

PHOENIX

Monthly Newsletter

ISSUE

48

July 2023



Akkinip Parabaikal

“
As children of this legacy, if this
memory resonates with you, reach
out to us so that we can share,
connect and heal together.”
”

Phoenix TNG

MEMOIRS

A collective project to signify the commemoration of 04 decades of survival, resistance and resilience.

'83 BJR Team, Phoenix TNG

Proceed to Page 03 for more.

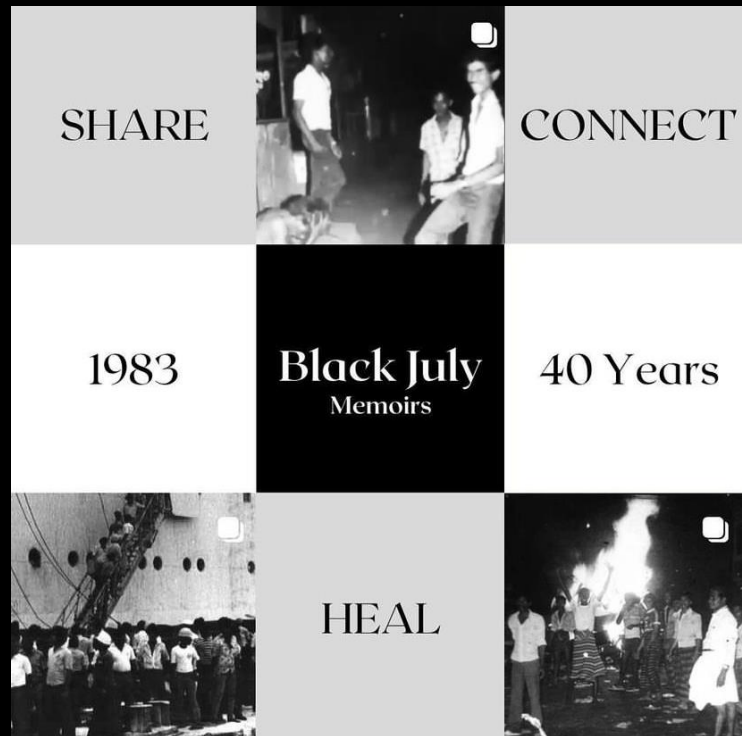
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MEMOIRS

A Time Capsule Project

'83 Black July Resistance Team ('83BJR)
PHOENIX TNG



24.07.1983-30.07.1983 marks the devastating SL-sponsored instance of Anti-Tamil pogroms.

Tamils were systematically attacked by Sinhalese mobs who were instigated by the SL state. With the aid of printed Electoral Rolls, Tamils were burnt, looted and killed. This resulted in the death toll of over 3,000 Eelam Tamils and caused a mass exodus from our traditional Tamil homeland.

Black July not only denotes a crucial point in the ongoing Tamil genocide, but also in shaping the global Tamil diaspora's identity. As children of this legacy, if this memory resonates with you, reach out to us so that we can share, connect and heal together.

Contact us via
au@phoenixtng.com or
83blackjulyresistance@gmail.com to find out more on how you can contribute to a Memoir project to

signify the commemoration of 4 decades of survival, resistance and resilience.

04.07.2023: **Nuclear Power Plants** - According to Economy Next, SL is reviewing bids for nuclear power plants from Russia, the US, India and some European countries to select the appropriate technology for SL. The SL minister dismissed claims and speculation that GoSL has signed a contract with Russian nuclear giant Rosatom to build a nuclear power plant in SL.

13.07.2023: **UN** - According to Economy Next, R. Wickremesinghe has accused the UN Human Rights Council of failing to issue an "explanation" on the internationally condemned Quran burning in the Swedish capital, prompting renewed debate over freedom of expression.

Bilateral

04.07.2023: **China** - According to Economy Next, SL has already commenced negotiations with its bilateral lenders, Paris Club members and non-Paris Club members. But China, however, had not agreed to discuss the debt restructuring process together with other non-Paris Club members, so SL will discuss its bilateral debt restructuring process separately with China.

Less than 24 hours after his speech, the human rights body passed a resolution condemning the burnings, while many countries refused to endorse the resolution, fearing interference with free speech.

24.07.2023: **India** - According to Lanka Files, it was announced in the Sunday Times LK that R. Wickremesinghe intends to verify with the SL Parliament regarding the implementation of the transfer of police powers to provinces which had previously been included in SL's constitution.

27.07.2023: **Canada** - According to Lanka Files, Tamil MP Gary Anandasangaree was sworn into Canadian Parliament as Canada's

Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs.

27.07.2023: **BBC News** - Eelam Tamil journalist, Dharshini David has been appointed by BBC News as their Chief Economics Correspondent, reports Lanka Files.

27.07.2023: **US** - According to Economy Next, the Federal Reserve has raised its benchmark interest rate to 5.25/5.50 %, citing that SL's economy and jobs are growing but inflation is still high. The rate hike has been implemented amidst concerns among some economists that the broad money supply in the US, as calculated by the Federal Reserve, is stagnating or shrinking.

