

LLRC REPORT IS OUT

The Lessons Learnt and Reconciliation Commission report is out after one year it was established. "The Commission's mandate was to look back at the conflict Sri Lanka suffered as well as to look ahead for an era of healing and peace building in the country" according to the report of the Commission. The All Party Representatives Committee (APRC) was also established in 2007 by proclamation of the President Mahinda Rajapakse himself. The APRC final report consisted 11,000 A 4 sheets. It was submitted to the President Rajapakse after 3 years of deliberations.

The APRC was established to find out a lasting solution for the national question in Sri Lanka. But no one knows where the final report is lying now. President Rajapakse and his government

must explain the criminal wastage of millions of tax payers money for a more than three years long farce. Now the LLRC report is out. Then what? The question must be raised as there are suspicions as to whether the President and the Government seriously considering solving the national question of Sri Lanka.

It was one year after the end of the war the LLRC was established. Now two years after the end of the war LLRC report is out. Too late and too little.

The mandate of the commission was to look back at the conflict and to look ahead for an era of healing and peace building in the country. The unjustified delay denied the country and the people the possibility of healing and peace building.

The President would have announced his programme to achieve economic development, National unity and reconciliation, democracy and good governance when he addressed the Nation from the Parliament on the 20th May 2002, the day after the war ended. He had a golden opportunity to mobilize the people of Sri Lanka to rebuild the country and establish national unity. The President miserably failed to act as the responsible leader of the country. He had no programme to rebuild the country.

No one should expect anything positive from leaders who are protecting capitalism which is

outdated and impotent.

He was more interested in consolidating his power by holding the Presidential election almost two years before. The General Election followed the Presidential Election. President wanted to secure 2/3rds majority in the parliament. Failing to achieve it the President changed the composition of the parliament and obtained an illegitimate 2/3rd majority. Abolished the 17th amendment to the constitution. 18th amendment to the constitution has been passed and the independent commissions have been abolished. Restoration of democracy abandoned.

Recommendations by the LLRC

to restore democracy will be ignored. It is very doubtful that the President could be convinced to change his political agenda aimed at consolidating his family rule.

The LLRC was established as a result of pressure - national and international- upon the government intensified when it was observed that the President and the Government failed to take immediate actions regarding the welfare of Internally Displaced People. It is clear that the purpose of the establishment of the commission was not genuine.

The Inquiry covers the events that took place within the period from 21st February and 19th

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The statement issued by comrade Vijitha Herath on the LLRC report.

The report of the 'Lessons Learnt and Reconciliation' (LLRC) was presented by the government to Parliament on the 16th. The government has opened its 'magic box' which it claimed had answers to all the accusations that were targeted against it during the 2 ½ year period since the end of the war. However, this has been exposed before the society as just an empty box that could not perform any tricks.

In such a situation, compiling an incomplete report that merely feels the surface of a civil war situation that existed for more than three decades is a very risky move. For, incomplete conclusions and incomplete proposals that are arrived basing on incomplete information would make the issue more complicated. In such a situation, the stand the government took stating the Darusman commission report was unilateral would have no validity. It is no coincidence that such pathetic destinies are met when answers (not solutions) for issues are sought not for

of separatist forces. The commission had to review only incidents that occurred during the period from the signing of the cease-fire agreement to the end of the war on the 19th May, 2009. Here too they were expected just to scratch the surface without going into the depth of socio-economic-political factors that influenced them.

There were accusations that the functioning of the commission from May 2010 to May 2011 did not create opportunities for a broad section of the masses to express their views. There were

functions or know details about the disappeared members of their families. In short the government has not been able to establish civil administration in the North. The commission of the government too has not realized this situation or it has been careful not to embarrass the government.

The commission that has made a very meek suggestion of investigating EPDP, a faction of the government, is nonsensitive regarding government's political pressure applied in attempting to control the public opinion in the North and denying political activities for other parties.

detrained under the PTA.

As such, it is futile to judge or consider proposals of the report as good or bad ones. For, the commission has been unable not only to find solutions for the challenging task of reconciliation between communities which it was named for, but has not been able to question acts that hinder reconciliation processes such as the undemocratic administration of the government and non establishment of good governance.

