



Shortcomings of Aluthgama National School

See page 7

The Island

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Page 10 Opposition requires positive campaign to improve performance

Page 12 St. Jeanne Jugan - Across the Shores of Misery

Page 14 Tiger seals US win

Fonseka proud to have led Army

by Harischandra Gunaratna

Chief of Defence Staff General Sarath Fonseka yesterday said he was proud to have led the Army in its victorious war against terrorism.

He said, "I am proud to have commanded the victorious Army against the LTTE in Eelam War IV to save the country. During my tenure of three years and seven months as the Army Commander, I ensured that the Sri Lanka Army became almost the best Army in the world."



Fonseka

Wait and see

Asked whether he would accept the appointment as Secretary to the Sports Ministry, General Fonseka said, "You will have to wait and see."

Responding to a question whether he had declined the offer made by the President, he replied in the negative and said "I never told the President that I will not accept the post but some other party with whom I happened to talk had told President that I declined the offer."

Continued on page 4

'Move to change ethnic ratio in Vanni': Govt. rejects TNA charge

by Shamindra Ferdinando

Government sources yesterday said that there was absolutely no truth in the allegation that it planned to settle Sinhalese in the post-war Kilinochchi and Mullaitivu districts.

The allegation had been made by the TNA at a meeting with a visiting delegation of Tamil Nadu MPs at India House in Colombo. This was nothing but a barefaced lie, ministerial sources told The Island adding that the TNA had recently pledged to work with the government to resettle the war displaced. This understanding had been reached at a meeting chaired by President Mahinda Rajapaksa and Basil Rajapaksa, the senior official in charge of resettlement and rehabilitation.

Sources accused the TNA of taking advantage of Saturday's meeting with visiting Tamil Nadu politicians to embarrass the government. In fact, UPFA spokesman Minister Dallas Alahapperuma told a recent press conference at the Mahaweli Centre the government would not in anyway try to change the ethnic ratio in the northern and eastern provinces.

Alahapperuma had said that not a single outsider had been allowed to settle in the East where resettlement process was nearing completion. The government's strategy in the north, too, would be the same.

Sources said that there was nothing clandestine about Sri Lanka's resettlement and rehabilitation process.

The TNA had also alleged that action had not been taken to clear mines in the Kilinochchi and Mullaitivu districts.

Continued on page 4



'I would rather do this to the Opposition'

President Mahinda Rajapaksa yesterday declared open the Vernon U. Fernando Football Stadium in Kalutara built by the Sri Lanka Football Federation in collaboration with the International Football Federation and Asian Football Federation. He dribbles the ball (Photo-KamalBogoda)

Let IDPs live in any part of country among Sinhala brethren - TN MPs

See Page 4

Lanka to do its own Melamine testing

by Dilanthi Jayamanne

The Government Analyst's Department will be able to carry out melamine tests in future as it has now received the necessary equipment. Sri Lanka has been sending all imported milk food and milk products to Malaysia and Singapore for melamine testing at a cost of Rs. 50,000 per test.

The Health Ministry said yesterday (12) the melamine could be tested locally at a cost of Rs. 5,000.

Thirty countries including Sri Lanka last year restricted Chinese dairy products after 53,000 Chinese babies were detected with kidney ailments after consuming adulterated infant formula foods.

by Anjula Nishantha, Talduva Corr

Avisawella High Court Judge Ruvani Fernando yesterday ordered the Kaduwela Magistrate to enlarge on bail the 10 suspects including the wife and son of SSP Vaas Gunawardena who were in remand over the alleged assault on Malambe SLIT student Nipuna Ramanayake.

The suspects were the wife of former chief of Colombo Crime Division SSP Vaas Gunawardena, Shyamali Priyadarshani Perera and their son Ravindu Gunawardena, Police Sub

All suspects in student assault case allowed bail

Inspectors Pushpakumara, Lalith Vitana, Chandima Sarathchandra and Police Constables Janith Priyankara, Lakshman Tilakarathne, S a m a n t h a Dissanayake, N a n d a n a Jayalath and R a n j u l a Pushpakumara.

The order was delivered following an appeal filed by the suspects seeking bail.

Judge further ordered the suspects not to leave the country and to appear twice a month at the Athurugiriya Police.

Although bail was granted yesterday by the Avisawella

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Continued on page 2

Another egg on Mutuhettigama's face

Controversial Galle UPFA politician Nishantha Mutuhettigama, who had to eat a great deal of humble pie at the tender hands of popular actress Anarkali in the run up to Saturday's polls, had egg on his face for a second time, when he failed to poll the highest number of preferential votes in spite of a vow in public to do so. Earlier, in the race he had said he would resign from the Council if he failed to secure the most number of preferential votes and become Chief Minister. He also offered ten million rupees to his bete noire Krishantha Pushpakumara from the UNP if the latter topped the UNP list.

Krishantha took up the gauntlet but offered to settle for less—only one hundred rupees from Mutuhettigama—but offered one million rupees if the latter achieved his goal.

Nishantha came first on the UNP list but Mutuhettigama got beaten by two other candidates.

Continued on page 2

Galle DS complains of death threat by S. K. Kaluarachi and Lalith Chaminda, Galle Corrs.

Galle District Secretary Asoka Jayasekera has complained to the Galle DIG that Provincial Councillor Nishantha Mutuhettigama threatened him with death.

Continued on page 2

Eight-hour booze binge killed Boyzone's Stephen Gately

Monday, October 12: London (ANI): Late singer Stephen Gately from the band Boyzone died because of an eight-hour drinking binge, it has emerged. The pop star had gone on a night out with civil partner Andy Cowles to the gay club 'Black Cat' at Majorca's capital Palma.

The pair was reportedly seen gulping down potent cocktails and white wine in the bar. Later, they

met 25-year-old Bulgarian Giorgi Ducheve, with whom they returned to their 1-million-pound apartment to continue drinking, reports The Sun. A partygoer, who shared a drink with them, said: "Stephen was totally trashed."

Andy had apparently gone off to sleep at around 5.30am, with Stephen lying asleep on a sofa, before finding him dead at mid-day.

Stephen was positioned in a strange "prayer position" - squatting on the floor with his head face down on a pillow on the sofa. Police have suggested he choked on his vomit.



Stephen

Continued on page 2

Police net LTTE's Sinhala spy

by Lasitha Duminda

The police have arrested a Sinhala man who has allegedly supported the LTTE to carry out an attack on the Colombo harbour and other places of economic importance some time ago.

He was arrested in Chilaw by the Kandy District Intelligence Unit on Sunday morning on information provided by an LTTE suspect in detention, police spokesman, Senior Deputy Inspector General Nimal Mediwaka said.

Police said that the suspect had been paid by the LTTE for providing information on key places in Colombo.

Continued on page 4

UNP asks its troops to ready for big battle

by Piyasena Dissanayake

The UNP yesterday asked its party organizers to get ready to face a general election.

General Secretary of the party, MP Tissa Attanayake said that he had informed organizers in writing that there would be a general election soon and the electorate level re-organisation activities must commence immediately. The organizers had been instructed to commence awareness campaigns at grassroots level the following day, he said.

The Party had decided to fill the vacant electorate organizer posts immediately, he said.

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