04.07.2023: **World Bank** - According to Economy Next, SL has received the first disbursement of USD 250 million as a budget support loan from the World Bank. The SL Cabinet had approved the signing of an agreement for a USD 500 million budget support loan from the World Bank.

04.07.2023: **India** - According to Economy Next, SL's Finance Ministry is

levying tax of LKR 50 per litre of fuel, to raise money to pay for a nearly USD 1 billion loan received by SL state-owned Ceylon Petroleum Corporation (CPC). SL must pay USD 251 million to Iran for crude supplies it bought before the 2012 US sanctions, according to Tehran officials, while it must pay USD 700 million for oil imports under the Indian credit line after SL announced its bankruptcy.

05.07.2023: **Japan** - According to Economy Next, SL's Cabinet of Ministers has approved a proposal to commence diplomatic dialogue with Japan on a light rail project. SL's auditor general's office mentioned in late June, 2023 that GoSL had agreed to pay about USD 3.4 million (around LKR 01 one billion rupees) to a consulting firm run by Japanese companies after the project was cancelled.

06.07.2023: **ADB** - According to Economy Next, the Asian Development Bank (ADB) has expressed its willingness to provide knowledge and technical assistance for water sector reform in SL. Sagala Ratnayake, Senior Advisor to SL's President on National Security, and Takafumi Kadono, ADB Mission Director, had discussed the plans and monitoring framework for the water supply sector in SL.

09.07.2023: **Israel** - According to Economy Next, SL expects Israeli carrier Israel Airlines to begin flights to Colombo as soon as background work for security clearances is completed. SL is also in talks with other airlines to resume flights to Colombo.

09.07.2023: **Power Sector** - According to Economy Next, SL is in negotiation with China's Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank for USD 220 million in power sector financing. SL's state-

owned power utility Ceylon Electricity Board and NPTC are constructing a 130-megawatt joint venture solar power plant in Sampur, Trincomalee.

11.07.2023: **Indonesia** - According to Economy Next, SL's Cabinet of Ministers approve talks with Indonesia with the intent to sign a preferential trade agreement. The preferential agreement will improve access to exports and increase competitiveness in the import market.

11.07.2023: **IFC** - According to Economy Next, Washington-based International Finance Corporation (IFC) has been selected to assist in the divestment of SL Airlines, SL Telecom and Lanka Hospital Corporation. The Cabinet had approved the signing of the contracts with the divestment advisors.

12.07.2023: **Netherlands** - According to Economy Next, SL will receive "the first shipment" of artefacts, including a golden sword, stolen during Dutch occupation after the South Asian government submitted a request to the current Dutch administration. The 06 artefacts, which are currently being returned, are in the custody of the Rijksmuseum - the national museum of the Netherlands, which has held historical products since 1200.

12.07.2023: **France** - According to Economy Next, SL has approved a French-funded project to set up a satellite system to collect data on oil spills caused by ships in SL's territorial waters. With this system, it would be possible to implement swift action to prevent marine pollution caused by ships, identify the responsible vessels and take appropriate legal action.

14.07.2023: **UK** - According to Economy Next, SL has invited former UK

Paymaster General Francis Maude, who oversaw the establishment of the Government Digital Service in 2011, to visit them and share his insights on digitisation to boost government revenues. R. Wickremesinghe has mentioned that the latest systems need to be examined and the necessary infrastructure developed accordingly.

14.07.2023: **India** - According to Economy Next, the Indian government is overseeing software development for the Sri Lanka Unique Digital Identity (SL-UDI) project after India agreed to contribute INR 300 million. During the first phase, the focus will be placed on software development and in the second phase, data collection will be carried out by SL authorities, taking into account data protection measures.

15.07.2023: **India** - According to Economy Next, SL's Energy Minister Kanchana Wijesekera has requested India to add gas to a planned oil pipeline linking the 02 South Asian neighbours. A proposal by the Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) for an oil distribution pipeline linking Nagapattinam, Trincomalee and Colombo was discussed. The request was made in light of:

- ◆ a development plan for a tank farm in Trincomalee
- ◆ anticipated refinery development
- ◆ oil and gas exploration
- ◆ connections to domestic LPG terminals targeting regional markets
- ◆ meeting the energy needs of the 02 countries.

21.07.2023: **Adani** - According to Economy Next, R. Wickremesinghe met with Indian entrepreneur Gautam Adani, who heads the Adani Group. They discussed an intriguing series of projects in SL, including further development of the Port of Colombo's West Container Terminal, a 500-

megawatt wind project, and the expansion of the Adani Group's renewable energy expertise to produce green hydrogen.

22.07.2023: **Japan** - According to Economy Next, SL is set to receive JPY 284 million from Japan for the second phase of a human resource development scholarship program. In addition, SL's Cabinet mentioned it will sign an agreement with the Japanese Government to ensure international cooperation with Japan.

24.07.2023: **Norway** - According to Economy Next, the Norwegian Embassy in Colombo will be permanently closed on 31.07.2023 as part of a reform initiative, with the Norwegian Embassy in New Delhi tasked with maintaining bilateral relations with SL. The decision to close the Embassy in Colombo will not affect bilateral relations between Norway and SL.

