

CHALLENGE TAKEN

A few weeks ago, a challenge was issued in these columns.

It was one that was meant to shake up the English writers' community.

A regular critic of Sri Lankan creative writing in English, Rajpal Abeynayake, called on any publisher or any interested person to take up a challenge to publish a novel that he would write in four days, which he promises would be better than any English fiction, save for those written by Carl Muller and Shehan Karunatilleke, in the last ten years - and maybe one or two other passable works at most ...

(Please refer Lounge page 17 of Sunday June 20.)

Lakbimanews is happy to announce that the challenge has now been taken.

Sri Serendipity Publishing House has offered to publish Rajpal's book after making the necessary determination to ensure that his novel is written in four days.

This means there is only one thing left to be done - - which is to execute the challenge.

After several practical aspects of the matter are ironed out — such as the venue for the four day writing marathon etc., — Rajpal will sit down to the task of writing the novel in four days.

Thereafter, when the necessary determinations are made, Sri Serendipity would publish the work with a note as to the circumstances in which it came to be written.

The lead time for making the arrangements could range from anything between a month to two and a half months — but you could say the challenge is taken; we will notify the readership when it has been executed. Hopefully all will be able to read what has transpired reasonably soon, in print, thanks to Sri Serendipity and their daring spirit.