agony and the pain of mind experienced by their spouses and children and family members, relatives, friends and colleagues, cannot be measured. The Central Bank of Sri Lanka notes with a deep sense of appreciation their services rendered and extends its sympathies to all of them.

Central Bank of Sri Lanka
1st May, 1996.

Govt. decides to accord a state funeral President Jayawardene passes away



The Cabinet yesterday decided to accord a state funeral to Sri Lanka's first executive President J.R. Jayawardene who died at 12.10 last afternoon.

The funeral will take place on Monday at the Independence Square, Public Administration, Home Affairs and Plantation Industries Minister Ratnasiri Wickremarajasinghe said.

He appealed to government departments and the public to fly the National flag at half-mast.

All-island 4-hour power cut from March 22

The Ceylon Electricity Board (CEB) yesterday announced government plans to impose an island wide maximum four hour-day-time-power cut beginning March 22 in a bid to mitigate an impending power crisis.

"Eighty four percent of the total power generated in the country is

hydro-based and the water levels of the reservoirs are critically low," the CEB said.

CEB Chairman Dr. Leslie Herath added: "If we are to supply the total demand as of now, the water available in the reservoirs is sufficient to meet the demand only up to April 22." In a Press release the CEB

chairman said. In view of the failure of the North East monsoons, the water levels in the reservoirs are depleting at a rapid rate. Due to these conditions, Government took a series of decisions in early February to mitigate the impending power crisis.

Queen Elizabeth deeply shocked by bomb incident

QUEEN Elizabeth in a message to President Chandrika Bandaranaike Kumaratunga said "I was deeply shocked to learn of Wednesday's bomb incident in Colombo, which took the lives of over 70 people and injured many others. This is a terrible tragedy for your country. Please convey my deepest sympathy to the families of the deceased at this very distressing time for them, together with my good wishes to the injured for a speedy recovery".

Central Bank Bombing... Callous disregard for civilians' safety - US state Department

The Clinton Administration here Wednesday strongly condemned the bombing on Jan. 31 by a suicide truck that devastated the heart of Colombo and killed 70 people. "We extend our condolence to all the persons and families affected by this violence, who are the latest victims of Sri Lanka's long-standing ethnic conflict," he said.

Export Sector - the strongest point Sri Lankan economy will rebound - IMF



IMF Resident Representative Mr. Thomas Morrison: great potential for rapid growth is not fully exploited.

INTERNATIONAL Monetary Fund (IMF) Resident Representative Thomas Morrison who on Thursday released his mission's annual report for the financial year ending April 1996 said Sri Lanka's economy which took some shocks this year will rebound in the coming years.

Morrison said: "it (the economy) took some shocks this year, drought, power cuts, shortfall in agricultural production, war, decline in tourist arrivals etc. These have affected the growth rate, which has been estimated to be 3.5 to 4 per cent of the Gross Domestic Product.

This is 1.5 to 1 per cent below the 5 per cent growth recorded in 1995. Sri Lankan economy had averaged a 5 per cent growth in the past 5 years.

He said with favourable weather and an end to the war the economy will rebound.

"Sri Lanka has great potential for

rapid growth. But unfortunately that potential has not been exploited fully," Morrison said.

He said the export sector is the strong point in the Lankan economy. It has performed well and has the potential to do so in the future too.

The areas that need more attention are the budget deficit, civil service wage bill, subsidies and transfer of funds to public sector enterprises.

"These are the areas that need close attention. We of the IMF point out these areas and recommend that they be managed well. We never impose any conditions as some people suggest. It is for your officials to take our advice or not," said Morrison.

Sanath sets 3 World records



SANATH Jayasuriya, Sri Lanka's batting sensation triggered a batting explosion and set up three new world records in one

innings during their Singer trophy match against Pakistan on the Padang in Singapore, yesterday.

The three records that he set up were: 100 in 48 balls, 11 sixes the highest in one/day cricket and 30 runs in one over.

Sri Lanka who made a big 349 for 9 in 50 overs bundled out Pakistan for 315 in 49.4 overs to win by 34 runs.

Prof Pieris directed to inform bank employees No privatization of three major state banks - President

THE government has taken a firm decision not to privatise the three state banks - the Bank of Ceylon, the People's Bank and the National Savings Bank.

President Chandrika Bandaranaike Kumaratunga has instructed the Minister of Justice, Constitutional Affairs and Deputy Minister of Finance, Prof. G L Pieris to make it clear to the bank employees that the Bank of Ceylon, the People's Bank and the National Savings Bank would not be privatized.

Currency issue with new security features

THE Central Bank of Sri Lanka will issue for circulation shortly Sri Lanka Heritage Series currency notes in the denomination of Rs. 1000, Rs. 500, Rs. 100, Rs. 50, Rs. 20 and Rs. 20 bearing the signatures of the President and Minister of Finance Mrs. Chandrika Bandaranaike Kumaratunga and the Governor Mr. S Jayawardena, a Central Bank release said.

Victorious Sri Lankans



Sri Lanka Captain Arjuna Ranatunga holding aloft the Cricket World Cup trophy after they beat Australia yesterday. Sri Lanka won by seven wickets.

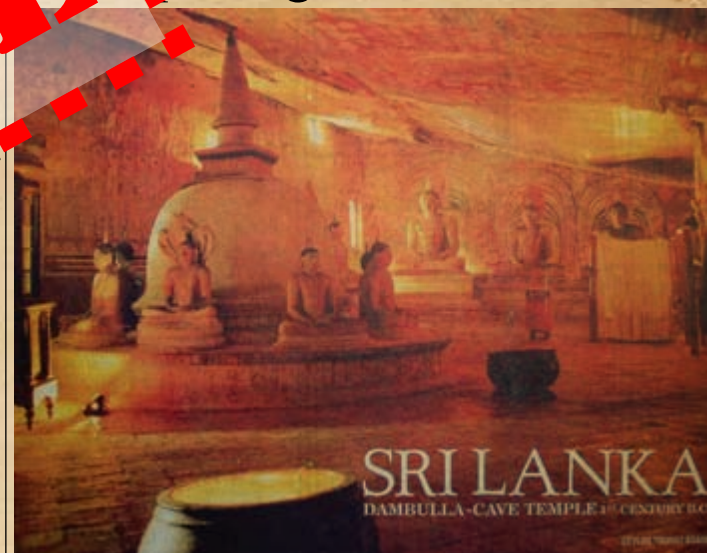
Prabhakaran indicted in High Court First case against LTTE leader - 712 charges filed

THE Attorney-General on Monday filed indictments against LTTE leader Velupillai Prabhakaran and nine other LTTE terrorists for complicity in the Central Bank bombing. The 712 charges were the first time that Prabhakaran has been indicted by a Sri Lankan court under the Prevention of Terrorism Act.



President Chandrika Bandaranaike Kumaratunga pays her respect to Prof. Ediriweera Sarachchandra yesterday at his residence in Pitakotte where his remains lay in state. Prof. Sarachchandra's wife and children are also in the picture.

Tourist Board poster wins prestigious award



CEYLON TOURIST BOARD has won the prestigious first prize for Dambulla Cave Temple Travel poster at the World Tourism Organisation - WTO - Poster Contest held at WTO 11th general assembly in Cairo, Egypt recently.

Sri Lanka's entry was among 226 posters submitted by many countries. The second, third and fourth prizes were awarded to Finland, Japan and France.