24.07.2023: **Canada** - According to Economy Next, on the occasion of the 40th commemoration of the Black July 1983 pogrom, Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau issued a statement expressing condolences to the victims and their families.

27.07.2023: **India** - According to Economy Next, R. Wickremesinghe met with India's leader in New Delhi. Wickremesinghe reiterated his far-reaching assurance that SL's territory will not be used against India.

27.07.2023: **France** - According to Economy Next, French President Emmanuel Macron will be in Colombo for a few hours to meet with R. Wickremesinghe. Debt restructuring will be one of the issues raised during the discussion.

28.07.2023: **Canada** - SL State Minister for Foreign Affairs, Tharaka Balasur and Canada's High Commissioner, Eric Walsh engaged in bilateral discussions on topics of mutual interest, reports Lanka Files.

28.07.2023: **Australia** - According to Economy Next, Australian companies are interested in investing in SL, especially in the resource sector, but a more favourable investment environment is required. Australia has a strong mining sector. Australia is interested in investing in the phosphate, graphite, and ilmenite sectors in SL. SL also plans to draft a new law on foreign investment to accelerate procedures within SL's Board of Investment.

28.07.2023: **Japan** - According to Economy Next, Japanese Foreign Minister Hayashi Yoshimasa will arrive in SL on 28.07.2023 for a two-day official visit. Japan has funded SL's roads, ports and infrastructure and has also provided grants to SL's health sector for many years.

29.07.2023: **Japan** - According to Economy Next, Japanese Foreign Minister Hayashi Yoshimasa, who is on an official visit to SL, met with R. Wickremesinghe and held talks on debt restructuring assistance, infrastructure projects and high-tech investment opportunities. They discussed bilateral relations between Japan and SL and "mutual commitment to further strengthen their traditionally strong relationship."

30.07.2023: **France** - According to Kalaikathir, French president Macron has visited SL. It is the first time in history that a French President has visited SL.

