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Embodiment of Bharathiyar's Puthumai Penn -Vithusa

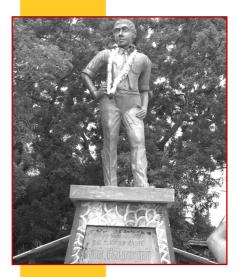
From caged birds to roaming Tigers, the Tamil liberation struggle renegotiated the positionality of Tamil women within Tamil Eelam and provided the foundation tools needed for ongoing women's liberation. Through these teachings Phoenix the Next Generation's Magalir Division rises from the ashes. Establishing once again, the Embodiment of Bharathiyar's Puthumai Penn.

Proceed to page 03 for more.

Modern Monetary Theory (MMT) - Ranjini

Through a historical dissection of Sri Lanka's economic policies, Modern Monetary Theory unveils a grim future.

Proceed to page 19 for more from our Economic Analyst.



"மீண்டும் பிறப்பேன் விடுதலைக்கு போரிடுவேன்."

Pon Sivakumaran

Embodiment of Bharathiyar's Puthumai Penn

VITHUSA

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Editor's Note: This article explores the dichotomy of biological sex and social constructions of gender as it relates to the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE). The LTTE did not have the facilities to engage in discussions as it related to the 2SLGBTQIA+ community as information pertaining to this was not brought forward to Tamil Eelam due to the global world's lack of acknowledgement and recognition of the community. We acknowledge gender is a social construct and respect the 2SLGBTQIA+ community and the continued fight for recognition of queer BIPoC community who are at a racial disadvantage due to systemic white supremacism and privilege. As such, Phoenix TNG is committed to ensuring a safer space for our queer Tamil kin and kith.

Bharathiyar's poem, *Puthumai Penn* narrates the capacity of women to break archaic barriers and redefine the image of a Tamil woman. He writes:

நிமிர்ந்த நன்னடை நேர்கொண்ட பார்வையும், நிலத்தில் யார்க்கும் அஞ்சாத நெறிகளும், திமிர்ந்த ஞானச் செருக்கும் இருப்பதால் செம்மை மாதர் திறம்புவ தில்லையாம்;

அமிழ்ந்து பேரிரு ளாமறி யாமையில் அவல மெய்திக் கலையின்றி வாழ்வதை உமிழ்ந்து <u>தள்ளுதல்</u> பெண்ணற மாகுமாம் உதய கன்னி உரைப்பது கேட்டீரோ?! Walking straight with her head held high with eyes that see virtue, With a conviction that does not waver for anyone, Bestowed by knowledge and humanity who remains firm in this knowledge;

•••

Lacking this knowledge confines one to darkness This is a threat to the women pushing her further into hell One who opposes these confines and fights for her rights is virtuous Rising women do see what is written?!

The poem is a call to shift the social perception of women from confinement in the home towards education and self liberation, whereby a newly-formed woman can rise. Our female-identified Maaveerar and poraalis are the embodiment of Bharathiyar's *Puthumai Penn*. Their foundational growth was supported by the LTTE. This led to the challenging and repositioning of Tamil-specific gender roles - with particular concentration on fighting alongside their male counterparts in the resistance against a fully male-equipped oppressor. This was an unmatched strength that was rooted in the conceptualization of full participation of all members of the nation.

Early female militants were a result of members who came through families of the source houses. Source houses were civilian bases that were frequented by militants. Due to the exposure to activities of the male revolutionaries, many female-identified persons later became active within the socio-political space. They initially began carrying out social awareness programs. Many of whom later joined the LTTE in frontline combat following training in India in the mid-late 1980s. This gradual shift as it related to women who were closely affiliated with the LTTE would not have been possible without the tireless efforts of Lt. Col. Thileepan - the Jaffna Commander of the LTTE. Thileepan Anna launched critical programs such as:

- first aid response units
- primary education and social welfare programs among other initiatives.

These programs actively worked towards shifting the role of women away from the domesticated space.

Within these structures, the network of women was established and solidified through common ideology and Paravaikal, women's publication women's publication of the LTTE. that we have been fortunate to the reflexive approach PTNG's solidifying it's very

> ளமது போராட்டத்தின் வலிமை எமது போராளிகளின் நெஞ்சுரத்திலிருந்தே பிறக்கின்றது."

> > National Leader of Tamil Eelam, V. Prabhakaran

Additionally, the close coordination and interconnected networks of the LTTE and other organizations resulted in proactive women's participation in predominantly male-oriented labour work and combat. Affirming women's capacity extends beyond the home dwelling. This was only possible through the cadres' own mental and physical strength within their units. Women have been socially reared to adhere to a submissive stance whereby expressions of forwardness and challenging expected gender norms results in questioning of their womanhood. It is worth noting women within the context of Tamil resistance, have paved their path through their commitment to the struggle. However, weakness within human species is an existing phenomenon. Recognizing the multiple enforced oppressions on the mind and body of women, women must remain astute to meet the needs of the struggle - a skill that few have. This remains a key component of internal strength that must be harnessed to carry forward the struggle in a collectivist and inclusive manner which prioritizes the social needs of the nation.

In a world where Tamil women were being perceived as bodies for consumption, spaces for occupation and genocide, a counter resistance came forward. Firm within their sense of self and moving towards liberation of self and the nation, these women who fought tirelessly for our people and land have taught the power a woman encapsulates. A poised trifecta with swiftness, these women acted to embrace, exile or execute.

புலிவீரம், பெண் புலிவீரம், தமிழீழம் பெறும் நேரம்! பாரதி தேடிய போர் குயிலே, ஆயுதம் தூக்கித் தா கையிலே புலிவீரம், பெண் புலிவீரம், தமிழீழம் பெறும் நேரம்! The valor of the Tigers, the valor of the Female Tigers, it is time to attain Tamil Eelam!

O war *kuyil* (koel) that Bharathiyar was in search of, grab and give us arms in hand

The valor of the Tigers, the valor of the Female Tigers, it is time to attain Tamil Eelam!

The shaping of Tamil women within the context of Tamil Eelam further shifted the social sphere where women were very much oppressed. Women's liberation within the revolutionary movement was one of those many steps undertaken by the LTTE. As such, Tamil women as a whole gained a self-liberation that dismantled social submissiveness - a lesson which many have failed to learn after 2009.

Organizational spaces within the Tamil diaspora have systematically repressed Tamil women, their voices and their capacity. To the same degree, women have been overworked, under-recognized and often dismissed. It is fair to say that Tamil women as a whole in the diaspora since, before the end of the armed conflict have been at a further disadvantage where intersection of identities in host nations and working within maledominated organizational spaces have pushed women to the margins of revolution. One can argue this and point fingers at the liberation movements' failure to account for this. Even so, we must remember that power and privilege play a significant role.

Within the organizational spaces, moves were undertaken to prevent pertinent information regarding the challenges within these diaspora hubs from reaching the LTTE headquarters on the ground. Therefore, creating a space where women's rights were undermined leading to power and privilege-sharing among the male population. Additionally, highlighting the need to maintain power for the sake of the cause was given greater importance than the lives of women within such spaces. Under this distorted and problematic framework, organizations replicated a restrictive Tamil social sphere - one that predated the LTTE. As such, the question is raised. Whose fault is this? The answer to this question is simple. That fault remains in the hands of those who failed to understand the ideological frameworks of the liberation movement and fixated on the end goal more than the strides needed to move towards achieving the end goal. Current day circumstances and organizational spaces truly reflect the failure of conscious awareness and engaging in acknowledging social disadvantage and intersection of identity.

Further, the social sphere in which post-2009 organizational structures operate reflect a defeatist ideology. This ideological positionality can be seen through the readiness to pick and choose safer aspects of the revolutionary struggle and collaborating with host nation actors who undermine BIPoC communities. Through these engagements, these defeatist ideological perspectives become reinforced - ultimately shifting the context of the struggle to the position of pleading. By way of this, women are pushed into a position of kneeling for the nation - a positionality which reverses strides undertaken by the LTTE in asserting the position of these women.

