



Leisure Land

The 'Malwana Special' is here to make your mouth water

# The Island

Vol. 28 No. 208 Monday 20th July, 2009, 28 Pages Rs. 20 Registered in Sri Lanka as a Newspaper - Late City Edition

Page 10 Saradiel biting his mother's ear



Page 12 One Nation: diversity and multiculturalism

Vaas to retire from Tests See Page 16

**Canned fish for Lanka though local fish production up**  
by Shamindra Ferdinando

W. K. K. Ramasiri, Secretary to the Ministry of Fisheries Building said that Sri Lanka had no option but to accept whatever given by the international community in support of the country's efforts to look after nearly 280,000 persons accommodated at welfare centres in the north.

He said that Sri Lanka had received 130 metric tons of canned fish from the WFP following a USD 7.4 million (Rs. 833 million) grant made by the government of Japan to the UN agency.

He was responding to the Island query whether Sri Lanka should have utilized these funds to meet some other needs of the displaced since they could have drained stocks locally as fish production had recorded an unprecedented increase due to the removal of fishing restrictions.

The official said that, as they had to provide three meals a day to the displaced, they would accept any food items given by the international community.

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# Ties depend on welfare of Tamils

## Manmohan tells Rajapaksa

Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh has said that the manner in which Sri Lanka addresses the legitimate concerns of the Tamil population would have a bearing on the relationship between the two countries.

We are deeply concerned. I explained to him (Sri Lanka President Mahinda Rajapaksa) we have legitimate concerns about the welfare of Sri Lankan Tamils. It has a bearing on Sri Lanka's relations with India. The Hindu in a July 18 dated line.



President Rajapaksa meets with Indian PM Dr. Manmohan Singh in Egypt on the sidelines of the NAM summit. (Photo Sudath Silva)

Continued on page 2



Chief of Defence Staff Gen. Sarath Fonseka greets newly appointed Navy Commander Vice Admiral Thirasa Samarasinghe at the Joint Operations Headquarters at a meeting on Friday. (Navy Media)



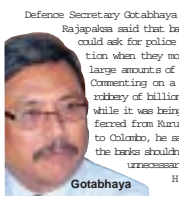
Two months after the annihilation of the LTTE leadership on the banks of the Nanthikadal lagoon, the army continues to recover large quantities of arms, ammunition and equipment. The Task Force VII engaged in clearing operations in Pattukudittipali east over a week ago recovered five anti-aircraft missiles. (Pic Courtesy Army)

**South Korea deploys cloned drug-sniffing dogs**  
SEOUL, South Korea (AP) - South Korea has put cloned dogs on patrol to sniff out drugs at customs. Six genetic duplicates of a single Labrador retriever have been working at the country's main Incheon international airport and three other

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# Gota offers to help banks transfer cash safely

by Norman Palihawadana



Gotabhaya

Defence Secretary Gotabhaya Rajapaksa said that banks could ask for police protection when they moved large amounts of cash. Commenting on a recent robbery of billion rupees while it was being transferred from Kurunegala to Colombo, he said that the banks should take unnecessary risks.

He said that the police would help banks as private security firms could not be entrusted with the responsibility of transferring cash. The Defence Secretary also said that an employee of the private security firm hired by the Nations Trust Bank and Hutton National Bank to move cash from Kurunegala to Colombo, too, had been involved in the abhorrent robbery.

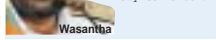
Among the six suspects now in custody are three ex-SLAF officers. The police identified the employee of the private firm involved in this connection, too, as an ex-SLAF officer.

Continued on page 2

# Karannagoda Highways Secy

by Shiran Ranasinghe  
Former Navy Commander Admiral W. Wasantha Karannagoda has been appointed Secretary to the Ministry of Road and Highways Development and he is expected to assume duties today at 10.30 am at Sethupaya.

He also functions as the National Security Adviser. Admiral Karannagoda said that the development of the road network was crucial in all development programmes and therefore he would accept the new post and do his utmost for the country which he served as the Navy Commander.



Wasantha

# Loku Bandara 'in our pocket shortly' - Nimal

Health Minister Nimal Siripala de Silva said that new that Uthth Lokubandara had switched allegiance to the ruling coalition. Speaker W. J. M. de Silva, however, would follow shortly.

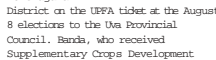
Addressing an UPFA propaganda rally at Halangetta in the Kegalle electorate last Thursday, the Badulla District SPP leader said that Lokubandara would join the UPFA alliance. He said that Lokubandara would be in our pocket shortly. (SP)



Speaker

# Now, UNP dissident's son on UPFA list

UNP dissident R. M. Dharmadasa's son Harinda alias Sudu Mahattaya contest the Moneragala District on the UPFA ticket at the August 8 elections to the Va Provincial Council. Harinda, who received Supplementary Crops Development portfolio after switching allegiance to President Mahinda Rajapaksa in January 2006 appointed Harinda as his private secretary. (DE)



Harinda Dharmadasa

# Cuban biologists missing

Two top Cuban biologists who were scheduled to arrive in Colombo last Saturday (July 18) to study the use of EMT (Eucalyptus Thymus Isoselinensis) to combat dengue did not turn up. A senior Health Ministry official told the Island that though the Cuban embassy in Colombo informed the ministry of their arrival Saturday morning on a business flight from Dubai, they were yet to come. He said that a check revealed though they had left Havana, they had not reached Dubai. According to him, the embassy said that they could come next Tuesday (July 21) though there was no confirmation. (SP)

# Two die in gang warfare - police

The police said that two persons in their early 50s had been shot dead at Mahawatte in the Grandpass police area over the weekend. A senior police official told the Island that this was due to a dispute between two gangs operating in the area. Meanwhile, the police arrested six gangsters during an operation conducted in the Modera area. (NP)

# 'Lankan refugees in TN won't be sent back forcibly'

Sri Lankan refugees in Tamil Nadu would not be sent back forcibly, but if they wanted to return home, the State government would not stand in their way, Tamil Nadu Government's Finance Minister K. Anbazhagan said on Friday in the TN Assembly.

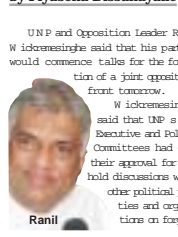
Speaking in a debate on demands for grants on the Public Department, Mr. Anbazhagan said neither the Centre nor the State government was for sending the refugees back to Sri Lanka. But if they wanted to rejoin

their relatives in the island, the government would not prevent them from doing so. Explaining the various steps taken by the government to improve the basic amenities at various refugee camps in the State, the Minister said that in the current year the government had allocated Rs. 55.48 crore for providing assistance to the refugees.

'Lankan ... It had incurred an expense ... Continued on page 2

# Ranil gets party nod to forge alliance to defeat govt.

by Piyasena Dissanayake



Ranil

UNP and Opposition Leader Ranil Wickremesinghe said that his party would commence talks for the formation of a joint opposition front tomorrow. Wickremesinghe said that UNP's Executive and Political Committees had given their approval for him to hold discussions with other political parties and organizations on forging a new alliance to defeat the government.

Discussions with other parties would focus on the issues such as the abolition of the executive presidency, creating an economic environment to facilitate the working of a market-driven economy, he said. The Opposition Leader was speaking on Saturday at a meeting with UNP Moneragala District candidates contesting the forthcoming elections to the Va Provincial Council.

Ranil ... Continued on page 2

# Herath completes 1,000th jump

Wing Commander Harishchandra Herath of the Sri Lanka Air Force on Saturday became the first Sri Lankan to complete 1,000 parachute jumps.

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