On the other hand it is the government that is inconvenienced when recommendations of the commission are presented 2 ½ years after the end of the war. For, they could have been implemented without the recommendations of a commission. Resettlement and assisting to normalize life in the North, giving back lands to their owners, releasing political prisoners, solving issues of the disappeared, civil administration, democracy and establishing good governance were proposed by the JVP within a month after the end of the war. The JVP, recognizing the priority of this matter, proposed to stop all other political activities in the country for six months and appoint a committee consisting of members from all political parties representing the parliament to implement this programme.

However, Rajapaksa government did not comprehend then the risk of the challenges not only the government but also the country would have to confront. Even after 2 ½ years it is clear that the government has not learnt any lessons through this commission. Rajapaksa government, just like governments before it, is unable to develop consensus among the communities. Under Capitalism it is impossible to achieve unity, consensus among the communities.

Most of the recommendations of the commissions are what the government should have done before. According to today's expression they are 'expired' goods. The government should contain the risk of marketing 'expired goods' internationally and locally. This is the challenge the government will have to face when the report is presented as an 'answer.'

LLRC 'MAGIC BOX' HAS NO TRICKS

The only trump card the government held as an answer to the international accusations regarding the conduct of the security forces during the war was the LLRC. What the government expected from the LLRC was not to learn any lessons or for reconciliation but to create a strong reply to the international. For, the government need not have waited until international pressure to set up such a commission.

Setting up such commissions after the end of civil wars is not a novel experience. The 'Truth and Reconciliation Commission' established after the end of the civil war in South Africa was one such commission. They were not set up as an answer for international pressure but were to genuinely review occurrences during the civil war and to find out ways and means to minimize animosity and erase mistrust.

However, LLRC was setup to show the world that a local mechanism exists to recognize the process of accountability for the war. For, the government was confronted with the threat of an international mechanism being set up with the direct involvement of the UN or the International Human Rights Council. The post war conduct of the government was so detrimental that the affect Darusman report had on the government was appalling even when LLRC had been set up.



Comrade Vijitha Herath

exploration, examination and implementation but to please or deceive others.

the 'Lessons Learnt and Reconciliation' (LLRC) showed inadequate qualities from its inception and during the one year period from 15th May, 2010 to 15th May, 2011 it displayed its impotency in its functioning. The commission was not assigned to review regarding separatism that was active militarily for more than 30 years or local factors and historical conditions that influenced its birth. On the other hand the commission did not have as its objective to review the contributions from imperialism or the neighbouring India towards the activities

charges that sufficient time was not given when evidence was recorded from the people in the North and the East and certain political groups affiliated to the government threatened those who came forward to give evidence before the commission.

On several occasions we have shown that what exists in the North today is a semi-military administration. The connections of the security forces in abductions and attacks on civilians in the North cannot be hidden from anyone. Thousands have been displaced due to the war and they still have not been able to regulate their agricultural, fishing, business and trade

“On several occasions we have shown that what exists in the North today is a semi-military administration. The connections of the security forces in abductions and attacks on civilians in the North cannot be hidden from anyone.”

The commission expresses its pleasure for the withdrawal of emergency regulations but does not say this act has been nullified due to the continuation of the Prevention of Terrorism Act (PTA). As the commission has made the period of war its field of inquiry it, like a man walking with closed eyes at noon, avoids suggesting any solutions for issues of the disappeared and those who are