29.07.2023

Japan Foreign Minister meets R. Wickremesinghe

Oil Slick Monitoring Mission
France

14.07.2023

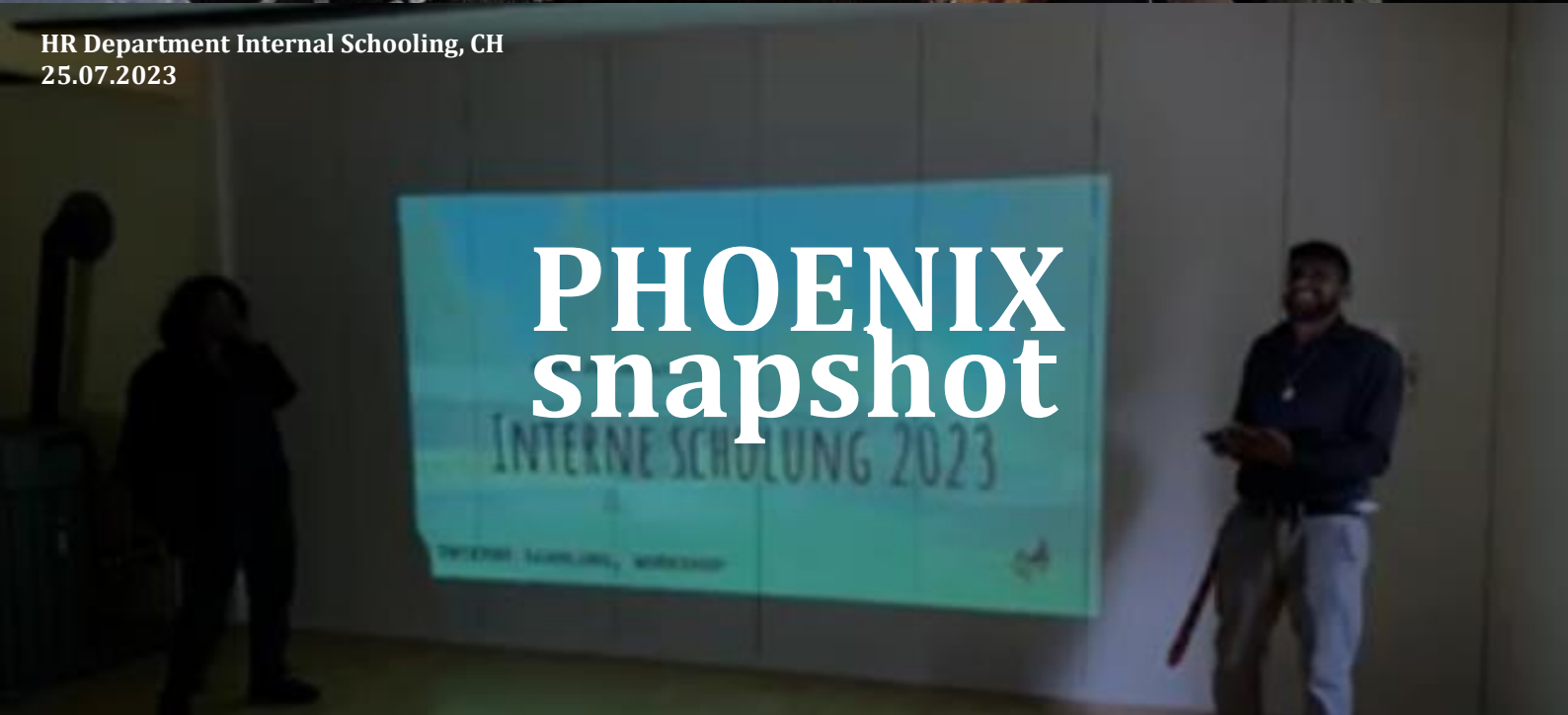
Kanaka Herath regarding SL-UDI



Black July Mahnwache, CH
23.07.2023



HR Department Internal Schooling, CH
25.07.2023



HR Tamil Pfadi Scouts Camp, CH
26.07.2023-28.07.2023



Military News

12.07.2023: **Traders' HQ** - According to SL's MoD's website SL's occupational Army has constructed a Traders' HQ building in Vavuniya in a "gesture of solidarity and reconciliation."

30.07.2023: **India** - According to SL's MoD website, an Indian Naval ship arrived at the Trincomalee Port. This ship will participate in an exercise with SL's Navy.

Tamil Eelam

11.07.2023: **Flights** - According to Economy Next, Sri Lankan airline Cinnamon Air has announced that it will commence scheduled flights to Jaffna 04 days a week and also resume daily flights to Trincomalee and Batticaloa. The flight to Jaffna will be routed via Sigiriya, allowing tourists who want to visit Sri Lanka's cultural heritage in regions such as Polonnaruwa, Habarana and Dambulla an easy journey to Jaffna, the airline mentioned.

19.07.2023: **Police** - According to Economy Next, MPs from the Tamil homeland and R. Wickremesinghe were unable to reach consensus on the inclusion of police powers in the full

implementation of an Indian-backed devolution mechanism. At a meeting at SL's Presidential Secretariat in Colombo on 18.07.2023, opposition Tamil National Alliance (TNA) MP M. A. Sumanthiran mentioned that excluding police powers from the implementation of the 13th Constitutional Amendment would not lead to a meaningful devolution of power.

21.07.2023: **Energy Center** - According to Economy Next, R. Wickremesinghe, and Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi discussed the development of an energy centre in the Trincomalee district during an official meeting. India has spheres of interest on

the Trincomalee port since the late 1970s. Trincomalee is one of SL's richest districts in mineral resources.

21.07.2023: **India** - According to Economy Next, India expects SL to implement the 13th Amendment to SL's Constitution to ensure the Tamil community lives with "dignity and respect." In addition, the 02 countries have held talks on various infrastructure projects which can ensure more efficient connectivity between the 02 countries and announced a development aid package for the Tamils of Indian origin who are denoting the 200th anniversary of their arrival in Eelam.

22.07.2023: **MoU** - According to Economy

Next, SL and India have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on renewable energy cooperation and the development of an energy centre in Trincomalee. In addition, the energy permit for the Sampur solar park was granted so that the joint venture between CEB and NTPC of India can commence.

22.07.2023: Airport - According to Economy Next, SL's Cabinet has approved the extension of the reduced boarding fee for Jaffna Airport for another 06 months to boost tourism with India. The airport in Jaffna was recently designated as an international airport.

22.07.2023: Solar Projects - According to Economy Next, SL's Cabinet of Ministers has approved a proposal to amend an agreement between SL and India to allocate USD 10 million from a USD 15 million

grant to provide solar energy systems for Buddhist temples and Piriven schools. The original MoU between the 02 countries was signed in March 2022 to implement projects under the grant to strengthen bilateral relations in the field of Buddhism.

25.07.2023: 13A - According to Economy Next, R. Wickremesinghe is keen to implement SL's 13th Constitutional Amendment and is open to discussions on devolving police powers to the provinces. Jaffna District MP and former Northern Province Chief Minister C.V.Wigenswaran has said he agrees with the appointment of a five-member advisory committee to devolve powers to all 09 provinces in SL.

26.07.2023: TRC - According to Economy Next, SL should be able

to strike a balance between accountability and reconciliation in a Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) now working with the help of South Africa, Switzerland and Japan. Tamil leaders said the latest TRC draft has failed to meet minimum expectations in addressing the concerns of Tamil ethnic minorities who lost their loved ones in the final stages of the war.

01.07.2023: Hack - SL's Department of Information's official facebook page was hacked and they released a statement emphasising that technical and legal

action would be taken against those involved, reports Lanka Files.

04.07.2023: IOC - According to Economy Next, SL plans to plant up to 200 hectares of

bare land with forest as part of a global initiative sponsored by the International Olympic Committee (IOC). SL is one of 04 countries in the world selected by the IOC to provide

Sri Lanka

financial support for forest regeneration.

05.07.2023: **Fuel** -

According to Economy Next, SL has awarded fuel retail licences to 03 foreign companies, China's Sinopec, United Petroleum Australia, and US-based RM Parks, which work with Shell. They were permitted to convert LKR to dollars from the start to prevent any pressure on the LKR.

