

Security for Norochcholai coal power plant imperative

To a question asked by a writer "Is Norochcholai safe?" Dr. Tilak Siyambalapitiya's reply is that even in the relatively trouble free countries like the UK and USA, power plants are heavily protected and the plant designers would have taken the necessary precautions against any security threats. (*The Island*, April 5).

Here you see how illogical our planners' concepts of security are. When in relatively trouble free countries power plants are heavily protected how much more must a poor country like Sri Lanka infested with suicide bombers safeguard its power stations. Here we are faced with fanatical suicide bombers to an extent not found in any other country. Planners should realise the consequences which will be caused by a disruption of the

power supply from such a big power plant. The best protection in our case is not to provide for such hazardous situations. Sri Lanka can never afford to take a risk setting up such a large power plant and then have it bomb blasted.

The Bishop's objection is that this jetty will obstruct the free movement of fishing boats. To this, the CEB says that the boats will be allowed to pass through the jetty freely. Then what will prevent a fishing boat loaded with bombs banging into the jetty by a suicide bomber? Who can prevent this? Is it the plan to check all the fishing boats passing through the jetty day and night all throughout the year?

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