

White Lorry from Dubai...
 One way
Rs. 15,800/-
 Return
Rs. 31,100/-
 NEER LANKA

The Island

White Lorry from Trichy...
 One way
Rs. 7,800/-
 Return
Rs. 15,400/-
 NEER LANKA

Pig flu makes the Tigers eat grass
 Page 10

Cambridge by the Mahaweli
 Mid week

A hornet's sting can kill
 Leisure Land

Vol. 28 No. 139 Wednesday 29th April, 2009. 32 Pages Rs. 20 Registered in Sri Lanka as a Newspaper - Late City Edition

LTTE lorry-bomb attack thwarted
Troops capture 700-foot earth bund
 by Mike Andree

The army yesterday thwarted a desperate LTTE attempt to target troops with an explosive laden lorry by firing on it as it sped towards them from the 'No fire zone' south of Valaynamadam.

The LTTE attempt came hours after the government announced an end to combat operations and minutes after the troops, continuing their rescue operation, captured a 700-foot long earth bund built by the Tigers across Rektavaikkal in the NFZ to protect a tiny strip of land where the LTTE leadership and its remaining cadres are holed up.

Troops had found the bodies of seven Tigers, a multi purpose machine gun (MPMG), three I-com sets, ammunition and other LTTE

Continued on page 4

I want Prabhakaran captured alive, says President
 by S. Venkat Narayan
 Our Special Correspondent

NEW DELHI, April 28: Sri Lankan President Mahinda Rajapaksa says he wants to catch LTTE leader Velupillai Prabhakaran alive.

In an interview broadcast today on CNN-IBN, an Indian television channel, he said he will first put Prabhakaran on trial in Sri Lanka for the innumerable killings and other crimes committed, and then extradite him to India, where he is wanted for the assassination of former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi at an election rally at Sriperumbudur near Chennai in May 1991.

Rajapaksa said Prabhakaran and some of his close associates are still in the No Fire Zone (NFZ). "We have asked them to lay down their arms and

surrender. They have never done that. We are waiting. Either they have to surrender or face the army. That's all."

The president went on: "Now it's almost over for them. They have to surrender. There is no option for them. This is only a six-square km area. We will be cleaning it up. We will continue the operations till the last hostage is taken out from the LTTE hold."

Question: Will you extradite him to India?
Rajapaksa: First he has to go through our trial. Then we might send him there. I think India has a right because he is the man who killed Rajiv Gandhi, one of the greatest leaders in India.

Continued on page 4

Resettlement in North begins tomorrow
 by Franklin R. Satyapalan

The government would commence its programme to resettle IDPs from the Mannar District tomorrow (30) with the participation of high ranking politicians, Presidential Secretariat sources said yesterday.

Minister of Resettlement and Disaster Relief Services Rishard A. Badhuiden said the Treasury would meet the initial cost of the resettlement programme. The Resettlement of IDPs under the *Uthuru Vasanthaye* programme is implemented on the lines of the *Nagenahira Navodaya* Programme in the Eastern Province.

Continued on page 4



Bhikkhus of the *Jathika Hela Urumaya* walk along the streets of Colombo yesterday collecting relief for the internally displaced people in the North. (Pic by Kamal Wanniarachchi)

National problem shouldn't have been internationalised - Ranil
 by Cyril Wimalasurendre

Kandy - United National Party and Opposition Leader Ranil Wickremesinghe said yesterday afternoon that the national problem should not have been allowed to go beyond Sri Lankan shores.

The country's internal problem had now gone to the entire world including India, Bangladesh and many other countries of the East and West, Wickremesinghe said at a meeting held at Sri Puspapada Society hall.

Attorney-at-law Lal Wijenayake chaired the meeting organised by

Continued on page 4

Prasanna to be sworn in as CM
 by Iham Nizam

Prasanna Ranatunga, who bagged the highest number of votes (186,000) at the Western Provincial Council election representing the Gampaha District, will be sworn in as the Chief Minister on May 4. *The Island* learns.

The two bonus seats that the UPFA

Continued on page 4

Sunethra' claim on Anura's estate challenged
 by Priyalal Sirisena

Four persons including some staff members of the late Anura Bandaranaike have filed petitions in the District Court of Colombo claiming that they have inherited the estate of the late Bandaranaike through his Last Will. They have challenged the papers filed by Sunethra Bandaranaike, who claimed

that the property of Anura Bandaranaike had to be divided between her and her sister Chandrika Bandaranaike.

Anura Bandaranaike passed away on March 16 2008. Sunethra Bandaranaike earlier told Court that no one had so far claimed the

Continued on page 4

SPC, UPC to be dissolved in Aug
 by Anura Balasuriya

The Southern and Uva Provincial Councils will be dissolved in August. Government sources said yesterday.

The elections to the two Provincial Councils would be held in October this year, they said.

The terms of these two councils end in August and September.

Prabhakaran's armour plated truck found

by Harischandra Gunaratna

Advancing troops of the army's 58 Division yesterday recovered an improvised armour plated six wheel truck used in the recent past to transport Tiger leader Prabhakaran and other key members across uncleared areas. The vehicle had been designed to resemble an armoured car used by the troops but failed to achieve its objective in the end military sources said. Before the Tigers abandoned this vehicle they had removed the gun mounted on it and used it to

attack the advancing troops. The 25 metre long vehicle had been built with one-inch thick steel plates.

"The front of the vehicle very much resembles a modern electric train and possesses a powerful communication antennae sprouting out from in front of the driver's seat.

According to military sources Prabhakaran and the handful of his confidantes have fled Valaynamadam and are now holed up in the Irattavaikkal area.

Continued on page 4

Cooray crestfallen, Prasanna upbeat
Reginold complains of intra-party conspiracy
 See Page 4

Govt rejects claim it denied Swedish FM visa

The government yesterday rejected claims that it had denied Swedish Foreign Minister Carl Bildt a visa to visit Sri Lanka. The Foreign Ministry said that the allegation was baseless as there had been no formal application received for a visa by the Sri Lanka Embassy in Stockholm.

"At no instance did the Sri Lanka Government deny entry to Minister Bildt. In fact, an invitation had been

extended by Foreign Minister Rohitha Bogogallama, to his Swedish counterpart to visit Sri Lanka in early May," a statement issued by the Foreign Ministry said.

It added: Further it may note that when the visits by the Foreign Minister of France and the British Foreign Secretary were discussed with

Continued on page 4

All Incoming FREE

www.island.lk

REPO RATES
 Per Annum

Amount	0.1-1M	1.0-5 M	5.0-50M
01 Month	8.00%	9.00%	10.00%
03 Month	11.00%	12.00%	13.00%
06 Month	12.00%	13.00%	14.00%
12 Month	13.00%	14.00%	15.00%

All Investments Are Collateralized By Government Treasury Bills
 New Yield List 2009/0102

For Details Call 2303050