

# LATEST NEWS

## S T O P

Latest news received 11.25 G.M.T. On the spot news received through wire message confirms that nearly 600 people were killed and well over 100,000 people were forced to become refugees. Not only most of them are in the protection camps of the Armed Forces of the Fascist Government, but many of them in Colombo have sought safety and asylum in community halls like:-

Kathieresan Hall	ALL HALLS
Saraswathi Hall	
St. Peter's Hall	
Milakiri College	FILLED UP
St. Cleare's College	
Rama Krishna Mission	COMPLETELY
Hindu College	
Vivekanda Mission	WITH REFUGEES

Most of the refugees are being transshipped from Colombo to K.K.S. already more than 4 ships have carried the refugees to their 'homeland', and another 3 are scheduled to leave today. Among those dead, 4 youths were shot dead in Urumpirai.

According to a report in today's "Times" more than 15,000 people are in the protection camps of the government. This is the first time in the history of Ceylon that the Tamils have been reduced to a state of not only stateless and refugees but have been forced to be in the protection camps of the Armed Forces.

RELEASED BY EELAM RESEARCH ORGANISERS.

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"நாம் ருடவர்"  
 "நமது மொழி தமிழ்."  
 "நமது நாடு ருடம்."

# 25 die in Sri Lanka violence

From Reuter in Colombo

Twenty-five people died in the widespread violence which has swept Sri Lanka during the past week, a government official said yesterday.

Sporadic outbreaks of violence and arson were still being reported, he said, but the situation was mainly under control.

The Government imposed a weekend curfew in the wake of the disturbances which began last Monday and appeared aimed at the island's Tamil minority. The 35-hour curfew is due to end this morning, but there are fears here that it will be reintroduced later in the day.

The violence left a trail of looted shops, homes and businesses, and Sri Lanka's new Prime Minister, Mr Jayewardene, has ordered police to take firm action against looters and arsonists. A radio announcement said the security forces were under orders to shoot curfew breakers, looters and arsonists.

The trouble began in the northern town of Jaffna when police fired at a crowd who attacked them during a college carnival, killing four.

Hundreds of Tamil shops, businesses and homes are reported to have been looted and set on fire during the disturbances.

Sri Lanka's mainly Hindu Tamils, with a different language from the Buddhist Sinhalese majority, number about 2.5 millions in a total population of 13.7 millions. Their traditional homelands are the northern and eastern provinces.

# Curfew in Sri Lanka after 14 die in widespread riots

Colombo, Aug 18.—Fourteen people have been killed in widespread violence in north and central districts of Sri Lanka and the Army has been called out to assist the police. Mr Junius Jayewardene, the Prime Minister, told Parliament today.

He said a 13-hour curfew had been imposed on the affected areas from today and a commission would be appointed to investigate the causes of the unrest.

The northern port of Jaffna, where the trouble started, is a stronghold of the Tamil-speaking minority of Sri Lanka.

Mr Jayewardene said he could not pinpoint the people responsible for the unrest, but he was determined to get to the bottom of the trouble.

The Prime Minister said he

was genuinely sorry about the incidents because several innocent people had been killed and their shops, homes and property attacked and looted.

The trouble erupted in Jaffna on Monday when police opened fire on a crowd which attacked them during a college carnival. Four people died. In Jaffna today the situation was under control, although there had been several cases of looting and arson, Mr Jayewardene said.

He told Parliament that he was Prime Minister of all Sri Lanka, despite agitation from the Tamil United Liberation Front for a separate government for the island's 2,500,000 Tamil minority. As Prime Minister he would see that no harm came to the Tamils.—Reuter.

# Curfew extended

From Reuter in Colombo

A dusk to dawn, curfew imposed on two provincial districts in Sri Lanka was yesterday extended to two other districts following outbreaks of looting, a government statement said. The nine-hour curfew, imposed on Matale and Polonnaruwa districts earlier this week after a shooting incident in the northern port of Jaffna in which four people died, was extended to 13 hours, the statement said.

The curfew will also operate in Anuradhapura, in the north central province and Kurunegala, in the central province, where unconfirmed reports said several people have died in attacks on public property and looting.