It is with this knowledge, seven years following the establishment of Phoenix TNG, that we launched our *wæaflit apoli* (Magalir Division) on 30.05.2021. The launch was made in pursuit of broadening female representation and strengthening our internal base. Further the division was established in order to provide a space for women-identified persons and the 2SLGBTQIA+ community and to effectively promote social change. Our hope for the inclusion of 2SLGBTQIA+ persons within the Magalir Division is to see the community branch into its own revolutionary division within PTNG - a microcosm for the wider community.

The organization as a whole, ingrained in the revolutionary spirit instilled through the National Leader of Tamil Eelam, V. Prabhakaran, ideology and symbology will continue the revolution that has been ignited. As we rise from the ashes and continue our revolution, we will not be dissuaded from our goal and commitment by the pressures placed upon us by the geopolitical agenda set forth to hinder our progression towards the Sovereign and Free Socialist Tamil Eelam. It is with this commitment that we proudly announce the inauguration of Phoenix the Next Generations' Magalir Division.



வெல்வது உறுதி!

International News

02.06.2021: OMP - Yasmin Sooka - former member of UN expert panel on Sri Lanka (SL) reported that a notice would be written to the UN Peacebuilding Fund and international donors to not support the Office of Missing Persons (OMP) in SL. According to Colombo Gazette, the decision had been made following the appointment of SL's former Inspector General of Police (IGP) Jayantha Wickremaratne to the OMP. Sooka cited that the appointment of a war-time police chief to the OMP formalises the state's militarisation of the transnational justice mechanisms formerly established under Sirisena and emphasised the failure of the existing OMP office.

11.06.2021: **EU** - The European Parliament adopted a resolution on SL on 10.06.2021 calling for the repeal of the Prevention of Terrorism Act (PTA). According to Economy Next, the EU Commission is considering a withdrawal of SL's access to the Generalised System of Preferences Plus (GSP+) scheme.

14.06.2021: **Tamil Nadu** - According to the Indo-Asian News Service, Tamil Nadu received a threat of infiltration from a Sri Lankan armed group. According to Economy Next, India's Central Intelligence agency had raised an alert regarding the threat on 12.06.2021. According to Economy Next, the armed group intended to enter Tamil Nadu via a boat from Sri Lanka - equipped with assault weapons. Further reports from Colombo Gazette indicate that the boat was attempting to travel towards Rameswaram causing select towns to go under surveillance.

Towns in surveillance:

- Kanyakumari
- Thoothukudi
- Rameswaram
- Chennai

15.06.2021: **Australia** - A Tamil family who have been detained on Christmas Island have received temporary release from the detention facility, reports Colombo Gazette. However, according to Al Jazeera, they have been sent to a detention community in Perth, reports Colombo Gazette.

UN

22.06.2021 - Michelle Bachelet - the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, raised concerns on SL during the opening of the 47th Session of the Human Rights Council in Geneva on 21.06.2021. The Colombo Gazette reported that the ongoing targeting of marginalised populations was highlighted - especially in relation to the role of deprivation of memorialisation. Concerns regarding an increase of deaths in GoSL Police custody was also noted.

22.06.2021 - The Core Group on SL at the UNHRC expressed regret over a lack of progress regarding resolution 46/1 against SL, reports Colombo Gazette. It is notable that SL has been subsequently urged to cooperate with the Council and the OHCHR in relation to resolution 46/1.

24.06.2021 - Michelle Bachlet condemned the grant of pardons as arbitrary as it weakened the rule of law through disrupting accountability. According to Colombo Gazette, the statement was made in relation to the Presidential Pardon granted to Duminda Silva by SL's President, G. Rajapaksa. Further, the US Ambassador, A. Teplitz had welcomed the release of political prisoners, with exception to the release of Silva, reports Colombo Gazette.

22.06.2021: **China** - SL defends China on the Xinjiang issue amid reports of persecution of Uighur Muslims in China, reports Colombo Gazette. Notably, SL's allied stance was reiterated through sidelining concerns and expressing Hong Kong, Xinjiang and Tibet as issues of China's internal affairs.

29.06.2021: Human Rights Watch -

According to Economy Next and Colombo Gazette, the Human Rights Watch (HRW) had also urged the repeal of the PTA following G. Rajapaksa's presidential pardon of 93.

Bilateral Discussions

02.06.2021: **US** - G. Rajapaksa has received recommendations submitted by the Pathfinder Foundation (PF) and Asia Society Policy Institute (ASPI) based in Washington to improve relations with Joe Biden's administration in the United States to improve bilateral relations during a virtual meeting held in January 2021, reports Colombo Gazette.

05.06.2021: **US** - SL's Ambassador in Washington, Ravinath Aryasinha has called on the US House Foreign Affairs' Committee to halt a resolution on SL put forth by US Congresswoman Deborah Ross on 18.05.2021, reports Colombo Gazette.

08.06.2021: **UNGA** - SL's Foreign Minister, Dinesh Gunawardena congratulated the Maldivian Foreign Minister, Abdulla Shahid on his election as the President of the 76th Session of the UN General Assembly, reports Colombo Gazette.

09.06.2021: **Russia** - Russia's Foreign Minister, Sergey Lavrov assured SL their continued bilateral support during a phone call with D. Gunawardena, reports Colombo Gazette. During discussions to expand bilateral trade, economic and military-technical cooperation which also include humanitarian efforts reports the Colombo Gazette. Earlier reports from SL's army and navy websites indicate that the Military, Air and Naval Attaché of the Russian Embassy in SL, Colonel Denis I. Shkoda had met with Shavendra Silva at SL's Army Headquarters on 02.06.2021. Discussions:

- Bilateral trade
- Economic cooperation
- Military-technical cooperation
- Humanitarian efforts

09.06.2021: **Ethiopia** - SL held their first bilateral discussions with Ethiopia via virtual consultations on 09.06.2021, reports Virakesari. Reports indicate that areas of mutual interest were discussed and the parties had agreed to celebrate the 50th anniversary of their diplomatic relations in 2022. According to Colombo

Military News

11.06.2021: **Technology** - According to the website of the Sri Lankan Air Force (SLAF), the force has introduced a QRcode. This code will be distributed to all personnel of the SLAF who have been vaccinated. These personnel will provide individual details through the QR code.

Details:

- Employment information
- Vaccination information
 - Vaccination brand
 - Date of first dose
 - Date of second dose

15.06.2021: **Explosives** - The SL Army (SLA) aim to declare SL as free of mines and explosives by 2022 and have been actively working with the Sri Lanka Army Humanitarian Demining Unit (SLAHDU) unit of the Sri Lanka Engineers (SLE), reports army.lk. Gazette the parties' combined investment amounting to USD 15 million was also noted during the discussions.

14.06.2021: **Vietnam** - The Communist Party of Vietnam strengthened ties with SL during a phone call with G. Rajapaksa to enhance mutual understanding and trust, reports Colombo Gazette.

21.06.2021: **India** - The Foreign Ministers of India and SL held bilateral review under the BIMSTEC grouping, reports Colombo Gazette.

20.06.2021: **JAPAN** - The Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force (JMSDF) training ships 'Kashima' and 'Setoyuki' which arrived in SL on a three-day visit on 18.06.2021, conducted a passage exercise (PASSEX) with the SL Navy (SLN), as they departed from the port of Colombo, reports navy.lk.

24.06.2021: **CARAT** - According to navy.lk, the inauguration of Cooperation Afloat Readiness and Training Exercise 2021 (CARAT) was commenced at SL's Naval Dockyard in Trincomalee under real-time virtual settings. The sequential phases of this naval exercise was joined by the SLN, the US' 7th Fleet and Japanese Maritime Self Defence Force. The training is scheduled to occur until 30.06.2021 in the Trincomalee harbour.

25.06.2021: **Appointment** - Sisira Pilapitiya of the Vijayabhahu Infantry Regiment (VIR) assumed duties on 23.06.2021 as SL's new Commander, Security Forces -Mullaitivu during a formal ceremony, reports army.lk.

29.06.2021: **China** - K. Gunaratne questioned the Chinese Embassy in SL over the camouflage uniform worn by Chinese employees working in Tissamaharama. The Colombo Gazette reported that Gunaratne was informed that the employees were not members of China's People's Liberation Army (PLA).

