

මෙල්බර්න් වෙසක් ආසිරිය

නොතම මුද්‍රාණයන් වනන්සේනේ නෙමල (උපත, මුද්‍රාණය, පරිහරණය) සිතිපත් කෙරෙන දිනය වශයෙන් අප සලකනුයේ වෙසක් පුන් පොහො-
 ත්වයයි. මෙම දිනය අනුස්මරණය කරනුයේ ලෝවාසී බොද්ධයන් තම තමන්ගේ විහාරස්ථාන මල් කරගෙන හෝ නොයෙක් ආකාරයේ ආගමික කටයුතු වලට සම්බන්ධවේ.

බොද්ධයන්ගේ අති උතුම් දිනය වශයෙන් සලකන වෙසක් පොහොන් දිනය මේ වසරේ යෙදී ඇත්තේ මැයි මස 24 සිකුරාදාය. ඒ අනුව මෙවර වෙසක් දිනය සිතිපත් කරනුයේ කළු හැකි දූ සාකච්ඡා කිරීම සඳහා මෙල්බර්න් නුවර විහාරස්ථාන මුල කරගෙන විවිධ සමිති සමාගම නියෝජනය කරමින් පැවිදි ගිනි දෙපාර්ශවයේ ඒකාබද්ධ වී පහත සඳහන් නිගමනයට පැමිණියේය.

එනම් හැකි සෑම බොද්ධ නිවසකම බොද්ධ කොඩියක් දැමීම, විදුලි බුබුළු වැලක් දැමීම හෝ වෙසක් පහන් කුඩුවක් එල්ලා තැබීම සඳහා විවිධ ආරාධනාවක් අපගේ බොද්ධ ජනතාව වෙත කිරීම සුදුසු බවයි.

තවද බොද්ධ කොඩියක් නොමැති නිවෙස් සඳහා කොඩියක් සැපයීමටද නිර්ණය වූ අතර ඒ සිලිබුදුව 3ZZZ ගුවන් විදුලියේ සියලුම වැඩසටහන් මගින් ස්ථානාලයේදී දැනුම් දෙනු ඇත.

මෙහි කාරණය සැලකිල්ලට ගත් මෙල්බර්න් නුවර ශ්‍රී ලාංකික විහාරස්ථ රාජ්‍යය වූ අතර මහාසංඝ රත්නය එම සත්කාර්ය දියත් කිරීම සඳහා තම තමන්ගේ දායක දායිකාවන් දැනුවත් කිරීමටත්, පුවත්පත් මගින් පොදු ඉල්ලීමක් කිරීමටත් නිර්ණය කර ගත්හ.

ඒ අනුව ශ්‍රී ලාංකික සමභවයක් ඇති බොද්ධ ඔබ සමභවයක් අප ඉතා කාරුණිකව ඉල්ලා සිටිනුයේ අප සෑමගේ උතුම් දිනය මබරට මබරේ දු දරුවන් ගටත් සිතිපත් කරනු වස් මැයි මස 19 වෙනිදා සිට 26 දක්වා වූ වෙසක් සතිය පුර මබරේ නිවෙස්

බොද්ධ කොඩියක් එල්ලා තැබීමෙන්, විදුලි බුබුළු වැලක් ඇලෙකමත් කිරීමෙන් හෝ වෙසක් පහන් කුඩුවක් දැල්වීමෙන් හෝ මෙම සත් කාර්ය සඳහා ඉතා ඕනෑකමින් ඉදිරිපත් වන ලෙසයි.

මෙම මහල කටයුත්තේදී ඔබගෙන් ලැබෙන සහයෝගීතා අප සියලුදෙනා වනන්සේම ඉතා අගය කරමු.

සමභා සම්බුදු සරණයි.

දන්වා සිටිනුයේ

- සුරාත්ති දහම නිකේතනයේ ප්‍රධාන අනුකෘතිය ආස්තපති පුජාපාද කෝට්ටේ සන්තින්ද්‍රිය නාගිමාලානන් වනන්සේ

- කිස්බරෝ ධම්මසාරා විහාරස්ථානයාධිපති, ආස්තපති පුජාපාද නාටුන්ගේ විජිත නාගිමාලානන් වනන්සේ

- රොක්බර්න් පාරමිතා බොද්ධ විහාරස්ථානයාධිපති, පුජාපාද පල්ලේවෙල දේවරත්න නාගිමාලානන් වනන්සේ

- කැමරිබර්ග් සමාධි බොද්ධ විහාරස්ථානයාධිපති, පුජාපාද හොරොවිපතාගේ සතින්ද්‍රිය නිමාලානන් වනන්සේ

