

are beginning to see limits on the ability of the earth to handle the demands we place upon it. There is no point in allowing the SAIMT issue to continue for so long without a solution. The government or the country should be able to resolve such problems within a reasonable time. In the meanwhile, the government has come up with various Point Proposals to the situation. From the look of them, they fall far short of the ‘demands,’ the other expert proposals or the key issues of the controversy. As reported in The Island lead article (“SAITM Crisis Takes New Turn,” 4 May), they are as follows. Frankly speaking, the first and the key proposal of “Listing of SAIMT in the Colombo Stock Exchange” is like ‘*Koheda Yanne, Malle Pol*’ (Where are you going? Coconuts are in the basket!). This is not to say that resolving such a problem is easy. But most difficulties are related to the present; the confrontation seems to be mainly the government, or certain sections of the government, and the GMOA (General Medical Officers Association), although there are several other stake holders. SAIMT seems to have taken a back seat, tactfully or not, and their medical students have become the main victims of the situation.

Learned people and others from different walks of life express their views based on the way such topics are highlighted in the Media. It is just because the SLMC decreed that the clinical training provided by PMC is not sufficient to be qualified for SLMC recognition. This is where the problem is and now we can get to the crux of the issue. People start talking about the quality when they seek medical care and that is the basic need of patients and consumer behavior. This is main social and cultural issues for SAIMT. It is a vast field that has even created tens of thousands of job opportunities around the globe. Not to boast about Medicine but it is a well-known science in the world that has its own largest discipline for its educationists. If we explore Sri Lanka’s culture through the lens of the 6-D Model, we can get a good overview of the deep drivers of the culture of Sri Lanka relative to other cultures of the world. Power Distance deals with the fact that all individuals in societies are not equal. It expresses the attitude of the culture towards these inequalities amongst us. In Individualist societies people are supposed to look after themselves and their direct family only. In Collectivist society’s people belong to ‘in groups’ that take care of them in exchange for loyalty. The next determinant is income inequity which is an ever growing issue since 1948. People increasingly tend to think that bridging this gap isn’t a tough task as far as they have a cling to a corrupt politician.