30.06.2021: **India** - India's High Commission in SL reported that the use of SL's airspace for joint-military exercise was not refused by SL and denied the reports made in the media. According to India, the area in question was over Hambantota however, no such request had been made, reports Colombo Gazette.

30.06.2021: **Bangladesh** - SL's Army School of Logistics (ASL) at Trincomalee received the Defence Adviser from the Bangladesh High Commission, M. Shafiul Bari who made an official visit to the school in order to monitor the well-being of the ASL's Student Officer from Bangladesh who is currently following the Logistics Staff Course No. 07, reports army.lk

30.06.2021: **Israel** - The Israel Aerospace Industries (IAI) has signed a USD 50 million contract with SL's Ministry of Defense to upgrade K-fir aircrafts belonging to the SLAF. The aircraft will replace existing avionics with enhanced features. The Colombo Gazette reported that the update will also include knowledge transfer and skills enhancement for SLAF personnel.

Enhanced K-fir Features:

- Radar systems
- Sensor systems
- Communication systems
- New helmets

Winning Hearts and Minds (WHAM)

Winning Hearts and Minds is a Counter Insurgency (COIN) method utilised by SL's genocidal forces to cause a shift in civil-military distrust to neutralise any resistance.

02.06.2021: **Distribution** - The SLA's 64th division HQ distributed coconut saplings to Oddusuddan's locals for cultivation purposes, reports army.lk.

04.06.2021: **Donation** - According to army.lk, SL's 65th Division Troops prepared dry-ration packs for lowincome families living in the general area of Mulankavil and distributed them on 31.05.2021 as COVID-19 relief.

13.06.2021: **Rations** - The SLA's 231st Brigade Troops carried out dry-ration distribution worth LKR 2,500 to families in Muneikadu South, Kokkadicholai, Batticaloa on 11.06.2021. According to army.lk, the distribution was conducted under the instructions of Brigadier Vijitha Hettiarchchi, the Commander of the 231st Brigade of the 23rd Division under the SFHQ-East.

14.06.2021: Rations - The SLA's 232nd Brigade troops with support from donors distributed dry-ration packets to 25 pregnant women across occupied Tamil Eelam. The initiative was led by Major Sanjeewa Senarathna of the division for SFHQ-E. Additionally, similar rations were distributed on 10.06.2021 by 19 SL Light Infantry troops with beneficiaries selected from Kalvilan, Tevanpiddi, Nachchikudda and Mulankavil area with this initiative headed by Major General Tikiri Dissanayake, General Officer Commander of the 65th Division and Commander of the 651st Brigade, Wasanthan Bandara reports army.lk.

Distribution locations:

- Iralakkulam
- Verppavadduvan
- Mailavadduvan
- Kudumbimalai
- Peillaveli

14.06.2021: **Housing** - Buddhist Monks alongside the 64th Division Troops began building houses for families in Mannankadal, Mullaitivu on 12.06.2021 reports army.lk.

Sponsors:

- Ven. Galgamuwe Shanthabodhi Thero
- Ven. Piliyandala Amithagosha Thero
- 14 SL Sinha Regiment troops

 641st Brigade of the 64th Division under SFHQ-MLT

14.06.2021: **Renovations** - The SL Army's 64th Division Troops commenced the repair of Thadiyamalai -Muthiyankaddu Road in Mullaitivu on 11.06.2021. Accordingly the inauguration of the construction was led by:

- Major General Manjula Karunarathna
- General Officer Commanding 64th Division
- Brigadier K.T.P De Silva -Commander 643rd Brigade

Support:

- 6 Field Engineers
- 643rd Brigade
- 13 SL National Guard troops under the command of the 64th Division of the SFHQ-MLT

14.06.2021: **Cleaning** - The SLA's 59th Division Troops cleaned Mullaitivu Hospital Compound under the command of the SFHQ-MLT on 11.06.2021. The army.lk reported that 12 SL Light Infantry troops participated in the project. The project was directed by:

- Major General Upali Rajapaksha
- Commander Security Forces, Mullaitiu
- Major General P. D. Sooriya Bandara - General Officer Commanding, 59th Division

15.06.2021: **Construction** - According to defence.lk, the SLA have built a house for a family in Mannankadal,

Mullaitivu. This project commenced with the sponsorship of SL's Maha Sanga which was combined with the Army's technical expertise and manpower.

15.06.2021: **Rations** - On 11.06.2021, the SLA took dry rations valued at LKR 7,500 to families with children following a notice from SL's Major General P. D. Suriyabandara, the General Officer Commanding of the 59th Division in collaboration with Sisters from the Mullaitivu Sacred Heart Convent, reports army.lk.

24.06.2021: **Projects** - According to army.lk, the Security Force HQ-Kilinochchi with its Divisions and Brigades launched several projects to encourage income-generating practices in fields such as agriculture, fishery, bee-keeping in order to assist improve living standards of poor families in Kilinochchi area.

Domestic News

Tamil Eelam

05.06.2021: **Flag** - D. Gunawardena reported that the raising of the Chinese flag at a building in Jaffna had not been reported to SL's Foreign Ministry, reports Colombo Gazette.

05.06.2021: **Indian consulate** - According to Colombo Gazette, India's consulate in Jaffna added the Sinhala inscription to its signage following an initial replacement of the name board 5 years ago which only contained Tamil, Hindi and English.

Elephants

08.06.2021 - 52-year-old father of 4, Ponnuthurai Gowrinathan was found dead in Batticaloa after being attacked by a wild elephant. His body was admitted to the Senkaladi Hospital, reports Virakesari **09.06.2021** - 1 elephant found dead near Kalmettiyawa North within the Eechankulam Forest area of Thampalakaamam, reports Virakesari.

11.06.2021 - According to Virakesari, a 63-year-old herdsman from Vanela, Kantalai, K. Kulathunga was found to be deceased after being attacked by a wild elephant within the Trincomalee District.

13.06.2021 - 1 elephant found dead in the Senkalladi Kittul Forest, Batticaloa, reports Virakesari.

14.06.2021 - 2 elephants found dead in Batticaloa on 13.06.2021, reports Virakesari.

19.06.2021 - According to locals from the Vavuniya areas of Batticaloa, the mutilated body of an elephant was found near a pond in the Karuvappansena. Further reports from SL's Department of Wildlife indicate that the elephant had perished on 09.06.2021.

09.06.2021: **University** - According to Virakesari, the Vavuniya Campus of Jaffna University had been declared as the University of Vavuniya through a resolution which would be in effect from 01.08.2021.

Explosives

14.06.2021: **Explosives** - 2 shells were found by occupational police in Oozhavanur and Piramanthanaaru of Tharumapuram, Kilinochchi, reports Virakesari. Earlier reports indicate that 2 individuals had been arrested with locally made firearms in Batticaloa's Vavunitheevu.

15.06.2021: **Weapons** - Occupational SLA troops recover explosives in Iranamadu and Nayaru on 14.06.2021 reports army.lk.

- I mortar bomb
- 1 Rocket-propelled Grenade (RPG)
- 6 60mm mortar bombs
- 12 anti-personnel mines
- 2 Bangalore Torpedoes

17.06.2021: **Explosives** - According to the occupational Mullaitivu Police Division, 2 abandoned explosives were removed from the Alampil area and had been diffused in accordance with a court order, reports Virakesari. An unexploded shell was also retrieved whilst engaged in drainage operations in Jaffna. 16.06.2021: **Dumping** - Tamil Nadu fishermen have opposed SL's vehicle submersion plans citing environmental harm that will impact fishing and expressed this to be irresponsible behaviour by the country. Accordingly, on 11.06.2021 SL's Aquatic Resources and the SLN discarded 20 buses near Neduntivu, occupied Tamil Eelam noting that it would benefit artificial reef growth, reports Colombo Gazette.

16.06.2021: **Wind turbine** - SL's Cabinet has approved the award of a wind turbine to windy Mannar. According to Economy Next, other sites had also been specified across Tamil Eelam and SL.

