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8 State class interests and the international politics of South-West Asia



10 Developing Science, Technology, Technical and Vocational Needs of Education



Enough, says Cabraal



Financial Review



Looking for a investment in the global market?



Investment is Defined as current commitment of money or other resources in the hope of getting future benefits. Investment is the context of portfolio management, indicates purchase of shares, bonds, debentures and financial securities with the exception of future return.

Ramazan
Fasting/Prayer Times
September 02-04

Sahar Ends	4.32
Fajr	4.47
Sunrise	6.03
Zuhar	12.12
Asar	3.16
Maghrib	6.18
Isha	7.28


Earl for 18th A



UNP MP Earl Gunasekera would back the proposed 18th Amendment to the Constitution, political sources said.

UNP sources said that the Polonnaruwa District MP had told the party about his move.

JEFF & NUT



- Heroin becomes turmeric at Govt. Analyst's Dept.
- Will we get heroin out if we send turmeric in?

Ingratitude of the adopted

BY NORMAN PALIHAWADANA

A middle-aged woman walked into the office of the Crimes OIC of the Vavuniya Police station and narrated a heart rending story. She told the officer that she adopted the two daughters of her late sister with much difficulty. She said that despite her difficulties she had deposited Rs. 400,000 in each of their savings accounts, while being able to deposit only Rs. 40,000 in her own son's savings book.

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President Mahinda Rajapaksa says his government has brought before the people, a people-centred constitution. "This constitution is for the development of the country. This is not to extend my Presidential term. That is wrong. It is an opportunity to contest an election."


Addressing the 59th anniversary of the SLFP at Temple Trees yesterday, President Rajapaksa said: "We have united this country. Now my task is to take it towards prosperity. The SLFP must strongly contribute to this journey."

Pointing out that under the presented Constitution a person elected President twice will decide. The people will choose who should be elected," he said.

Commenting on the proposed new Parliamentary Council, he said, "This will include the Speaker, Prime Minister, Leader of the Opposition and two from Tamil and Muslim representatives, not representing ethnicities of the first three. The people will give power to Parliament. The parliament is the highest body."

(See page 5)

We've brought a people-centred constitution to build the nation - President



SPC violated FM directives - AG

Loss making public enterprise pays employees' PAYE tax

BY SHAMINDRA FERDINANDO

The Auditor General, S. Swarnajothi, says the State Pharmaceutical Corporation (SPC) has violated financial regulations.

The AG cited four main violations, including payment of SPC employees' PAYE tax in violation of a specific Finance Ministry circular PF/PE/6. According to the AG's report dealing with 2008, the SPC has paid PAYE tax amounting to Rs. 5,422,906.

The other violations are: exceeding the ceiling on loans by Rs 1,196,234,053 and paying bonuses (Rs 24,069,123), attendance allowance (Rs 10,383,191), Medical facilities (Rs 10,953,534) and welfare (Rs 25,292,481).

Continued on page 7



Premier D. M. Jayaratne garlands President Mahinda Rajapaksa at the 59th annual convention of the SLFP at Temple Trees yesterday. (Photo Kamal Bogoda)

Heroin becomes turmeric

BY SAMAN GAMAGE

Three kilos of heroin, seized by police and handed over to the government Analyst's Department for report by the High Court, have mysteriously disappeared.

The consignment of drugs was the material related to 10 cases now on trial at the High Court, the police said.

One kilo of heroin seized from a woman in Kirulapone and sent the Government Analyst's Department for tests had turned to be turmeric when it was brought back to Court, the police said.

Continued on page 7

Complaint of breach of trust Ranjan not present at Katugastota police station

BY CYRIL WIMALASURENDRE



KANDY - Film Star and Parliamentarian Ranjan Ramanayake, who was noticed to be present at the Katugastota Police for recording a statement in connection with a complaint of breach of trust amounting to one million rupees from a female school teacher did not

Ranjan

Continued on page 7

MPCS, PMB commence paddy purchasing in Polonnaruwa

BY LAL GUNASEKERA

Multi-Purpose Cooperative Societies (MPCS), including those in Palugasdamana, Hingurakgoda, Kawudulla, Elahera, Jayanthipura, Dimbulagala and Medirigiriya started purchasing paddy from farmers in the Polonnaruwa District this week. There are 91 MPCS's in the District.

Minister of Cooperatives and Internal Trade, Johnston Fernando, on Wednesday told *The Island* that the purchasing of paddy in the other districts was being done through the MPCS on behalf of the Paddy Marketing Board (PMB) and he would solve the storage problems.

Continued on page 7

JVP to distribute 2 mn leaflets against proposed 18-A


BY DASUN EDIRISINGHE

The JVP yesterday launched a campaign to educate the public on what it called the dangers of proposed 18th Amendment to the Constitution, which envisages far reaching constitutional changes to strengthen the hand of incumbent President Mahinda Rajapaksa.

A spokesman for the JVP said that the party would distribute two million leaflets in Colombo and the provinces as part of its overall campaign against the government's move. The JVP launched the campaign by distributing leaflets opposite the Fort Railway Station yesterday.

JVP General Secretary Tilvin Silva told a public gathering in Colombo, early this week, that the 18th Amendment would lead to a dictatorship. The JVP accused President Mahinda Rajapaksa of trying to consolidate his family rule.

The JVP, early this week, moved the Supreme Court against the government move.



Tilvin Silva and Vijitha Herath distribute leaflets opposite Fort Railway Station on Wednesday. (Photo Kamal Bogoda)

Vote on 18th Amendment set for Sept 8

BY AJITH ALAHAKOON

Political party Leaders yesterday decided to take the vote on the proposed 18th Amendment to the Constitution on September 8. The Parliament will debate the new Amendment before the vote is taken in the evening.

Speaker Chamal Rajapaksa will reveal, to the Parliament on September 7, the opinion of the Supreme Court regarding the new Amendment. Political sources said that the government had decided to call for the vote immediately after the debate, though it had earlier planned to take the vote on September 9.



Blair's revenge on Brown puts Labour on brink of civil war

See WORLD VIEW

Douglas before LLRC

EPDP leader Douglas Devananda will appear before the Lessons Learnt and Reconciliation Commission (LLRC) today (Sept.3 at 2.00 p.m.) at the Kadirgamar Institute for International Relations.



Douglas

Continued on page 7

Militants kill 35 despite floods

LAHORE, Pakistan (AP) - The triple bombing of a religious procession in Pakistan adds to the strains on a government already struggling with devastating floods and shows that Islamist militants are back in business despite the natural disaster.

The death toll in the blasts rose to 35 on Thursday, with about 250 injured, government official Sajjad Bhutta said.

The bombs late Wednesday ripped through a Shiite Muslim street procession in the sprawling city of Lahore.

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