06.07.2023:

Appointment -

According to Economy Next, the Securities and Exchange Commission has appointed SL's Tushara Jayaratne as Deputy Director General. Jayaratne has a 28-year career with the Colombo Stock Exchange and the Securities and Exchange Commission.

10.07.2023: **Flights** -

According to Economy Next, foreign airlines are rapidly increasing flight frequencies to SL.

Airlines such as Aeroflot, Malindo, Air China, Alliance Air, Salam Air and Azur Air have all commenced return flights.

11.07.2023: **Energy** -

According to Economy Next, SL plans to invest USD 11 billion by 2030

to reach its goal of generating 70 % of its energy through renewable sources. To attain the target, large investments would be required within grid capacity and transmission lines to accommodate the energy levels, SL Minister Wijesekera mentioned at a forum organised by the Asian Development Bank (ADB).

11.07.2023: **Aswesuma**

- According to Economy Next, SL's new consolidated welfare scheme Aswesuma aims to create a poverty-free SL by 2048, with the goal of creating an entrepreneurial state instead of a welfare state. He mentioned that GoSL launched the Awesuma program in response to allegations that the existing welfare system was too politicised, with criticism of the Samurdhi program in particular.

13.07.2023: **Amnesty** -

According to Economy Next, Amnesty International has mentioned that SL must ensure adequate nutrition for all pregnant and breastfeeding women amidst SL's ongoing financial crisis. They

noted in a research report titled "Foregoing Meals to Make-Do" that declining incomes, loss of livelihoods and inflation have reduced women's purchasing power.

15.07.2023: **Airport** -

According to Economy Next, SL plans to liberalise ground handling, catering and fuel supply at airports - areas which had previously been an SL state monopoly. Previously, such functions had been prevented by SL's legislation itself.

18.07.2023: **Tax** -

According to Economy Next, SL's Cabinet of Ministers has approved amendments to SL's income tax law which applies to pension funds and facilitate the restructuring of domestic debt. SL authorities have stated that pension and provident funds that do not agree to extend the maturities of their government bonds will be taxed at 30% instead of the current 14%.

19.07.2023: **Water**

Tariff - According to Economy Next, the increase in water tariff in SL is expected to release USD 200 million from ADB funds for

budget support. SL's Cabinet on 17.07.2023 approved a proposal to raise the water tariff. The move is expected to offset a LKR 2.8 billion monthly loss which must be paid for interest payments on bank loans and LKR 425 million for already increased electricity prices.

20.07.2023: **Corruption** - According to Economy Next, SL's new anti-corruption bill, which was introduced as part of an agreement with the IMF, was passed with amendments in SL Parliament without a vote. SL had passed the bill after the IMF approved a USD 2.9 billion loan.

20.07.2023: **Central Bank Law** - According to Economy Next, SL's Parliament passed a controversial new *Central Bank Law*. The law was passed with 66 votes in favour and 23 against in a partially empty House, where debate had been suspended due to protests against the lack of a quorum. The passage of the law is a condition of the 17th IMF program, which SL's Central Bank has dragged SL into with its flexible exchange rate. The opposition criticised the law for

providing the agency independence without a provision for adequate accountability.

21.07.2023: **Investment** - According to Economy Next, SL offers investment zones to private investors who can attract more foreign investors. Conventionally, investment zones are managed by SL's State Board of Investment (BOI) and are not allocated to individual private investors.

25.07.2023: **News blackout** - According to Economy Next, SL State Health Sector Unions in SL have threatened union action if it does not lift the news blackout on health workers. All provincial health secretaries, heads of all health facilities under the ministry, and provincial and regional health directors have been ordered to take disciplinary action against any GoSL official who speaks out to the media.

25.07.2023: **Data Protection Authority** - According to Economy Next, SL's New Data Protection Authority has announced that the provisions of Part V of the Personal Data Protection Act, No. 9 of

2022, will come into force from 17.07.2023. The authority will be independent and will work with SL's Central Bank, Securities and Exchange Commission, Telecommunications Regulatory Commission (TRCSL) and all relevant sectoral regulators to ensure proper management of personal data, it said.

26.07.2023: **All Party Conference** - The SLFP intends to engage in the All Party Conference led by R. Wickremesinghe, reports Lanka Files. SLFP's General Secretary, J. Dayasiri mentioned during a press conference that, R. Wickremesinghe intended to garner Tamil votes by implementing the 13th Amendment to SL's Constitution to its full capacity. It is noteworthy that R. Wickremesinghe mentioned during the All Party Conference on 27.07.2023 that SL Police Powers cannot be devolved to the provinces - "If police powers are to be given, we have to introduce a new police act."

27.07.2023: **APC** - According to Economy Next, R. Wickremesinghe told an All Party Conference

(APC) that as President, he does not have the authority to legislate, but that this is a matter for SL Parliament. However, President Wickremesinghe pointed out that the provincial councils could not be abolished just like that as the system is now entrenched and said he convened the All-Party Conference to discuss the full implementation of the India-backed 13th Amendment to SL's Constitution.