Locations:

- Trincomalee
- Madampe
- Bolawatte
- Kappalthurai

17.06.2021: **TNA** - SL's Tamil National Alliance (TNA) party met with the High Commissioner of India to Sri Lanka, G. Baglay where discussions regarding the 13th Amendment to SL's Constitution were conducted. The Colombo Gazette reported the TNA's plans on strengthening occupied Tamil Eelam with India's assistance after the COVID-19 pandemic's neutralisation were also discussed.

22.06.2021: **Deforestation** - 8 individuals have been summoned and arrested by occupational police for engaging in the destruction and looting of SL appropriated state forests in the Thimbili area of Puthukudiyiruppu, reports Virakesari. 28.06.2021: Accident - An occupational police officer was killed in a traffic accident in Kilinochchi, reports Virakesari. Earlier reports from 25.06.2021 indicate that an occupational army vehicle travelling from the occupational Vavuniya Army camp fell into a river off the Black bridge in Batticaloa -Karadiyanaru causing 2 military officials to be killed. 4 injured officers were reported to have been admitted into a local hospital for treatment.

Namal in Tamil Eelam

Source: Virakesari

27.06.2021 - N. Rajapaksa visited the Jaffna Cultural Centre which was established by India in Jaffna on the evening of 27.06.2021 and was accompanied by local politicians and foreign diplomats.

Delegation:

- India's S. Balachandran
- MP Angajan Ramanathan
- Governor of the Northern Province

Sri Lanka

Ships

Developments regarding 2 ships which had been affected by fires aboard the ships are covered with reference to news sources including Economy Next and Colombo Gazette. Further an oil spill from MV Devon is also covered.

MV X-Press Pearl

- Manivannan
- Commissioner of Jaffna

28.06.2021 - N. Rajapaksa inaugurated a composting plant in Vadamarachchi, Jaffna on 28.06.2021 to compost organic waste within the region. Reports indicate that the plant was constructed with assistance from Japan's JICA and can produce 50,000 kilograms of fertiliser each day.

30.06.2021: **Seafood** - According to Virakesari, a delegation including MP S. Gajendran had visited the occupational Chinese company's seafood farm in Poonakeri, Kilinochchi to inspect the site. The inspection was conducted following claims that Chinese military officials had been sighted at the farm - allegations which were denied by the Chinese Embassy in SL. It is notable that an earlier delegation including M. A. Sumanthiran had been turned back from a site inspection on 28.06.2021.

01.06.2021: Investigation - The

Colombo Magistrate's Court issued an order to prevent the Captain, Chief Engineer and Deputy Chief Engineer from leaving SL. According to Colombo Gazette SL's CID had accordingly completed the initial investigation.

02.06.2021: **Update** - The SLN's Spokesman, Captain Indika de Silva shared with the Colombo Gazette that a part of the vessel had begun to sink and towing of the ship had been suspended as a result due to the stern touching the ocean floor. The Colombo Gazette confirmed that SL had not submitted compensation claims to the ship owners. SL's State Minister of Urban Development, Coast Conservation, Waste Disposal, and Public Sanitation, Dr. Nalaka Godahewa shared that discussions were ongoing at present.

03.06.2021: **Naval cooperation** - SLN Spokesman Captain Indika de Silva disclosed to the Daily Mirror that the SLN, Coast Guard and vessels from India were on standby should an oil leak occur from the ship, reports Colombo Gazette. Dr. Nalaka Godahewa shared that the ship hit a seabed as it was being transported away from the coast causing it to sink.

04.06.2021: **Legal** - A Fundamental Rights petition was filed at SL's Supreme Court by the Centre for Environmental Justice along with fishermen to mandate authorities to investigate the means by which the vessel entered SL's waters, reports Colombo Gazette.

05.06.2021: **Payment** - The insurers and owners of the MV X-Press Pearl have agreed for a provisional interim payment for the costs. In this regard, the shipping agents have opposed the liberalisation of the sector as they intend to make SL a maritime hub to continue maintaining their oligopoly. According to Economy Next, this intent accounts for their reluctance to allow tugboat companies' involvement in the clean-up operation.

05.06.2021: Ranil - Ranil

Wickremesinghe is appalled at the GoSL and SL's Marine Environment Protection Authority (MEPA) for not informing the IMO and requesting international help to put out the fire. Reports indicate that he has called for an SL Parliamentary Select Committee to investigate the fire, reports Economy Next.

06.06.2021: **Standby** - The Oil Spill Response Limited (OSRL) has been deployed to SL amidst the entrapment of the MV X-Press Pearl in adjoining waters, reports Colombo Gazette. The organisation is said to be monitoring the situation along with specialists from International Tanker Owners Pollution Federation Ltd. (ITOPF).

10.06.2021: **Naval Forces** - The cooperation of the Indian Coast Guard and SLN to extinguish a fire on the MV X-Press Pearl underline the interoperability of the naval forces of the two nations. India has also assisted in fighting a fire on the MT New Diamond, Economy Next reports.

11.06.2021: **US** - The US announced plans to extend financial assistance of USD 100,000 to support MV X-Press Pearl response efforts. According to Colombo Gazette, the assistance would be provided through the US Agency for International Development. 15.06.2021: **Confessions** - According to Virakesari, SL's CID had retrieved 32 confessions from the ship's domestic agencies. Further reports indicate that the captain of the ship was presented in court on 14.06.2021 in accordance with Articles 12 and 26 of the Marine Environment Protection Act and Article 113 of the SL Penal Code and was later granted bail.

16.06.2021: **Gas** - SL's Archbishop of Colombo, Malcolm Ranjith released a statement condemning GoSL's price hike when the general population was suffering from the ongoing pandemic and the fire of the MV X-Press Pearl. The Colombo Gazette noted that the increase in gas would disadvantage the fishing community and has urged the country to take appropriate action to mitigate the price hike.

18.06.2021: **Britain -** The British High Commissioner to Sri Lanka, Sarah Hulton noted the UK Centre for Environment, Fisheries and Aquaculture Science would provide its expertise and analytical support to monitor the extent of the pollution caused by the MV X-Press Pearl fire, reports Colombo Gazette.

23.06.2021: **European Union** - The European Union donated over EUR 200,000 to assist SL's clean up process of the pollution caused by the fires onboard the MV Express Pearl, reports Virakesari.

26.06.2021: **Reparations** - The operator of the MV X-Press Pearl had consented to pay LKR 700 Million to cover the costs of the fishermen affected as a result of the fire, reports Colombo Gazette.

MV Devon

18.06.2021: **Oil spill** - Indian Coast Guards had reported a fuel breach resulting from the MV Devon heading from Colombo which resulted in the spillage of 10 kilolitres of oil into the sea approximately 250 nm South East of Chennai on 16.06.2021, reports Colombo Gazette.

MSC Messina

25.06.2021: **Fire** - According to Colombo Gazette, the SLN had reported that a fire was reported onboard the MSC Messina in the engine room approximately 480 nm away from the Great Basses Reef Lighthouse.

01.06.2021: **Police** - SL transferred its Police Headquarters to the suburb of Pepiliyana due to the lack of space in the existing York Street building, reports Economy Next.

01.06.2021: **Surveillance** - According to Economy Next, SL intends to install transponders onto 4,200 multi-day ocean-going boats to monitor them. Reports indicate that the transponders would be fitted with the assistance of an AUD 5.38 million grant from Australia to deter asylum seekers from informal migration.

Appointments

03.06.2021: **Appointment** - N. Rajapaksa was sworn in as SL's new Minister of Digital Technology and Enterprise Development before G. Rajapaksa at the SL Presidential Secretariat, reports Virakesari.

14.06.2021: **Justice** - Obeysekera was appointed as SL's new Supreme Court Judge and President of SL's Court of Appeal. According to Economy Next, Obeysekara was sworn in by G.Rajapaksa and replaces recently retired SL Supreme Court Judge, Sisira de Abrew.

15.06.2021: **Appointment** - A senior journalist, Mrs. Menaka Mookaandi had been appointed as the Officer-in-Charge and Deputy Director of the Tamil Division of SL's Presidential Media Division (PMD), reports Virakesari.