- මෙල්බර්න් මහවේනා අසපුරාසී පුජාපාද කඩවන විජිතවංශ නිමාලානන් වනන්සේ

- බෙරන් ශාඛාමුණි සම්බුද්ධ විහාරස්ථානයාධිපති, පුජාපාද දිනාමචුල්ලේ විමලානන්ද නාගිමාලානන් වනන්සේ

- සැඩ්නොං ධම්මදිප නාවනා මධ්‍යස්ථානයාධිපති ආස්තපති, පුජාපාද අකරවිට සංඝානන්ද නාගිමාලානන් වනන්සේ

සිසිර දිසානායක

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The government banks are major players of banking sector and after the payment of tax they should provide at least US \$ 1.0 billion returns to the government but what banks are doing to the government which is the sole owner of bank is regrettable. They have invested about US \$ 6.0 billion of money in Treasury bonds, which are not getting returns but they just calculate returns and added to paper profits of banks. The government is using banks for this type cheatings. That is why government banks need disciplining through offering at least 50% of equity capital to private section.

Sri Lanka's banking and finance sector could attract high quality investments from domestically and internationally if the government strategically works on attracting local and foreign investments. Such investments will boost Colombo Stock Exchange business too creating jobs and the government has responsibility to making proper regulations to create investor friendly environment and maintaining investors' confidence on the operations of Colombo Stock Exchange. Just after civil war Colombo stock market was a choice of investors but political influences on CSE and Mafia operations with political supports destroyed the market confidence and regulators were unable to control dishonest dealers.

When reviewing the fiscal operations of Sri Lanka, it could be seen that two visible sharks swallow a large sum of public expenditure, which is a major reason for a huge budget deficit in the country. The first shark is loss making public enterprises, which have a weak management system as well as corrupt administration as the government uses public enterprises with a view to entertaining political supporters. It clearly seems that the old political strategy that used creating places for political supporters is still working in the country and that strategy has contributed to a heavy fiscal burden. The nepotism in the management of public enterprises prevents entering skilled and efficient managers to public enterprises and also refrain independent decision making process in the interest of organizations.



As a result of this failed public enterprises management, the government has no controls for blowing out of budget deficit. The second shark, which eats government spending, is provincial government system. The financial burden created by provincial government system is unbearable to the country and a large quantum of public spending in provincial government obviously goes to corrupt practices. Sri Lanka is not a large country, where needs a strong provincial administration as the central government has a capacity to maintain well controlled decentralized service provisions and control mechanism. The local government administration successfully worked in the country for more than a century until they were politicized by elected government in 1970 under Mrs Bandaranaike. The purpose of provincial government system was to resolve ethnic issues but it was not supported to remove discriminatory feelings of minority ethnic communities and the system further discriminates political opponents. If the government takes efficient actions to self off public enterprises sharing the burden with private sector and abolish provincial government making

laws to eliminate discrimination feelings, fiscal operations in the country would be more efficient and budget gap could be massively reduced or entirely eliminated within a short period. There are easy strategies to balance the budget, but due to political reason the government is reluctant to do it. The tax system in the country needs urgent reforms. The corporate and private tax revenue has limited to US \$ 266 million, this is a very small contribution. Public servant enjoys large pay packets as well as the welfare system in the country such as health education, transport and many other services. Many small businesses evade paying tax wrongfully and the government needs reforming the tax system to collect US \$ 1.0 billion of tax from public servant and small business. Many developing countries with less population generate \$ billions of tax revenue and why Sri Lanka cannot do such a necessary reforms for increasing revenue with a view to maintaining healthier economy. Sri Lanka has offered various incentives and tax holidays for certain sectors of the economy with an intention to attract investment. Such incentives and tax holidays in past were good for the economy but it doesn't mean that the government should

allow those incentives forever and ever. Because of political friends are investing or doing such business, the government is not liable disregard the economic interest and entertain friends. Balanced growth is a concept that uses to maintain the equity of growth and distribution of revenue. It appears that a large quantum of investments recently directed to southern provinces. Although some criticism leveled against direction of more investment to southern provinces, it is not economically unwise. Southern, North and East have been suffered for a long time failing to invest more due war in North and east and gross neglect in Southern. Southern province attract more investment because the area is less risk and when considering investment distribution, it cannot ignore that there is a competition between China and India, for investing money in Sri Lanka. In regard to human resources management, Sri Lanka's government could not be blamed except higher education, which at utter mess. Sri Lanka has taken effective steps for the improvement of technical vocational education and training. Higher education area, there are some inherent weaknesses exist. The university administration is quite weak because higher education policy makers are weak in developing appropriate policy making and ignored research based education. Other significant weakness is no quality educators and researchers in universities. Sri Lankan universities are underfunded and the government has unable to tackle students' unrest. Unlike in universities in other countries, Sri Lankan universities are stick into offering programs in local languages rather than using English. The curricular structure of program should be redesigned.