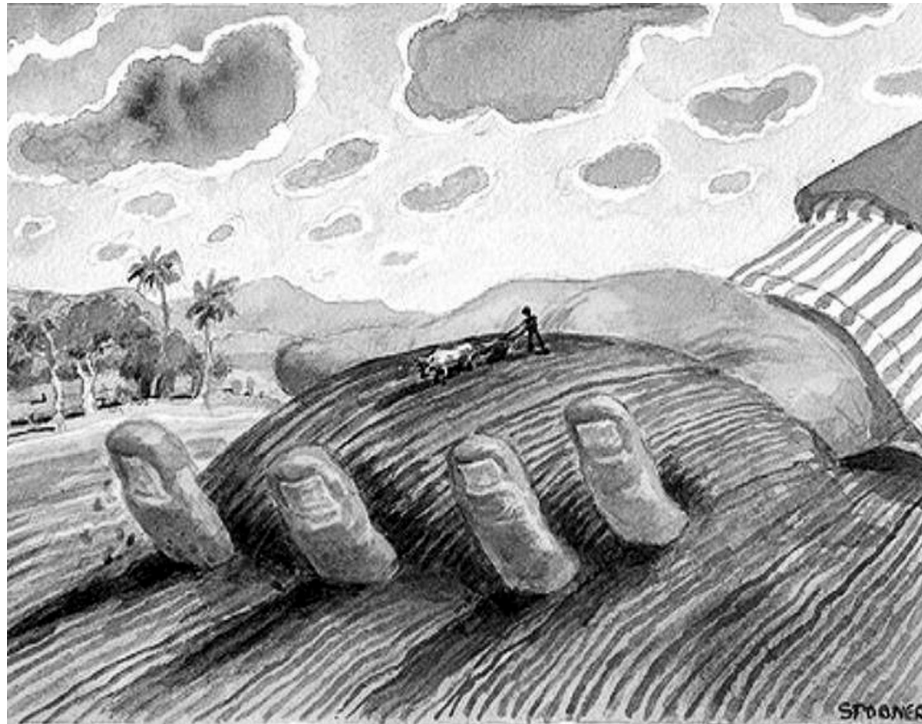
New Face of Land Grabblings

Reminiscing the words of King Devanampiyatissa to Rev. Arhat Mahinda Thera, the Rajapakse while accepting the regime in 2005 expressed that 'I am not the owner but the custodian of this country.' This is also mentioned in the Mahinda Chintanaya. But by now all this has been overturned. Today we see the family rule and not a caretaker rule. That too a problem ridden dictatorship. Today nothing can be done without the approval of those who said I am not the owner but the custodian. The Rajapakse with limitless power in decision making have made the ministers mere puppets. The same influence is applied regarding the lands of Sri Lanka. Be it the lands of Colombo Army Headquarters in Galle Face or the faraway lands in the North East the result is the same. The Government that sells the lands at cheap prices imports low quality cement. These are diversionary measures to hoodwink the people and thus succeed in hiding the true crisis situation from the people.

The chief accusation against the previous United National Party (UNP) regime was that they formulated laws to sell the state lands to foreigners at very low prices. This included Sinharaja and other forest reserves. The people rejected these policies of the UNP and ousted the regime. However when we see the plunder of lands carried out by the present government of the Rajapakse much better than before, we see how the victory of the people has been negated.

The sale of more than 10 acres of most valuable land in the heart of Colombo to put up 5 star hotels to the 'Shangri-La' hotel chain was executed with calling for tenders. It was merely a friendship agreement clearly visible to the entire country.

When the Economic Affairs minister replied the questions raised by the JVP MP's in Parliament it is apparent that there is a similar large scale land sale in the East.



Towards putting up tourist hotels in Kalpitiya in the Puttalam district the following lands have been set aside.

These lands are situated in the islands. Besides these another 510 acres of crown lands has been reserved for putting up the Kuchchaweli Tourist resort. Another 153 acres of private land has been acquired in Uchchamunai Impathi and Iremathiu. The tourist resorts and companies involved in these lands are shown below. (See box)

1. Kalpitiya - Impunthiu tourist resort.
Cube Lanka Leisure Property Lanka Limited - 135 acres, 200 rooms - lease period 30 yrs.
2. Chellai - Sun Resorts Investments - 58 acres- 50 rooms and lease period 30 yrs.
3. Uchchamunai Tourist resort- International Construction Consortium 10 acres for 99 year lease tax Rs. 250,000
4. Kuchchaveli Emfa Hotel And Resort. 20 Acres 99 year lease