16.06.2021: **US** - Joe Biden had nominated Julie Chung - the former Director of the Office of Japanese Affairs as the new Ambassador to SL, reports Colombo Gazette.

30.06.2021: **Media** - Hudson Samarasinghe - veteran media personality and former SL parliamentarian, was appointed as the Chairman of the Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation (SLBC), reports Economy Next.

07.06.2021: **Detention facility** - Effective from 04.06.2021, under section 9 of the Prevention of Terrorism Act (PTA), G. Rajapaksa announced that the Counter Terrorism Investigation Unit in Colombo would be used as a place of detention, reports Colombo Gazette. 08.06.2021: **Environment Act** - According to Economy Next, Udaya Gammanpila intends to update SL's National Environment Act No. 47 of 1980. There are 42 amendments planned, such as fees for factories. The laws are made, in part, due to increased levels of deforestation, reports Economy Next.

11.06.2021: **Arrest** - SL's Police Spokesman DIG Ajith Rohana reported that a Deputy Postmaster was arrested in Kahatagasdigiliya by SL's TID for allegedly providing refuge to Zahran Hashim in 2018, reports Colombo Gazette.

11.06.2021: Freedom of expression -

According to Economy Next, the Bar Association of Sri Lanka (BASL) fears that SL's police could abuse "fake news" allegations to stifle freedom of speech and expression. Earlier reports from 08.06.2021 indicate that SL citizens who create, publish, share, forward or support the spread of "Fake News" on social media would be arrested without warrant under the PTA. According to Economy Next, the police officers' assessment of "falsity" is problematic.

14.06.2021: **Protest** - Buddhist monk, Matale Shasaratna engaged in a sit-in protest in the middle of the A9 road opposite the Dambulla Economic Centre on 14.06.2021 demanding the reopening of the country with a lift of all travel bans, reports Virakesari.

16.04.2021: **Port City** - A Five-Judge Bench of SL's Supreme Court, was appointed on 15.06.2021 to consider the four petitions filed challenging the

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Colombo Port City Economic Commission Bill, reports Daily Mirror.

12.06.2021: **Arrest** - 61 SL nationals who arrived in India's Karnataka and Tamil Nadu region by boat were arrested alone with 11 others who had aided them in their stay in the provinces, reports Colombo Gazette. Accordingly, the arrest of the individuals who arrived by sea in March 2020 was a result of a tip off from Tamil Nadu Police reports N. Sashi Kumar - Mangaluru City Police Commissioner.

14.06.2021: New PTA - Eran

Wickremaratne intends to introduce a new PTA law to prevent terrorism, as the current one is abused against the public and restricts civil liberties of minorities, reports Economy Next.

16.06.2021: **TNA** - G. Rajapaksa postponed a meeting with the TNA indefinitely following initial plans to meet them on 16.06.2021 at SL's Presidential Secretariat, reports Colombo Gazette. The TNA Spokesman, M. A. Sumanthiran reported on 15.06.2021 that the meeting with G. Rajapaksa was scheduled to occur for the first time and added that proposals for Constitutional Reform to the Expert Committee appointed by SL's President in December 2020 would be made during the discussions.

15.06.2021: **Social media** - N. Rajapaksa during a meeting with Roar Media on Twitter Spaces reported that social media regulation was not to control social media, reports Colombo Gazette. Recently, several persons reporting supposed false information on social media had been arrested and detained.

18.06.2021: **Attack** - According to India's High Commissioner in SL, New Delhi had denied reports from the media on 17.06.2021 which accused India's Navy of attacking fishermen from SL. Reports from Colombo Gazette indicate that the High Commission's Spokesman had emphasised the discipline of India's Navy and its commitment to addressing all fishermen-related issues between India and SL in an established humanitarian manner.

22.06.2021: **Port** - At the Hambantota International Port Group, the China Merchants Foundation (CM) had funded a COVID-19 PCR-testing laboratory at the region's main hospital. According to Economy Next, the CM had offered to establish infrastructure support to maintain the health and safety of the Hambantota community.

23.06.2021: **Parliament** - Ranil Wickremesinghe assumed duties as a Member of SL's Parliament on 23.06.2021, reports Virakesari.

29.06.2021: **China** - TNA member M. A. Sumanthiran questioned a decision to provide employment to Chinese in the North of occupied Tamil Eelam following the circulation of an image of a supposedly Chinese man at a project site in Jaffna. The image was later removed after verification that the man was not in fact Chinese, reports Colombo Gazette.

Finance Report 2020

TAMIL ECONOMIC FORUM – PHOENIX TNG

For TEF, the year 2020 was a challenging year besides the COVID-19 crisis. We still had to work off many old construction sites and complete some optimisation work, which we were able to solve effectively with our technical know-how. Whilst the work was tedious, it is essential to lay a good foundation for the economic area of Phoenix TNG. Since the inception of TEF, we have always had to overcome great obstacles, but this has made the team even more united and developed.

You can see this in the comparison (in the chart) to last year. Through income from various book sales and events, we have been able to cover most of the costs of our projects ourselves. Through many new TEID registrations, we have been able to recover out of the red numbers.

Through collaborating with the younger members of Young Phoenix, as well as the newer members joining the next generation in Phoenix, creates a good dynamic among our members. It motivates the drive to complete tasks faster and more efficiently and to tackle new challenges. This has a very positive effect on TEF and especially Phoenix TNG, which we must continue to promote.

Furthermore, we need to offer this business platform to all Tamils who are interested in business. Nowadays, the young generation is very much involved in the business sector and is pursuing a job or education in this form. With this positive support, we can boost and expand the Tamil economy and benefit Tamil Eelam.

Balance Sheet at 31.12.2020 found on page 17.

Modern Monetary Theory (MMT)

RANJINI

Modern Monetary Theory (MMT) is a monetary theory and macroeconomic school of thought that analyses the money and credit system as well as credit creation. According to this monetary theory, money is created by the government. More specifically, government policies and activities influence monetary policy.

There are three important features that characterise MMT.

- 1. Banks can create book money themselves by granting loans without having to draw on savings.
- 2. Money supply is controlled by the interest rate, which is set by the central bank.
- 3. The state cannot go bankrupt because its own central bank can "create" money by printing money and can "destroy" money via taxes.

According to MMT, these three capabilities enable the state to stabilise the economy and secure employment during economic crises through increased government spending.

Sri Lanka and the MMT

Sri Lanka's central bank was modelled on the Latin American model in 1950. This involves the establishment of a "soft-pegged" exchange rate system that allows money printing for open market operations or to finance the budget deficit. Money printing can artificially influence interest rates which can change the economic situation. Historically SL's economic policies can be examined based on the MMT.

- 2015 Money was printed to stimulate growth and thus increase inflation and credit. The goal was to target the LKR at 151 against the USD.
- 2018 A large amount of money was printed again to keep interest rates low in order to target an output gap that would boost growth. In this process, a combined monetary policy was implemented in which a "flexible exchange rate" was applied in conjunction with the "flexible" inflation target.

This led to monetary instability, which resulted in an economic crisis. A production shock was created, in which production was reduced. Consumption declined and growth was down.whilst inflation increased simultaneously. This pushed the LKR to 182 against the USD. At that time, SL was warned against dollarisation by analysts.

- 2019 The MMT economic model officially came into use, where money was created by selling large amounts of treasury bills to SL's central bank. At the end of December 2019, tax cuts reduced GoSL revenues, which increased SL's budget deficit. To counteract this, even more money was printed, worsening the situation and putting pressure on the rupee.
- 2020 Money was printed to keep interest rates low as the market rejected government bond auctions and set price ceilings. In addition, due to the COVID-19 pandemic and increased SL government spending, the balance of payments deficit increased to \$2.3 billion, with over LKR 650 billion printed.

