

The way to build the country..



Accord of the Conscience

"A Country to Live Happily"

People's Liberation Front
Our Nation's Conscience



Accord of the Conscience

Parliamentary Election – 2015

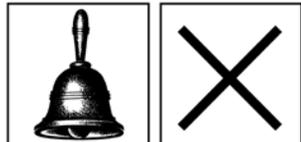
The way to build the country

A program formulated by the JVP
with the people of Sri Lanka

(Summarized Print)

"A Country to Live Happily"

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A WORD...

On the 22nd day of July, 2015, the national programme titled 'Accord of the Conscience' was launched at the party convention of the JVP at the Sugathadasa Stadium. Today, with the General Election around the corner, we offer a concise version of that document detailing the solutions for the most pressing of the problems faced by the people and inclusive of matters that are of importance to them.

We ask in the name of solidarity and fraternity that you fully support the JVP, the one party that is fully aware of the problems faced by our people, have the vision to resolve them, has a coherent set of principles and a pragmatic programme, has the leadership that can implement the same, speaks on your behalf and is best suited to be your voice, that is the voice of the people.

We appeal to your conscience. We ask that it be awakened!

Vote for the bell!

People's Liberation Front
Our Nation's Conscience



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There will be a population of 25 million people on this land by year 2035!!!

We weave a path where this population growth will be no burden.

In 1975 Sri Lanka was home to 13 million people. By 1995 it had grown to 18 million. Today, the population is 21 million.

The annual birth rate in Sri Lanka is 360,000 whilst the annual death rate lies at 140,000. Accordingly;

THE POPULATION GROWS AT A RATE OF
220,000 PER YEAR.

Therefore, a country as small as Sri Lanka, which is surrounded by the beauty of the Indian Ocean should have the capacity to nurture a population of 25 million, by year 2035.

WILL THIS BE A BURDEN ON THE COUNTRY?

With foresight, effective planning, and genuine service, the “Human Resource” of 25 million in year 2035 will undoubtedly be the prosperity of the nation.

Thus says “The Conscience” - your comrade in arms, your true friend who will teach you how to build our homeland, and lead you towards a nation without sorrow.



Education with a purpose

For the million children who are in the ages between one year and four years, a proper pre-school or daycare system does not exist, where appropriate protection, care and development is awarded to the child. Further, parents of 1.4 million children, are compelled to undergo a massive “fight” in order to enter their child into grade one of a good school.

Of children who are able to get “into” a school, 60,000 children pursue their studies up to grade 10 whilst our country has now become a nation who has a trend of “dropouts” from school. Accordingly, out of every six children who enter school life, one child drops out of school before they reach grade 10. A major reason for this dropout ratio is the dearth of trained teachers. A simple solution to this outlying problem would be to permit satellite enabled distance learning, which is both effective and feasible. However, no thought has so far been given to this obvious remedy. This reason is the major factor that, not a dozen or two, or hundreds or thousands, but hundreds of thousands who enter educational institutes, fail in the midst of the Ordinary Level examination.

Of the 125,000 students who are able to pass the Advanced Level examination successfully, only 25,000 are endowed with the opportunity to pursue tertiary education at local universities. The balance 100,000 students are “lost” without proper direction as to the educational future of their lives. Rupees 41,000 million per year are spent on infrastructure and development of the universities in Sri Lanka. However, only 25,000 students successfully pass out from universities. Accordingly, Rupees 1.6 million is spent on each university student in the country. Further, despite 65% of university students being female, only 35% of this segment supports the labour force of the country.



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Whilst the above circumstance is prevalent in the country, let us show you another side to the story. The major part of the monies spent on education in developed and successful countries are spent on pre-school education. However, sadly, Sri Lanka has totally disregarded the fact that in order to produce a well-balanced citizen who supports the growth and productivity of the country, a sound and balanced educational foundation, should be set at the pre-school stage. The solution that we bring forward to the hundreds of thousands of parents who undergo this sad situation of “educational unrest”, from the time that the mothers conceive, and to the students of the nation who expect to undertake the welfare of the country in the future, is this:

- Equal access to education will be scripted into the constitution as a Fundamental Right. The Government will guarantee that everyone will be given continuous education, training and higher education in accordance to skills and national needs.
- At least 6% of the country’s GDP will be allocated for education. These allocations will be deployed to ensure equal access to education, maintain high standards and the development of infrastructure related to education.
- Pre-school education will be considered a responsibility of the Government and be made an integral part of the national education policy. Steps will be taken to ensure that preschools meet standards that are scientifically determined, have all essential facilities and that teachers will be empowered with necessary knowledge and skills.
- Until this process is completed Rs 300,000 will be allocated for preschool development as an urgent necessity.