The annual taxes are merely Rs. 250,000 and 500,000

The above is the reply given by the state minister Lakshman Yapa Abeywardene

to a question raised in Parliament on the 6th September 2011. Hansard No. 1423/11 (Pages 34 and 43) This illustrates that state lands are handed over to foreign companies. The justification for these land deals and the corrupt

Name of the land	Number of Acres
Ippanthiu	152
Iramuthiu	247
Welnai I, II, III	58
Kakathiu I, II, III	67
Periya Arachchilai	110
Sinna Iramuthiu	05
Iramuthiu West	10
Sinna Arachchilai	40
Baththalanguuduwa	292
Palliyawattai Island	150
Uchchamunai	1109

manner in which it was carried out are paramount importance. This too was revealed in the Parliament. The question directed at the Minister by the JVP Member of Parliament comrade Anura Dissanayake whether these Kuchchaveli lands were distributed among the investors after following the correct tender procedure or by displaying banners and posters at public places and if not by inviting the investors.

Some may request for land. They may ask for lands, they may not be having popular link with the companies to bring such investment. Some may request for land. They may ask for land, they may not be having popular link

with the companies to bring such investment and not have with the companies to bring such investment and not have been in this business. Therefore when we gave these we paid special attention to those who were experienced in this field. We discussed - with them to complete the construction of hotels within "years"

This is the basis on which the Minister was handing over the lands. The basis

is clear but no tender procedure has been followed. The basis is the selection of friends and dear ones. For the entire country it is not a secret that people say 'yes' to the proposals of Rajapakses.

This grabbing of lands has to be stopped forthwith. Verbally making a request to the government to stop selling lands at bargain prices will not serve the purpose.

"Hundred thousands of acres of land has been handed over to selected companies on the basis of friends and dear ones with the approval of the cabinet. For the entire country it is not secret that the present cabinet will blindly give their nod to any proposals put forward by the Rajapakshas."

Not only lands 22 large interior irrigation tanks which provide water for Agriculture, and which is a source for fresh water fish industry, is to be utilized for the landing of sea planes. Already tenders have been called to lease our these tanks to companies. Casinos have been legalized. D.R. Wijewardene Mawatha has been transformed into a Casino Mawatha around the Lake House area. Hence something more intensive action has to be taken rather than mere appeals or agitations. Our organized challenge has to be thrown at this weak government.

In a society where inferior petrol, sub standard cement have become hot topics, the people rise up to protest against grease devils. How strange! The real devils are hiding behind grease devils. Until we identify the real devils who kiss the ground and profess that they are not the owners of this land but the custodians, the people will loose not only the lands but even the garments they wear. Enough is enough. People should get organized and break all barriers and rise up not only against the land grabbers but to change the fraudulent social system which provides the facilities for these corrupt practices.

2011 INTERNATIONAL



Arab spring - People's struggle for democracy and social justice hijacked by CIA



Ghaddafi Killed by NATO to exploit Libya.



Occupation of Wall Street against Capitalism.



North Korean Leader Kim-Jong-il bade farewell to his Nation.



Democracy - USA Model



Tahrir Square uprising derailed by CIA and Mossad.



2083



A European Declaration of Independence

De Lande Norveg Militær
Følgende kommuniser Christl Tempelque Solomoni



Frequent scene in Europe at present.

Neo Nazism raising it's head in crises ridden Europe. Neo Nazi killed more than 80 progressives in Norway. This will not be the end.



Massive protest in Colombo by the JVP against the budget and repressive laws of the government.



Che Day in Colombo -Organized by the Socialist Youth Union. The Cuban Embassadress Nirsia Castro Gevara also participate.



2011 - SRI LANKA



SYU march demanding the government to guarantee employment for the youth.



Workers' Protest that shooked the government. Katunayaka closed. The free trade zone workers' protest against President's private sector pension scheme to exploit workers



The farmers and the traders protesting against the government for implementing a law compelling them to transport vegetables and fruits in expensive plastic crates.





Ceylon Teachers Service Union

The Ceylon Teachers' Services Union held a press conference during the Budget Debate 2012 to protest the reduction of the allocation for education while talking about making Sri Lanka the Education Hub of Asia !