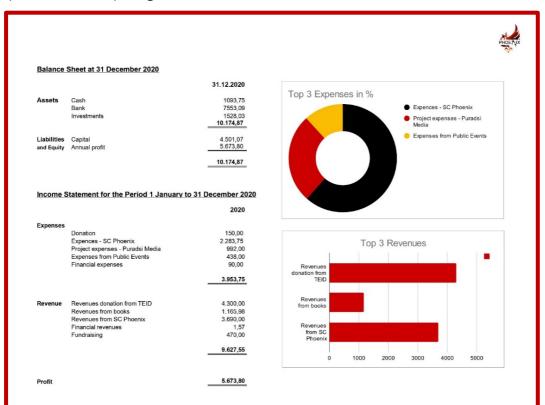
Consequences

Increased money printing creates a shortage of foreign currency and since the ratio of domestic currency to foreign currency is lower, this leads to the devaluation of the LKR. As a result of the foreign exchange shortage, SL has imposed import bans on a large number of goods. However, this cannot counteract the foreign currency shortage because credit will flow to other permitted sectors and imports will recover. Moreover, financing with printed money is problematic because outflows will exceed inflows, which in turn will lead to foreign exchange shortages. Finally, the LKR will come under pressure and the exchange rate cannot be maintained.

Furthermore, an exchange control law was introduced that prevented financial and capital outflows, which meant that domestic savings could no longer be invested abroad. This also creates a current account deficit. All the problems Sri Lanka is struggling with are signs of an economic crisis.

Risk

Finally, money printing can lead to currency collapses or hyperinflation. In hyperinflation, the velocity of money in circulation constantly increases as everyone spends their money on goods as immediately as possible to forestall further price increases. This corresponds to a very extreme devaluation of money and the whole economy can collapse. For example, by 1922, Germany had printed a lot of money at that time to pay their reparation costs and eventually had to forgo their currency. Inflation has strong consequences and could also hit Sri Lanka with similar effects leaving the economy and the country at the mercy of global investors.



Economic News

Inflation	May 2020 – May 2021 May 2021	↑ 4.5 % 6.1 %	
Food Prices	June 2021	5.2 % ↑ 9.9 %	
GDP Forecasts Nominal GDP		\downarrow to 2.9 % from 3.1 %	
Capital spending		↑ to 6.4 % from 6.0 %	
Fiscal Deficit	2021	↑ to 9.5 % from 8.9 %	
Real Wages			
Public Sector	2019 - 2020	↑ 9.2 %	
Private Sector	2019 – 2020	↓ 4.2 %	
FOREX Reserves			
Net Reserves	April 2021	↓ to 33 % of monetary base	
Gross Reserves	May 2021	↓ by USD 452.6 million	
Fitch Ratings	CCC		
PMI	April 2021 – May 2021	42.1	
BOP deficit	March 2021 April 2021	USD 1.1 billion USD 929 million	
Trade deficit	April 2021 April 2021	USD 889 million	
Debt	2021	USD 6.3 billion	
Private Credit	May 2021	↑ by LKR 55.6 billion	

SL's economic developments reported within the month of June, 2021.

COVID-19 Relief

03.06.2021: **USAID** - Emergency supplies flown in, reports Economy Next.

- 880, 000 pieces of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)
- 1,200 pulse oximeters

03.06.2021: **Australia** - David Holly and Australia's Defence Adviser, Captain Ian Cain supply Shavendra Silva with COVID-19 response equipment, reports Colombo Gazette. Australia's overall COVID-19 response aid amounts to USD 11.7 million.

- 6.3 tonnes of PPE
- Equipment manufactured from Australian-based firm, Ansell
 - 16,500 coveralls
 - 25,000 surgical masks
 - 100,000 gloves
- 175 goggles
- 15 (25 litre) cool boxes

03.06.2021: **Germany** - Germany donated 924,000 surgical masks to SL's Health Ministry through WHO, reports Colombo Gazette.

07.06.2021: **Switzerland** - Switzerland's Armed Forces Pharmacy dispatched

aid worth CHF 3.5 million in medical supplies to SL, reports Colombo Gazette.

- 500,000 antigen tests
- 50 ventilators
- 150 oxygen concentrators

08.06.2021: **USAID** - US Embassy Charge d'Affaires Martin Kelly and Secretary to the Ministry of Health Dr. S.H. Munasinghe participated in the PPE handover ceremony following the arrival of medical supplies at Bandaranaike International Airport on 05.06.2021. Additionally, on 07.06.2021, G. Rajapaksa met with the United States Agency for International Development, Reed J. Aeschliman, at SL's Presidential Secretariat to discuss funded stalled projects in SL with plans to accelerate the projects in the coming months accordingly.

21.06.2021: **Doha-Qatar** - SL's Embassy in Doha facilitated the air shipment of 125 oxygen cylinders and 10 oxygen regulators to GoSL following the request made by the Ambassador of Sri Lanka to Qatar, M. Mafaz Mohideen reports the Colombo Gazette.

25.06.2021: **Expenditure** - Since the emergence of the COVID-19 crisis, SL has spent LKR 260 billion on relief activities, reports Economy Next.

28.06.2021: **Switzerland** - According to Virakesari, Switzerland's Ambassador to SL, Dominik Furgler had donated USD 4 million worth of medical equipment to M. Rajapaksa on behalf of the Swiss government.

Vaccines

03.06.2021

US selects SL and other nations to distribute 25 million COVID-19 vaccines according to SL's request for 600,000 AstraZeneca vaccines.

06.06.2021

2 million doses of Sinopharm sold by China to SL.

July 2021

400,000 additional doses of Russia's Sputnik V to be delivered to SL.

SL to produce 13 million Sinovac doses from July 2021 at Kundasale, Kandy.

30.06.2021

Asian Development Bank (ADB) approved USD 150 million loan to SL to cover costs of vaccination.

01.06.2021: **China** - PetroChina International, based in Singapore, is awarded contracts by SL to supply diesel and gasoline to the state-owned Sri Lanka Petroleum Corporation (CPC). The duration of the contract is 8 months from 01.06.2021, reports Economy Next.

06.06.2021: **Tourism** - SL's Tourism Development Authority (STLTDA) announced that SL's Foreign Ministry would cooperate with the Embassy of France in SL to facilitate a tour for 400 crew members of French ships set to occur between 07.06.2021-11.06.2021, reports Colombo Gazette.

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Infrastructure

08.06.2021: **Project** - M. Rajapaksa's proposed "Hundred Cities" program which aims to revamp neglected cities in SL has been approved by the SL Cabinet, reports Colombo Gazette.

10.06.2021: **Expressway** - China Harbour Engineering is building a USD 675 million high-speed rail line under a 15-year build-operate-transfer contract. The road will run from New Kelani Bridge through Kolonnawa, Rajagiriya, Buthgamuwa, Battaramulla, Koswatte, Pothuarawa, Hokandara and connect to the outer ring road at Athurugiriya. To connect to Baseline Road, construction is underway at Orugodawatte to connect to New Kelani Bridge ND at Dematagoda, Economy Next reports.

12.06.2021: **WHO** - The World Bank's Board of Executive Directors have approved USD 40 Million for SL to expand water and sanitation services in 7 districts through the Water Supply and Sanitation Improvement Project (WASSIP), reports Colombo Gazette.

14.06.2021: **India** - India and SL sign a USD 100 Million Line of Credit to enhance solar power generation in SL, reports Colombo Gazette. Further measures will be taken according to the National Policy Framework 'Vistas of Prosperity and Splendour'.

18.06.2021: **Japan** - SL has cancelled a light rail project financed by Japan and the Japan International Cooperation is now claiming compensation for losses and damages of LKR 5,896 million. These had not been reported in the GoSL's financial statements, reports Economy Next.

18.06.2021: **Germany** - The German Embassy in Colombo offered financial assistance through micro-scheme projects to increase health and hygiene facilities for 136 preschools in the Trincomalee District through granting LKR 2,351,880 to the Eastern Province Preschool Teachers Association, reports Colombo Gazette.

30.06.2021: **Industrial Park** - A special industrial park is being built in Eravur, to produce 'greener' clothes. Strict environmental regulations apply, such as lower carbon emissions, reduction of water consumption and use of new technology. This serves to ensure a transparent supply chain, reports Economy Next.