- Initiating a television channel devoted to education, including preschool education.
- Satellite technology will be used so that preschool teachers have access to teacher training programmes. A system of examinations will be developed so that their skills and knowledge can be evaluated. Teachers thus certified will be given Rs 200,000 by way of an incentive.
- With the objective of raising the standards of primary schools, every year 500 primary schools will be provided with a computer building, sports complex, a two storey building capable of accommodating 250 students, dental and health clinics, and superior toilet facilities. Distance between schools and the educational potential of students will be the basic criteria for selection. In this way the standards of 2500 primary schools will be raised in 5 years.
- Steps will be taken to minimize extra classes either at home or outside for primary school children so that their social life can be uplifted and the stress on parents is lessened. It is recommended that children in Grades 1, 2 and 3 will not be given homework.
- All school children will be provided with school uniforms, text books and a nutritious meal by the Government.
- All university students will be given a free laptop.
- Providing each student with a computer and to digitalize classrooms is an important part of modernizing education. In the first year, 500 rooms in 100 schools and in five years, 5000 rooms in 1000 schools will be digitalized.
- Facilities will be provided so that all text books can be accessed on the internet.



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- The necessary legal framework will be put in place and technological inputs provided to create safe and streamlined school transportation services.
- Import taxes will be exempted for all vans and buses transporting children to school.
- All facilities necessary will be provided for instruction in all three national languages (Sinhala, Tamil and English) on all subjects.
- A scientific study will be carried out about the scarcity and efficiency of teachers and steps taken to remedy this situation. As an start to this effort all teachers serving in difficult areas will be paid an incentive amounting to 50% of their basic salary. This will be in addition to the salary they receive.
- The university system will be expanded, envisaging a situation where everyone who passes the Advanced Level Examination will have access to university education.
- Steps will be taken to provide hostel facilities to all students, teachers and non-academic staff in all universities. As a remedy for the lack of teachers and the brain drain and also with a view to recruiting a larger number as university teachers, a permanent teacher's entry-level salary will be set at Rs 100,000 with a guaranteed increment of 10% per year.
- The top 500 students in the universities will be provided post-graduate scholarships to study in renowned universities abroad in accordance with agreements with such universities.



A healthy nation – A strong health sector

To build a nation of vitality, safeguarding the health and lives of the people is tantamount. But the question remains, are our people living a life of vitality and health?

The island nation which is known as the ‘Pearl of the Indian Ocean’ and the ‘Worthy nation of the world’ has now become a mentally and physically ailing nation. In the list of countries that have happy lives, Sri Lanka has only the 137th place. This shows that we are in the top few amongst the countries who undergo sorrow, dissatisfaction, and stress. This is indeed a sorry situation. According to life expectancy ratios, Sri Lanka is the 84th in the list; this shows that Sri Lanka is fast becoming a nation where people are dying fast. This is undeniably alarming.

Sri Lanka, which has a population of 20 million, has for one year, 6 million of its people obtaining in-house treatment at hospitals whilst another 50 million people resort to OPD treatment. The number of people who seek medical attention for animal bites or stings, are approximately 1000. This shows that nearly 365,000 of the population are accident prone. Further, kidney disease which has become a menace to the nation sees 2500 of the population dying as a cause of it. Therefore, are we a healthy nation? According to the data shown below, it is obvious that Sri Lanka is fast becoming a nation dependent on hospitals. How can we arrest this disturbing situation?

- In the next 5 years, every person will be covered by a family doctor assigned by the Government and will be subjected to a full medical check-up at least once a year.
- Necessary steps will be taken to raise the life expectance of Sri Lankans from the current 75 years.



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- A targetted programme will be instituted to bring under control diseases and threats that are currently widely prevalent. Under this, hydrophobia and dengue will be completely eradicated within 3 years.
- The lack of essential drugs, equipment and research facilities in the state sector as well as the lack of quality in these things will be completely rectified within 5 years. In all these things, a national policy will be developed that is valid for both the public as well as private sectors.
- The laws on drugs will be amended to make them more people-friendly and will be implemented effectively.
- Only those drugs of appropriate quality will be released to the market which a leaflet (in all three languages) containing information about possible side effects will be given along with the drugs.
- Steps will be taken to provide medical treatment necessary to those suffering from cancer as well as the currently widespread kidney ailments free of charge.
- All major hospitals will be equipped with a special fertility unit to help childless married couples.
- The number of state pharmacies will be expanded at the rate of 100 per year so that in five years there will be 500 such facilities where medicines of proper standard can be purchased at affordable prices.
- Both public and private entrepreneurial entities will be offered incentives to produce medicines and medical equipment locally. Such entities will be allowed to operate tax-free in the first two years.