28.07.2023: **Arrest** - According to JDS Lanka, freelance journalist Tharindu Udawaragedara was forcibly extracted from a vehicle and arrested in Colombo by SL Police on 28.07.2023. Reports indicate that he was arrested while engaged in filming a trade union protest action against SL's economic reforms which include the planning of cutting workers' pension funds.

29.07.2023: **Arrest** - According to Lanka Files, former IUSFSL convenor, Wasanththa Mudalige was arrested based on alleged charges of evading attendance at court. Consequently he was taken to the Cinnamon Gardens Police Station

in Colombo on 28.07.2023 and was later released on bail by Colombo's Chief Magistrate Prasanna Alwis on 29.07.2023

29.07.2023: **HRC** - According to Economy Next, R. Wickremesinghe has told the Human Rights Commission (HRC) that immediate action will be taken to address its staffing shortage. Further reports indicate that Wickremesinghe had also asked the HRC to develop and submit comprehensive guidelines for government officials and the police.



Makkal Santhippu, CH
29.07.2023



PHOENIX snapshot



Young Phoenix Presentation -
Makkal Santhippu, CH
29.07.2023

ECONOMIC PROFILE – July 2023

Gross FOREX Reserves	June 2023	↓ to USD 3,468 million
State	April 2023 from April 2022	
Tax revenues		↑ by 37% to LKR 820 billion
Current spending		↑ by 46% to LKR 1,485 billion
Capital spending and net lending		↑ by 16% to LKR 160.5 billion
Budget deficit		↑ by 57% to LKR 824 billion
Credit	May 2023	
Private credit		↓ by LKR 88.9 billion
Central bank credit		↓ by LKR 90 billion to LKR 2,123 billion
Credit to state enterprises		↓ by LKR 58.4 billion
Credit to the government		↑ by LKR 90 billion
Remittances	June 2023	↑ by 73.4% to USD 475.7 million
GDP		
First quarter 2023	Compared to December 2022	↑ by 6.7%
Forecast CB	2023	↓ by 3.3%
Forecast IWF	2023	↓ by 3%
	2024	↑ by 1.5%
Rupee	May 2023	appreciated from USD 321 to USD 295

RANJINI
AP Economic Analyst
& Coordinator

01.07.2023: **Debt** -

According to Economy Next, SL's Parliament passed a motion authorising SL's Finance Minister to restructure domestic debt.

According to SL Parliamentary Speaker Mahinda Yapa Abeywardene, the motion passed with 122 votes in favour and 62 against.

02.07.2023:

Restructuring -

According to Economy Next, SL's Central Bank and the Employment Provident Fund (EPF) will commit an "enormous" act if they restructure the fund's assets without the members' consent. The restructuring of the bonds was previously promised to be voluntary. However, authorities had mentioned that funds which do not restructure their bonds will be charged a tax of 30 % instead of 14%. Compliance with the restructuring would increase yields.

04.07.2023:

Restructuring -

According to Economy Next, SL has made an offer to restructure domestic debt to meet International Monetary Fund targets. Sri Lanka is offering to swap debt

in precautionary funds for new instruments with longer maturities under the IMF's Extended Fund Facility (EFF).

06.07.2023: **Fitch** -

According to Economy Next, Fitch Ratings has downgraded SL's rupee bonds to 'C' from 'CC' following the announcement of a domestic restructuring plan and said the rating will be further lowered to 'restricted default' once the plan is implemented. Fitch believes that the proposed DDO should be classified as a distressed debt exchange (DDE) under their criteria, as it involves a material reduction in terms and conditions and is necessary to avoid a traditional default.

07.07.2023: **IMF** -

According to Economy Next, SL has met the IMF's quantitative targets for June 2023, with the exception of government revenues. The IMF program includes a set of quantitative targets listed as "performance criteria" which are either mandatory to meet or for which a waiver can be requested, as well as indicative targets.

13.07.2023: **CEB** -

According to Economy Next, Fitch Ratings has revised the outlook on the Ceylon Electricity Board's (CEB) national long-term rating to positive from stable while affirming the rating at 'B(lka)'. The positive outlook reflects the likely upgrade of SL's sovereign local currency long-term issuer default rating (IDR).

17.07.2023: **Rupee** -

According to Economy Next, SL would like to see the Indian rupee used in the same way as the US dollar. They say it would make no difference to SL if India adopted a common currency. They would like to figure out how SL can do this and be more open to the external world.

26.07.2023: **Port** -

According to Economy Next, SL's Chinese-backed port of Hambantota mentioned its bunker volume increased six-fold to 520,000 metric tonnes from January-June 2023. 143 ships called at the port within the set period in comparison to the arrival of 50 ships within the same period in 2022.

HARTAL

*across the occupied Tamil
homeland*

A hartal was conducted across the occupied Tamil homeland on 28.07.2023 in demand of international expertise in the Kokkutoduvai Mass grave exhumations, reports Lanka Files. They also demanded the end of military occupation of the Tamil homeland, obstruction of a right to worship and justice for forcibly disappeared Tamils.