07.06.2021: **Foreign exchange** - To boost foreign exchange inflows into the country, SL is pushing private firms to borrow abroad and is also offering zerocost swap facility. These foreign loans could alternatively be invested by the private sector in Sri Lanka Development Bonds (SLDBs), reports Economy Next.

09.06.2021: **Credit** - SL increases the limit on borrowing through state guarantees from the current 10 % to 15 % of Gross Domestic Product (GDP). The state guarantees enable an anti-privatisation ideology, Economy Next reports.

11.06.2021: **Fuel prices** - SL will raise retail fuel prices to avoid losses to the stateowned Ceylon Petroleum Corporation and the GoSL. Moreover, SL's mercantilists believe that oil is causing the foreign exchange shortage, Economy Next reports.

17.06.2021: **Compensation** - Due salaries amounting to LKR 30 million was provided to the family members of the deceased migrant workers. These payments could be made through the initiatives and constant follow-up by the relevant SL missions, Economy Next reports.

17.06.2021: **Financial terror** - SL Energy Minister Gammanpila finds fuel sector losses and debt a dangerous challenge worse than "Tamil Tiger terrorism" reports Economy Next - especially as the establishment of the Fuel Stabilisation Fund in 2020 did not work efficiently.

17.06.2021: **Fish import** - The General Administration of Customs of China (GACC) altered health certification for fish imports. According to Economy Next, China intends to assist exporters' usage of the updated certificate. SL exported 5.2 million to China in 2020, making China an important export market.

20.06.2021: **CPC** - The CPC owes USD 2.081 billion to the state-owned Bank of Ceylon and the People's Bank of SL. Sri Lanka is now attempting to refinance a loan worth USD 1 billion, resulting in massive losses as the currency weakens, Economy Next reports.

21.06.2021: **Monetary policy** - SL printed LKR 22 billion in the week to 18.06.2021 as they failed to sell 60 % of the bulk of the LKR 50 billion of currency notes at a peak rate of 5.21 % due to an increase in money printing after a pause in April and May 2021, reports Economy Next.

Income

01.06.2021: **Palali** - According to SL's Cabinet Spokesman Udaya Kammanpila, an Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) is to be signed between India and SL to obtain LKR 300 million in relief from India for the development of the Palali International Airport, reports Virakesari.

11.06.2021: **Swap** - In August 2021, SL expects USD 400 million in currency swaps from the Reserve Bank of India to increase SL reserves. In July 2021, SL is due to repay a sovereign bond worth USD 1 billion, reports Economy Next.

21.06.2021: **Pakistan** - According to Virakesari, the High Commissioner of Pakistan, Retired Major General Mohammad Saad Kattak presented 2 cheques to G. Rajapaksa. Reports indicate that the donations were made to SL to provide assistance in the sports and COVID-19 relief industry.

Cheques:

- Financial Assistance by the Prime Minister of Pakistan for the Government of Sri Lanka in the field of sports - LKR 66 million
- Relief Assistance grant for COVID-19
 LKR 8,027,300. 60

25.06.2021: **US** - According to the US Embassy in Colombo, the US delivered food and aid on 21.06.2021 to approximately 110,000 children in SL and occupied Tamil Eelam.

Locations:

- Badulla
- Kilinochchi
- Monaragala
- Mullaitivu
- Nuwara Eliya
- Ratnapura
- Trincomalee

22.06.2021: ICT - Over 100 SL ICT

companies and professionals have been linked to the United Arab Emirates (UAE) market by the SL in Abu Dhabi and SL's Export Development Board (EDB). According to Economy Next, this expands export opportunities and income for SL.

22.06.2021: **Rice** - SL intends to purchase 100,000 tonnes of foreign rice to reduce rising domestic prices as trade controls have led to the strengthening of a domestic oligopoly, Economy Next reports.

23.06.2021: Monetary policy - The

monetary base in the second quarter of 2021 was exceeded by SL's outstanding central bank credit to the GoSL. The reason for this is money printing according to the Modern Monetary Theory in connection with the monetary and fiscal "stimulus", reports Economy Next. 23.06.2021: **Fitch** - According to Fitch, SL banks will continue to face difficulties in obtaining foreign currency funding due to low sovereign credit ratings. According to Economy Next, SL banks which used to borrow dollars to buy international government bonds would be at high risk.

25.06.2021: **Thai Bhat** - The Thai currency, Thai Bhat has been added by SL's central bank to a list of currencies that may be used for offshore banking, reports Economy Next.

Other currencies:

- Australian Dollar
- Canadian Dollar
- Euro
- Japanese Yen
- New Zealand Dollar
- Norwegian Kroner
- Pound Sterling
- Swedish Kroner
- Swiss Franc
- US Dollar

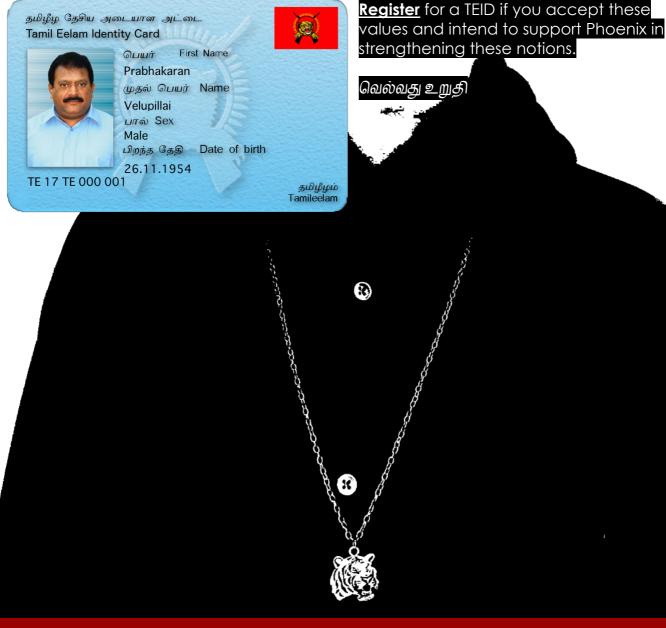
28.06.2021: **Treasury bill auction** - SL's central bank's stock of treasury bills reached a new high of LKR 919 billion rupees on 25.06.2021. The reason is a failed treasury bill auction that printed LKR 23 billion on the SL central bank's balance sheet through the purchase of Treasury bills, reports Economy Next

TEID – Tamil Eelam Identity Card

PHOENIX TNG

In 2018, Phoenix TNG introduced the TEID. Each individual who applies for a TEID accepts the following conditions:

- Eelam Tamils are a nation with their one language, own traditions, a common history and a traditional homeland named Tamil Eelam
- Acceptance of the historical sovereignty of the Eelam Tamils
- Acceptance of the Vaddukoddai Resolution
- Acceptance of the earned sovereignty under the LTTE
- Acceptance that a genocide is taking place against the Tamils



Obituary

கண்ணீர் அஞ்சலி



MOTHER OF MURDERED TAMIL JOURNALIST Mylvaganam Nimalarajan who relentlessly Fought for Justice for Her Son.

CANADA

DATE OF DEMISE: 28.06.2021



VINCENT FLORENCE JOSEPH

FORMER FIGHTER AND PROMINENT TRANSLATOR. Well-known individual within the tamil Media and creative community.

JAFFNA, TAMIL EELAM



News about Oppression & Resistance

freedom in the South Repression in the North

இலங்கை அரசிடம் கையளிக்கப்பட்ட

உறவுகள் எங்கே?

01.06.2021: **Deforestation** - Despite local concerns and

complaints, mass scale deforestation continues to occur in the

Ambalapperumalkulam Grama Niladhihari Division in Mullaitivu for the supposed purposes of constructing a pond, reports Virakesari.

03.06.2021: Anchor - Fonterra Brands Lanka defended the decision not to use Tamil in its Ancho Butter packaging justifying that the use of Sinhalese and Manadarin reflects the languages spoken in SL in an email sent to the Colombo Gazette. The particular product is packaged and exported from New Zealand and SL's Consumer Affairs Authority (CAA), Chairman Shantha Dissanayake stated that a complaint had not been filed on their end pertaining to concerns regarding languages used. The continuous disregard for the Tamil language has been utilised to effectively suppress Tamils' access to knowledge and understanding.

