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The Island



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Never rob a bank without the right condiment



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The longest place name in Sri Lanka

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Indigenous Medicine Ministry faces problems over need

by Dilanthi Jayamanne

The Ministry of Indigenous Medicine will need about twenty acres of land to cultivate cannabis (ganja), an ingredient in a number of Ayurvedic drug preparations. There are around 22 types of drugs which require

cannabis.

The Ministry and the Department of Ayurvedha have their hands tied as cannabis is among the dangerous drugs and has been declared illegal in Sri Lanka, Secretary Ministry of Indigenous Medicine, Asoka Malimage told *The Island* yesterday.

“We have to consider the security side of cultivating cannabis even if it is for medicinal purposes. People are sure to misuse the permission granted to cultivate the psychoactive drug.

The Minister has forwarded a Cabinet Paper requesting permission to cultivate cannabis.

India has already granted permission to cultivate cannabis for ayurvedic preparations. The Secretary said he was in touch with his Indian counterpart to acquire details.

The existing requirement for cannabis is around 5,000 kilos. The Ayurvedha Commissioner,



Deputy Tourism Minister Faizer Mustapha, Chief Minister of Eastern Province S. Chandrakanthan and a member of his staff K. Nandakopan in conversation at the VIP Lounge of the BIA on Sunday prior to enplaning for Tokyo to attend the JATA Travel Fair.

Eastern tourism will gain from C'kanthan's Tokyo visit – Mustapha

by Harishchandra Gunaratna

tourist resorts in the East such as Nilaveli, Passekudah and Amarambaya.

Army 5.5 km from K'nochi

by Harishchandra Gunaratna

The army was consolidating its positions in newly gained territory 5.5 km away from the Kilinochchi town, having advanced six km into the LTTE stronghold east of Akkarayankulam, which was captured recently. Troops are now two kilometres west of the Murukkandi Hindu temple close to the A-9 highway.

The 57 Division of the army led by Maj. General Jagath Dias overcame stiff resistance

LTTE cadres soldiers were

Ground putting up h to thwart th ing day and Military Sp told *The Isl* the army w The LTTE h ing troops. was only a