Once there was an old king who lived in a corner of the land of Hattamala.
During a meeting with his ministers the king fell asleep. The crown slipped from his head and fell onto the marble floor.
The diamond in the crown was cracked. The king became very sad. His crown was not perfect anymore. He announced that whoever could repair the diamond would receive half of his kingdom.
Many skilled craftspeople came one after the other, from near and far. But no one could repair the cracked diamond.
Near the palace lived a tailor who had a beautiful and skillful daughter named Leka. She used to mend old clothes and make them look as good as new.
Leka heard about the king’s sadness and offered to repair his diamond. The king agreed. Leka set to work on the diamond.
Instead of trying to repair the crack, Leka carved the diamond. She turned the crack into the stem of a beautiful rose.
The king was pleased to have a rose carved in his diamond. As he had promised, he presented half the kingdom to Leka.
Leka invited all the people who had no jobs to work on the lands. Everyone was paid well for working hard and well.
People could repair holes in the roofs, paint the walls or build new houses. Soon the towns and villages looked beautiful.
The people built schools and playgrounds, parks,
swimming pools, community gardens and sports grounds. People were inspired to do their work in a nice way.
The markets were full of mangoes and apples that everyone could afford. Teachers had everything they needed. Hospitals were free.
No one was very rich or very poor. Everyone was happy.
Seeing Leka’s wonderful work and how much happier the people were, the old king was so pleased that he offered her the rest of his kingdom to manage wisely.