09.06.2021: **Drone surveillance** - The occupational SLAF and Police conducted drone surveillance in the Uppumaveli area in Mullaitivu to monitor alleged illegal sand mining activity within areas owned by the Jaffna diocese, reports Virakesari.

Sand mining

02.06.2021 - 14 individuals were arrested by the occupational Batticaloa Valaichenai police for engaging in illegal excavations near the Omaniyamadu river, reports Virakesari. Further reports indicate that 6 tractors and 8 heavy vehicles were also seized.

04.06.2021 - Sand mining continues to be conducted in the Uppumaveli area of Mullaitivu in lands belonging to the Jaffna Diocese, reports Virakesari.

09.06.2021 - Occupational SL troops surrounded a group of illegal sand miners in Jaffna where 1 individual was arrested in Chavakachcheri, reports Virakesari.

10.06.2021 - According to Virakesari, the Mullaitivu Court had called for suspects involved in illegal sand mining activities near Uppumaveli, Mullaitivu to be arrested. **16.06.2021** - According to the Dharmapuram Police Investigation Division, the drivers of 3 tipper vehicles and 2 others had been arrested for alleged involvement in illegal sand mining, reports Virakesari.

19.06.2021 - Measures have been undertaken with the assistance of the occupational military to prevent illegal sand mining activities in the Kanakarayan River and Uriyan areas of Kandawala, Kilinochchi, reports Virakesari.

21.06.2021 - According to Virakesari, an occupational army officer shot at a tipper truck illegally transporting sand causing a passenger in the vehicle to be injured. Reports indicate that the shooting occurred in the Puliyambokkana area of Kilinochchi and the wounded individual was admitted into Kilinochchi's Dharmapuram Hospital.

11.06.2021: **Quarry** - Locals expressed discontent over the construction of a quarry without the permission of the Tirukoil Pradesiya Sabha within the Mandaana Saagamam area, reports Virakesari.

12.06.2021: **Arrest** - Occupational police confiscated a tipper and arrested the driver on 11.06.2021 for supposedly demolishing a small Pillaiyaar koyil near Mirusuvil on the A9 road on 07.06.2021, reports Virakesari.

12.06.2021: **Arrest** - According to Virakesari, 38 Eelam Tamils who had been staying illegally in Mangalore for over 1.5 months were arrested by India's Central Criminal police on 11.06.2021. Further reports indicate that 27 individuals who had attempted to flee to Tamil Nadu by sea had also been arrested by Indian police.

12.06.2021: **Women** - According to a study, about one third of SL's female settlement workers suffer from physical violence, sexual, economic and emotional abuse. This is fuelled by male dominance, cramped housing conditions and isolation from mainstream society, among other factors, reports Economy Next.

14.06.2021: **PTA** - The Sri Lankan Government rejected claims that the PTA had been used to arrest and detain minority groups in SL arbitrarily, reports Colombo Gazette. Accordingly, D. Gunawardena briefed Chargé d'Affaires of the Delegation of the European Union in Colombo, Thorsten Bargfrede, Colombo-based EU Ambassadors / Chargé d'Affaires of France, Italy, Romania, Germany and the Netherlands on the SL state's position.

15.06.2021: **Blast** - According to Virakesari, a 64-year-old woman, Indiran Mariaratnam had been admitted to Puthukudiyiruppu hospital after sustaining injuries due to the explosion of a bomb in the Iranapalai area of Mullaitivu whilst clearing her lands. Earlier reports indicate that a local woman had also been admitted to Puthukudiyiruppu hospital after sustaining injuries from a bomb that exploded near a palm tree on her land near the Devipuram area.

15.06.2021: **Protest** - The locals of Attan, Manalaaru demanded authorities to take action to ensure that they received the promised relief to assist them in a time where their livelihood had been impacted due to the COVID-19 induced travel ban, reports Virakesari.

17.06.2021: **Mullivaikkal** - According to Virakesari, the Valachchenai Magistrate's Court ruled on 16.06.2021 that the 10 individuals arrested under the PTA for engaging in Mullivaikkal commemorations at the Batticaloa Calcutta beach, should be further remanded until 30.07.2021.

19.06.2021: **Soil** - SL's Department of Agrarian Development has prevented the filling of paddy fields with soil in the Irambaikulam and Pattanichur areas of Vavuniya. According to Virakesari, 3 individuals had been arrested by occupational police for violating an order issued by the Agrarian Department against the construction of paddy fields.

20.06.2021: **Intimidation** - Eravur locals were forced to kneel by occupational army officers for violating COVID-19 regulations, reports Virakesari.

22.06.2021: **Abuse** - Several female journalists have reported how they have been sexually harassed by their colleagues. The perpetrators include journalists who worked in mid-level newspaper and television newsrooms, as well as older people who had pursued careers in politics, Economy Next reports. 23.06.2021: **Police** - According to SL's Public Security Minister Rear Admiral Sarath Weerasekar had mentioned that 197 new police stations would be established across SL to enable the process of filing complaints to be more efficient and accessible to the general public. Reports from Virakesari indicate that new occupational police stations are to be established in Chidambarapuram and Nelukulam in Vavuniya.

27.06.2021: **Protest** - According to Virakesari, 12 inmates imprisoned with a death sentence at the Welikada prison were protesting on top of the prison roof demanding their release. Further reports indicate that all of the death row inmates at Mahara prison were also engaged in a hunger strike.

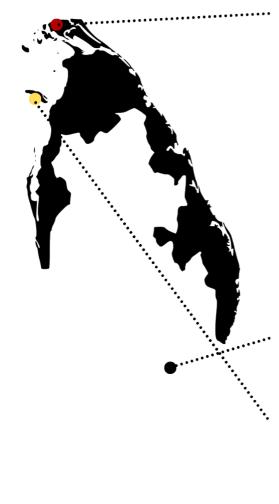
26.06.2021: Land appropriation -

According to Virakesari, an individual is engaged in the appropriation of locallyowned lands in the Kalliyadi area of Manthai West. Reports indicate that MP Charles Nirmalanathan had inspected the area on 26.06.2021.

30.06.2021: **Protest** - Locals from Vavuniya staged a protest in compliance with COVID-19 health regulations demanding the whereabouts of their forcibly disappeared relatives, reports Virakesari.

FORMER LTTE CADRES RELEASED THROUGH SL PRESIDENTIAL PARDON BY PROVINCE

Source:Kaalaikkathir



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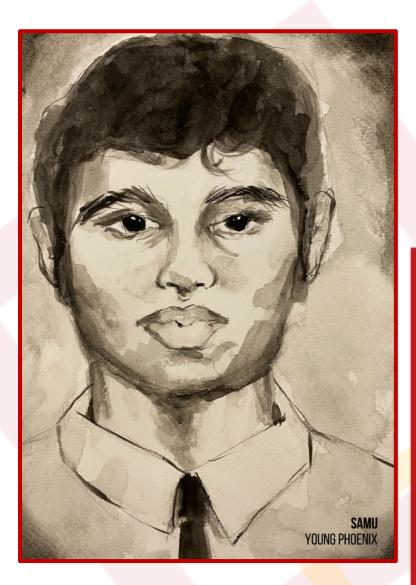
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Signs of Structural Genocide

17.06.2021: **Kurunthoormalai** - Foundation stones had been laid for the construction of a public hall at Kurunthoormalai on 13.06.2021, reports Virakesari. Reports indicate that armed forces, Buddhist monks and officials from SL's Archaeological Department had been present at the ceremony.

22.06.2021: Land - According to Durairasa Ravikaran, barbed wire fences had been erected around 44 acres of privately owned land in Mullaitivu for the establishment of an Ilmenite Minerals Factory. Reports from Virakesari indicate that the Ceylon Mineral Sands Corporation under SL's Ministry of State Resources and Enterprises had engaged in such activities in Kokkilai East, Mullaitivu. The appropriation of Tamil lands and resources constitutes as signs of structural Tamil genocide as the territorial integrity of the Tamil homeland is disrupted.

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