04.07.2023:

Kurunthormalai -

According to Kumanan, the Mullaitivu District Judge made a site inspection of the illegal construction of a viharai at Kurunthormalai with further investigations to be conducted.

05.07.2023: **Protest** -

According to Kumanan, a protest was held by Keppapelavu Mullaitivu locals who demanded the release of lands occupied by the SL Military.

05.07.2023:

Remembrance -

According to Eelanadu remembrance of the Black Tigers unit of the LTTE was held in Mullaitivu.

06.07.2023: **Mass**

Graves - The

Kokuthoduvai Mass Grave excavation found the remains of 13 individuals, reports Kumanan. According to JDS Lanka the following individuals were present at the excavations:

- ◆ Representatives of UN SL Office
- ◆ Human Rights Lawyers
- ◆ Relatives of the Disappeared
- ◆ Local Tamil politicians

- ◆ Members of Grassroots organisations
- ◆ Supervisor: Mullaitivu Judicial Medical Officer (JMO) Vasudeva

08.07.2023:

Kokuthoduvai -

According to Kalaikathir, a protest was staged in Mullaitivu. The protesters demanded truth and justice for the mass grave found in Kokuthoduvai.

08.07.2023: **Mannar** -

According to Eelanadu, relatives of the forcibly disappeared have staged a protest in Mannar.

09.07.2023:

Commemoration - The Navy Church Massacre was commemorated, reports Kumanan.

10.07.2023: **Protest** -

According to Kumanan, the Mullaitivu Bar Association has passed a resolution in condemnation of derogatory comments made by Sarath Weerasekara MP regarding Tamil judges. Further reports indicate that a protest is to be conducted opposite Mullaitivu Court on 11.07.2023 from 10.30 local time.

10.07.2023: **Explosives**

- According to Tamil journalist, Kumanan a large quantity of explosives suspected to be abandoned in Mullaitivu, Alampil were retrieved with court permission.

11.07.2023: **Protest** -

Lawyers protest in Mullaitivu against Sarath Weerasekara's controversial speech, reports Jera Thampi. Further reports indicate that the Batticaloa Bar Association had joined the protests. Mullaitivu Bar Association had demanded an apology from Weerasekara.

13.07.2023: **Protest** - A

day prior to a meeting convened by SL's Judiciary to discuss the progression regarding the recently discovered Kokuthoduvai mass grave, mothers of the forcibly disappeared demanding international involvement, regarding Lanka Files.

13.07.2023: **Land** -

Local Tamils including local politicians protest another attempt by occupational SL Navy to grab 18 acres of land in Mandativu Jaffna owned by 29 families, to expand the Velusumana camp, despite heavy surveillance by SL Navy

and Police, reports Lanka Files.

14.07.2023: **Intimidation** - Armed occupational SL forest department officials stormed into houses in Kaiveli, Puthukudiyiruppu, and assaulted locals causing 02 to be hospitalised, reports Lanka Files.

14.07.2023: **Mass Grave** - According to Lanka Files, a special meeting held in Mullaitivu led by Justice T. Pradeepan decided to hand over further exhumations at the Kokutoduvai mass grave to SL's Archaeology Department and a team of JMOs. Dates to commence the exhumations are scheduled to be finalised during a meeting on 20.07.2023. It is notable that no international expertise has been requested.

18.07.2023: **Complaint** - According to Lanka Files, ex-NPC Councillor Thurairasa Ravikaran, social activists Antony Jayanathan, Peter Ilancheiylan, Ratnam Jegatheesan and Journalist Vijayaratnam Saravanan filed a complaint with Vavuniya's HRCSL regarding a violation of a right to worship at

Kurunthormalai on 14.07.2023.

18.07.2023: **Land** - 65 acres of forest land a day will be destroyed by GoSL National Physical Plan, warns SL National Coordinator of the Centre for Environment and Nature Studies, Ravindra Kariyawasam, reports Lanka Files.

19.07.2023: **Talks** - According to Lanka Files, Tamil Party leaders mentioned interest to discuss power devolution in SL regarding the submission of various several other bills to be presented in SL Parliament.

19.07.2023: **PTA** - According to the PMDLK, extensive discussions regarding the Anti Terrorism Bill and activities of the OMP were held. R. Wickremesinghe is reported to have mentioned that of 21,734 complaints received, investigations into 3,462 had been completed thus far.

20.07.2023: **Mass Graves** - Progress on SL's most recently found mass grave delayed indefinitely, reports Lanka Files. Mullaitivu District Judge T. Pradeepan directed to

retain the service of Professors Paramu Pushparatnam and Raj Somadeva for excavations at Kokkuthoduvai. It is notable that SL's Archaeology department was not present and the next court hearing is scheduled for 08.08.2023.

24.07.2023: **Kurunthormalai** - According to Tamil journalist, K. Kumanan mentioned an individual person from Anuradhapura shared on his own Facebook account that he had disturbed the Pongal worship of Tamils on 14.07.2023. Kurunthormalai engaged in such an act in front of the police officers. He knocked the Pongal stove with his foot.

24.07.2023: **Black July** - According to Virakesari, Black July was commemorated at the University of Jaffna.