The four people who died in Jaffna were reportedly killed by police firing on a crowd which attacked them during a college carnival. Unofficial press censorship was imposed after the incident.

Reinforced detachments of troops and police are patrolling the streets of the affected towns. The Prime Minister, Mr Jayewardene, has told the National State Assembly that the situation is under control, and said he would use all the resources at his command to keep order in the areas.

AUGUST 22  
Guaroham

AUG. 19. 77

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# Curfew returns in Sri Lanka

Colombo, Aug 23.—A national curfew was reimposed in Sri Lanka tonight to curtail the increasing attacks on the island's Tamil minority.

Officials said that 15,000 Tamils were in top-security camps for protection. Meanwhile, leading opposition members are reported under house arrest or surveillance for allegedly inciting people to break the law or undermine the Government.—Agence France Presse.

24<sup>th</sup> AUG, 77

# Sri Lanka riot toll

From UPI in Colombo

MORE THAN 500 people, including a bodyguard of the ousted Prime Minister, Mrs Bandaranaike, were arrested in ethnic violence that killed scores of people in the last week, police said yesterday.

The independent Sun newspaper put the death toll at 54 for the week of confrontations between militant Tamil minority separatists and armed police. No official figures were available.

Despite a curfew in effect since Sunday, police said the strife had degenerated into incidents of looting and arson, with police firing accounting for many deaths. The Prime Minister, Mr Jayewardene told Parliament yesterday the violence was "under control," but an Army spokesman said 15,000 Tamils had fled their homes under attack by mobs of Sinhalese.

The separatists of the Tamil United Liberation Front, headed by the Opposition parliamentary leader, Mr Appiah Amirthalingam, have been thwarted in their attempts to set up a Tamil nation by every Government since Sri Lanka, formerly Ceylon, won independence.

# Curfew in Sri Lanka

Aug 21

from LUCIEN RAJAKARUNA in Colombo

THOUSANDS of people in Sri Lanka rushed to lay in stocks of food and drink after a 36-hour curfew was imposed in the whole island from 5 p.m. yesterday in the wake of mounting clashes between Sinhalese and Tamils.

With the violence spreading to fresh areas, including the Colombo region, and with police unable to control the situation, the armed forces were called in with orders to shoot at sight to stop looting and arson.

The violence that followed the recent election, between supporters of the winning United National Party of Mr J. R. Jayewardene and the defeated Freedom Party of Mrs Bandaranaike and which claimed 30 lives and considerable damage to property, has given way to communal violence between the Sinhalese and the minority Tamil

Hindus, in which the official death toll is now 14.

There has been widespread looting and arson and attacks on Tamils, specially in the predominantly Sinhalese areas of the Central and Western Provinces where there are small pockets of Tamils.

The trouble began early last week with clashes between police and civilians in Jaffna, the main town of the predominantly Tamil-speaking Northern Province. The alleged shooting of a policeman by a Tamil youth spurred the police to go on the rampage against Tamil civilians, who retaliated by attacks on the police and some Sinhalese and caused heavy damage to Government offices and vehicles.

The incidents in Jaffna soon escalated into communal violence in other areas.

Feelings between Sinhalese and Tamils have been strained since 1955, when Sinhala was declared the official language, replacing

English. When Tamils pressed for a separate federal State in 1962 Mrs Bandaranaike, then Prime Minister, used troops to put down an uprising in the north.

In the past five years all the Tamil political parties have united to form the Tamil United Liberation Front (TULF), seeking a separate State as its ultimate goal.

In the recent election TULF captured all 17 seats in Parliament representing Tamil-speaking areas, making it the second-largest party, and for the first time it was able to elect a Tamil, TULF leader, Mr A. Amirthalingam, as Opposition leader.

IN LONDON, TULF sources said yesterday that attacks on the Tamil minority might precipitate a unilateral declaration of Tamil independence. The TULF leadership has been preparing secretly to announce independence but has been waiting for backing from the big Powers (writes Charles Glass).

ATTENTION ↑