

# Landmark judgement

IN a landmark judgement in the district court of Colombo damages to the tune of Rs. 10 million was awarded against Lake House on a defamation suit filed by Additional District Judge of Colombo, Tilak Thabrew.

This is the first recorded instance of an action successfully filed by a sitting judge against a newspaper. The order was delivered by Additional District Judge of Matara, A.M.Mohamed who was formerly the additional district judge of Colombo. Associated

Newspaper was also ordered to pay incurred cost to the plaintiff, District Court Judge Thabrew.

District Court Judge Thabrew filed action against a report published in the *Dinamina* of December 2, 1996 where it was alleged he had forcibly entered a house and was facing litigation. President's counsel Romesh de Silva instructed by G.G.Arulpragasam appeared for the plaintiff.

Attorneys D.P.Mendis instructed by Anna Wickremesinghe appeared for Lake House.