Engineering Corporation Workers Protesting Forced Retirement.

The workers employed in the Engineering Corporation held a demonstration in front of the Head Quarters of the State Engineering Corporation to express their anger against forced retirement and rampant corruption in the corporation.



Palestine Day

The Socialist Youth Union (SYU) held a seminar in Colombo To support Palestine at Jayawardena Centre. The ambassador of Palestine also participated. Comrade Tilvin Silva delivered the keynote speech.



Government Union Tastes a Monumental Defeat

The welfare co-operative society of the port workers under the Colombo Port Authority defeated the Union of the Governing Party at the election held recently. The All Ceylon Port Workers' Union contested the Governments union under threats and intimidations. The Port workers elected the new office bearers of the new co-operative society appreciating their honesty and efficiency.

Workers Demand Salary Increase



The workers organized under the banner of the National Trade Union Centre of the Workers' wing of the JVP held a demonstration demanding the Government to take action immediately to increase their salaries to meet the high cost of living. The Government promised to increase the salaries of the workers' according to the increase of the cost of living. The demonstration was led by the President of the National Trade Union Center comrade K.D.Lankantha, The President of the Inter Company workers Union comrade Wasantha Samarasignhe and All Ceylon Estate workers' Union President comrade Ramalingam Chandrasekaran.

14th national convention of the Health Workers' Union.



The 14th National Convention of the Health Worker's Union was held at Public Library auditorium at Colombo recently. The theme of the convention was "UNITE AND FIGHT FOR RIGHTS AND TO BUILD PEOPLE'S POWER"

THIS BRUTAL MILITARY ALLIANCE HAS BECOME THE MOST PERFIDIOUS TOOL OF REPRESSION KNOWN IN THE HISTORY OF HUMANITY.

NATO assumed this global repressive role as soon as the USSR, which had served as the US pretext for its creation, disappeared. Its criminal purpose became obvious in Serbia, a country of Slavic origin, whose people heroically struggled against the Nazis during World War II.

In March 1999, when the countries of this nefarious organization, in its efforts to break up Yugoslavia after the death of Josip Broz Tito, sent in troops to support the Kosovar

NATO'S GENOCIDAL ROLE

secessionists, they met with strong resistance on the part of the country's experienced forces which remained intact.

The Yankee administration, advised by the right-wing Spanish government of Jose Maria Aznar, attacked Serbian television stations, bridges over the Danube River and Belgrade, the capital of the country. The embassy of the People's Republic of China was destroyed by yankee bombs and several functionaries died. This could not have been any mistake, as those responsible alleged.



Fidel Castro Ruz.

A great number of Serbian patriots lost their lives. President Slobodan Milosovic, overwhelmed by the power of the aggressors and the disappearance of the USSR, submitted to NATO demands and

allowed the presence of troops from this alliance within Kosovo, under United Nations command, which finally led to his political defeat and subsequent prosecution by the less than impartial

court of The Hague. He died under mysterious circumstances in prison. Had the Serbian leader resisted a few more days, NATO would have faced a serious crisis which was about to erupt. The empire thus had more time at its disposal to impose its hegemony among the increasing number of subordinate members within the organization.

Between February 21 and April 27 of this year (2011), I published, on the CubaDebate website, nine Reflections about the issue, in which I amply addressed the role of NATO in Libya and what, in my opinion, was going to happen. I therefore find myself obliged to offer a summary of the essential ideas I

presented and of the events which have occurred just as they were foreseen, given that a central figure in the story. Muammar Al Gaddafi, was mortally wounded by NATO's most modern fighter planes which intercepted and immobilized his vehicle, was captured alive and then assassinated by men armed by this organization.

His body was seized and exhibited as a war trophy, conduct which violates the most fundamental principles of Islamic norms and other religious beliefs around the world. It was announced that shortly Libya will be declared "a democratic state which defends human rights."

