



The Island

Vol. 29 No. 251 Thursday 9th September, 2010, 56 pages Rs. 20 Registered in Sri Lanka as a Newspaper - City Edition

Today's Special
Full text of
18th Amendment
inside

China asserts in
10 neighbourhood



Some recent
12 developments in dengue



Environmental rape



Financial Review

WORLD VIEW
India's PM says China's territorial ambition must be challenged

Angelina Jolie visits Pakistan to meet flood victims



The Hollywood star travelled to the north-west of the country to meet Afghan refugees whose camp close to the town of Nowshera was completely destroyed in three hours of flooding.

China calls in Japan envoy over boat collision



Diplomatic tensions between China and Japan escalated Wednesday when Beijing called in Japan's ambassador after a Chinese fishing boat collided with two Japanese patrol vessels near a chain of disputed islands and Tokyo arrested the boat's captain.

WORLD VIEW

Ramazan
Fasting/Prayer Times
September 09-011

Sahar Ends	4.31
Fajr	4.46
Sunrise	6.02
Zuhar	12.09
Asar	3.13
Maghrib	6.14
Isha	7.25

JEFF & NUT



- SF warns President that 18-A will lead to disaster.
- If his enemy is making a mistake, why should SF issue warnings?



Those in support of and those against the widely discussed 18th Amendment to the Constitution, which was passed in Parliament yesterday, assembled in large numbers at various places in Colombo. (Left) A pro-amendment gathering near the Parliament roundabout and (right) an anti-amendment group, headed by Opposition and UNP leader Ranil Wickremesinghe near UNP Headquarters, Sri Kotha. (Pics - Kamal Wanniarachi and Nimal Dayaratne)



18-A passed by 161 votes

Six UNP MPs crossover

One TNA MP votes with govt.

17 DNA, TNA MPs vote against Bill

UNP boycotts both debate and vote

BY SAMAN INDRAJITH

The 18th Amendment, to the Constitution was passed, amidst applause, in Parliament yesterday, by a majority of 144 votes.

A group of UNP MPs numbering seven broke ranks with their party to vote with the government in favour of the Bill. They were Abdul Cader, Lakshman Seneviratne, Earl Gunasekara, Manusha Nanayakkara, Nimal (Nilwala) Wijesinghe, Upeksha Swarnamali and Sri Ranga. Rauff Hakeem and seven other SLMC members elected on the UNP ticket, too, voted with the government.

The TNA MP who voted with the government was C.

H. Piyasena.

Both, the DNA and TNA voted against the Bill. The other UNP members, led by Opposition Leader Ranil Wickremesinghe boycotted debate and the vote on the Bill.

Prime Minister D. M. Jayaratne commenced the second reading stage debate on the Bill. The DNA and TNA MPs were in their seats when the debate commenced. A little while later, UNP MPs Lakshman Seneviratne and Earl Gunasekera arrived and took their seats amidst a rousing welcome from the government ranks.

Continued on page 2

Expulsion of rebel UNP MPs

UNP WC will have to ratify earlier decision

– Joseph Michael

P 3

Police stop UNP protest

BY ZACKI JABBAR

A UNP protest march from 'Sri Kotha' to Parliament against the 18th Amendment, was blocked by Police at Ethul Kotte yesterday afternoon, compelling them to turn back.

The procession, led by UNP leader Ranil Wickremesinghe, was

marching towards Parliament carrying coffins and an effigy of President Mahinda Rajapaksa, when they were stopped by nearly 1,000 policemen.

The protestors also held placards condemning the

Continued on page 2

TNA demands division by name

When the Bill to amend the Constitution was at the committee stage, the TNA called for a

division by name but the result of the vote taken after the third reading was the same.

• Shocking Rs 1 bn loss at SPC:

SPC Chairman denies loss, Wijedasa R reiterates allegations

BY SHAMINDRA FERDINANDO

Chairman of SPC Prof. S. D. Jayaratne says there is no truth in UNP MP Wijedasa Rajapaksa's allegation that the institution suffered a Rs. 510 million loss in 2008 and may incur another Rs. 660 million loss due to its failure to recover debts.

Apologues our lead story headlined, 'Shocking Rs 1 bn loss at SPC', on Sept. 2 issue. Prof. Jayaratne yesterday told *The Island* that Health Consultative Committee member Rajapaksa had been totally wrong. Prof. Jayaratne said that the MP had been misled to criticise the SPC over massive losses, whereas the institution made a profit of Rs. 300 million annually.

The situation would have been even better if the SPC hadn't been forced to pay a staggering one million rupees a day to a bank for an overdraft taken by

the institution, he said. Prof. Jayaratne said that the SPC would be able to clear whatever the misconceptions about it at the next consultative committee meeting.

He emphasised that the SPC had earned Rs. 669,410,663 as operational profit and Rs. 449,144,085 as profit before tax in 2008.

Asked whether he accepted financial irregularities pointed out by Auditor General S. Swarnajothi, particularly violation of financial regulations with regard to the payment of SPC employees' PAYE tax, Prof. Jayaratne said that all Corporations paid their employees PAYE tax. The official asserted that whatever the deficiencies, the SPC continued to make substantial profits.

Continued on page 2

• Says will never seek presidential pardon

Govt. inviting trouble – SF

BY SAMAN INDRAJITH

DNA Parliamentarian General (ret'd) Sarath Fonseka yesterday said that the government was inviting revolutions and coups against it by creating a constitutional dictatorship through the introduction of the 18th Amendment to the Constitution.

"This piece legislation is the final nail in the coffin of democracy in the country, but such dictatorships do not last forever as history has shown us," Fonseka told the media at the Parliament complex.

He said that the DNA would continue its struggle on behalf of the people even though it had only seven members in Parliament. He said that it was regrettable that the

Continued on page 2

The Island www.island.lk
THE LEADER IN INTERNET SERVICES
LankaCom
Subsidiary of Singapore Telecom
Phone: 011-2437545 | Web: www.lankacom.net

Dial 777 to dedicate a special mTune to your loved one



www.mobitel.lk



Ads in print yield better results than radio, TV

• 'Newspapers are dying' is a myth

A global survey on print media has debunked a myth that newspapers, a 400-year-old industry, was dying while advertising in print brought better results than in radio and television. The annual World Press Trends

published by WAN-IFRA showed that the number of paid titles increased 1.65 percent, with Asia recording a little over 19 percent.

Print media still packs a punch. "A Microsoft study in the UK indicates that every pound spent on

print advertising yields five pounds in revenue, compared to 2.15 pound for television and 3.44 pounds for online advertising," the World Press Trends report said.

(See Financial Review page 4)

Experience Paradise in Style

kani
LANKA RESORT & SPA
St. Sebastian's Road, Kasukurunda, Kalutara, Sri Lanka.
Tel: +94(34) 4280801/2/3, E-mail: info@kanilanka.com
Web: www.kanilanka.com
Hot Line - 0772 001393