25.07.2023: **Commemoration** - According to Lanka Files, TNPF's G.G. Ponnambalam mentioned during a memorial held at Muniyappar Kevin, Jaffna that it is "stupid to expect justice through a

Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) from those who have not apologised or taken legal action for 40 years over Black July and continued with the Genocide in Mullivaikkal,” Reports indicate that he had mentioned this during a Black July commemoration at the site.

25.07.2023: **Protest** - Former LTTE cadres and families in Kaiveli launched a protest to demand permanent housing in the area, reports JDS Lanka. They had commenced the protest in condemnation of the assault on them and their residential huts on 12.07.2023 by SL Forestry Officials in an attempt to forcibly remove them from their resettlement into a housing scheme established by the Tamil leadership in 2000. Further reports indicate

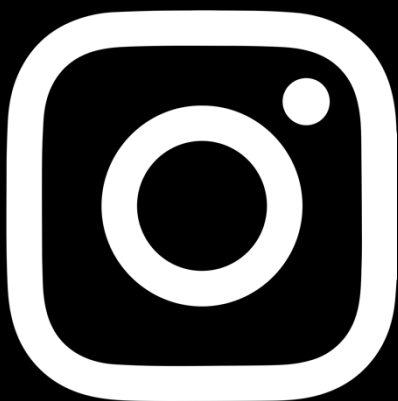
that the hunger strike was suspended on 27.07.2023 following assurances made by district GoSL authorities to resolve the housing demand within the timeframe of a

27.07.2023: **Commemoration** - Siritunga Jayasuriya mentioned at HRCSL that the Sinhala extremist group which had attempted to disrupt Black July commemorations in Colombo were accommodated into the site by SL Police, reports Lanka Files. “What the police did was protecting them and assaulting us,” he mentioned. Further reports indicate that Tamil playwright, Rasaiah Loganathan had been forced to abandon his staging of a dramatic presentation of the grievances of Hill Country Tamils. He was forced to do so due to SL military and Police

Special Task Force (STF) surveillance and intimidation and thus filed a complaint at HRCSL.

28.07.2023: **Protest** - According to Lanka Files, the families of the forcibly disappeared led a protest rally through Mullaitivu demanding justice and the whereabouts of their surrendered relatives to mark the 2,350th ongoing day of protest.

28.07.2023: **Commemoration** - Hill Country Tamils marked 200 years since they were displaced from India for Ceylon Tea plantations, reports Lanka Files. They held a 16-day march across 200 kilometres for their rights from Talaimannar to Matale. It is notable that the sites are locations of SL’s 2 largest mass graves.



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SIGNS OF STRUCTURAL GENOCIDE

Any occurrence which reflects the implementation of Tamil genocidal ideology in a structural manner.

01.07.2023: **Kokkuththoduvai** -

According to Kalaikathir, the Mullaitivu judge ordered the excavation of the Kokkuththoduvai remains to commence from 06.07.2023. Human remains were found in Kokkuththoduvai, Mullaitivu when pipes were laid in the ground.

01.07.2023: **Buddhist Temple** -

According to Kalaikathir, a new buddhist temple was erected in Kachchal Samalankulam, Vavuniya.

02.07.2023: **Buddhification** -

According to Tamil journalist Kumanan, a new Buddhist temple has been constructed and opened on 02.07.2023 in the area occupied by SL's Department of Archaeology as the Sappumalkasgoda Archaeological Site in Kachchalsamalankulam, a native village of the Tamils in Vavuniya North.

13.07.2023: **Mandaitivu** - According to Eelanadu, residents from Mandaitivu staged a protest against land grab attempts in Mandaitivu. SL's occupational navy is attempting to seize 18 acres of Tamil private land for the expansion of an occupational navy camp.

15.07.2023: **Kurunthormalai** -

According to Lanka Files, despite permission granted by SL Archaeological Officials, for a pongal offering to be conducted at the premises by locals, occupational SL Police disrupt the offerings. Further reports from Tamil journalist, K. Kumanan indicate that complaints had been lodged by Ravikaran and Peter Ilancheliyan at the occupational Mullaitivu Police station against the disruption of worship and threat to Tamils by officials.

24.07.2023: **Buddhification** - Pro

Hindutva Shivsena leader in SL offered prayers at the illegally constructed Buddhist Viharai in Kurunthormalai with Galgomuwe Sathabodhu Thero, reports Lanka Files. The corroboration occurred despite ongoing protests by local Tamils against the construction in furthering the colonists' genocidal agenda. According to Tamil journalist, S. Thavaseelan, the leader had joined the monks' reinstatement of the removed Buddhist statue at the site.

25.07.2023: **Land** - According to Lanka Files, Tamil locals, activists, lawyers and politicians resisted another attempt by occupation SL Navy officials to seize privately owned lands in Kattaikadu, Vadamarachchi, Jaffna.

**AKKINIP PARAVAIKAL**

This service is provided by:

Akkinip Paravaikal Newsletter

Overseen by Puradsi Media
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Facebook page created: 29.02.2016
Puradsi Media's first article: 04.01.2017