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LLRC REPORT IS OUT

May 2009

This period is a very short one compared with the long history of the National Question in Sri Lanka. Therefore the Commission could not cover the whole history. It could not go deep into the Social, Economic and Political background that paved the way for this question. The inquiry is superficial and the recommendations of the Commission are not strong enough to bring national reconciliation to Sri Lanka. This exercise will be a failure. This will not be helpful in reaching a lasting peace in Sri Lanka.

Any meaningful inquiry cannot be completed without taking into serious consideration the interference of foreign forces in manipulation of the national question in Sri Lanka on the basis of their national interests.

The Commission failed to hear to a fairly large number of citizens of Sri Lanka, particularly the Tamil and Muslim citizens from the districts of Trincomalee and Batticaloa in the Eastern Province.

This is a manifestation of the lack of responsibility of the Commission. The Commission was not keen in reaching a broad final outcome.

Under these circumstances it is meaningless to make any effort to analyse and discuss the findings and the recommendations of the Commission. This cannot be accepted as an honest initiative to find solutions for many serious problems before Sri Lanka.

To re-settle the IDPs, to assist them to rebuild their lives, to return their lands, to release all political prisoners, to compensate the families of those who disappeared, to restore democracy and to re-establish civil institutions etc. a responsible President and a Government need not have waited so long.

November Heroes Commemoration in South Korea



The 22nd November Heroes commemoration was held in South Korea with the participation of comrade Anura Dissanayake December 11, 2011.

The Sri Lankans employed in South Korea attended the commemoration meeting.

Comrade Anura Dissanayake delivered the commemoration speech.

Later he visited several cities to meet the Sri Lankan young workers employed in South Korea.

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BUDGET 2012

Budget 2012 has been passed by 98 vote majority. There is nothing to celebrate. It will be interesting to find how many ministers and members have read the budget before voting took place after the final reading.

It has been reported that the President has described the budget for the year 2012 as development - oriented one and that it has attracted a 'Massive Support' of the people. The President in his capacity as the Finance and Planning Minister made this observation, quoting a research supposed to have been conducted by the Financial Times, while making the winding up speech in the third stage of the budget in Parliament on 21st December 2011.

For the Senior Minister Sarath Amunugama, a staunch supporter of neo-liberalism, the year 2011 had been the most successful year in terms of economy after the independence of the country. Fortunately he has not mentioned the name of the country. Certainly, it cannot be Sri Lanka. Minister Amunugama has come out with a load of false statistics. He predicted that Sri Lanka will achieve a higher growth rate in the year 2012.

The Crises prevailing in European countries are well known to the whole world. These developed countries are lowering their annual growth rates drastically. In such a situation how could Sri Lanka achieve a higher annual growth rate in 2012. Projected growth rate of 8.3% for Sri Lanka for the year 2012 is unachievable. The European countries are the main export market of Sri Lanka.

At a recent seminar organized by the Sri Lanka Press Institute (SLPI) in Colombo the Chairman of the Hong Kong based KMPG Michael J. Andrew said that the world's oil wells will run dry by 2032 and the Middle East has to adopt itself to non-oil based economic benefits. The Chairman of the SLPI The economic crisis in the world has displaced terrorism as the main focus of attention. Global Credit Crunch in 2007 and the sovereign debt crisis now emerged resulted a worst crisis since the great depression in 1930s.

Less than one week after the budget was passed in the parliament Sri Lanka has been listed as a country with a high risk financial system in Asia and Pacific. Already the Sri Lankan Rupee has been devalued by 3%. Currency devaluation is not an indicator of a robust economy.

Capitalism is ailing and failing in the United States of America, the head quarters of the system. The developed countries in Europe are facing an unprecedented severe crisis. Japan is not an exception. No cure available for the Ailing capitalism. Therefore the people of Sri Lanka and elsewhere in the world are compelled to replace the moribund capitalist system with Socialism system that will guarantee the basic needs of the people.

Commemoration of November Heroes

22nd commemoration of comrade Rohana Wijeweera and November Heroes held in many countries with the participation of JVP leaders. The commemoration meetings were organized by the party committees in respective countries.



Milano



Paris



Rome



London



Kuwait



Nicosia



Copenhagen