- A total of 50,000 doctors, nurses and other staff categories will be absorbed into the health sector in the next 5 years in order to develop community health.
- A community health centre will be set up covering each Grama Niladhari unit. Doctors and nurses will be assigned to such units to provide healthcare for less critical illnesses and to take preventive measures. This will also help reduce congestion in state hospitals.
- While there are 11 facilities to train nurses at this moment, steps will be taken to expand this number and also to upgrade them to the status of universities.
- A special hotline that operates around the clock will be installed for the purposes of reporting medical emergencies. This will be complemented by the setting up of a health information centre.
- Emergency treatment and the transportation of patients will be expanded to cover the entire island.
- A programme to clear the backlog of urgent surgeries (heart, kidney etc) will be designed with the support of the private sector and for this purpose a special fund will be set up using the tobacco tax.
- Every student entering the first grade will be subjected to a medical examination and report filed thereafter with all children at risk of one kind or another being monitored regularly thereafter.
- Mobile labs and pharmacies will be used at workplaces where there are more than 200 employees and these will be used to conduct monthly health clinics.



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- In order to make it easier for working people to obtain treatment at OPDs and at clinics, these services will be made available from 6 am to 10 pm including Sundays.
- Western and Indigenous medical services will be brought under one ministry.
- 5% of GDP will be set aside to develop the health sector thus and for the provision of services.

Ability to offer occupations for all

The labour of approximately 1 million youngsters both male and female, which could help the GDP of the nation, is at the moment gone to waste, due to unemployment. Another 300,000 youth join the labour force of Sri Lanka, annually, which is in exclusion of the above 1 million. Out of this 300,000, 20,000 are able to join the government sector to fill the vacancies left open by retirees. The balance 280,000 youngsters are left to their own resorts, and are compelled to look elsewhere for employment, either towards the private sector, or foreign occupations. The analysis carried out in the following districts will afford you a rough idea on the number of youth who join the workforce annually;

Colombo District

Estimated population **2,343,000**

Number of voters **1,586,598**

Annual births **40,797**

Number who are converted into potential workforce **33,997**

Ratnapura District

Estimated population **1,110,000**

Number of voters **810,082**

Annual births **19,153**

Number who are converted into potential workforce **16,106**



Monaragala District

Estimated population 463,000

Number of voters 339,797

Annual births 8,061

Number who are converted into potential workforce 6,718

Hambantota District

Estimated population 616,000

Number of voters 462,911

Annual births 10,725

Number who are converted into potential workforce 8,938

Kurunegala District

Estimated population 1,636,000

Number of voters 1,266,433

Annual births 28,486

Number who are converted into potential workforce 23,738

Galle District

Estimated population 1,077,000

Number of voters 819,666

Annual births 18,753

Number who are converted into potential workforce 15,627

Nuwara Eliya District

Estimated population 728,000

Number of voters 534,150

Annual births 12,676

Number who are converted into potential workforce 10,563

Matara District

Estimated population 826,000

Number of voters 623,812

Annual births 14,382

Number who are converted into potential workforce 11,985



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Badulla District

Estimated population **831,000**

Number of voters **620,486**

Annual births **14,469**

Number who are converted into potential workforce **12,058**

Trincomalee District

Estimated population **389,000**

Number of voters **256,852**

Annual births **6,773**

Number who are converted into potential workforce **5,644**

Anuradhapura District

Estimated population **879,000**

Number of voters **636,733**

Annual births **15,305**

Number who are converted into potential workforce **12,754**

Mullaitivu District

Estimated population **93,000**

Number of voters **63,920**

Annual births **1,619**

Number who are converted into potential workforce **1,349**

Kandy District

Estimated population **1,397,000**

Number of voters **1,049,160**

Annual births **24,325**

Number who are converted into potential workforce **20,270**

Kegalle District

Estimated population **850,000**

Number of voters **649,878**

Annual births **14,000**

Number who are converted into potential workforce **12,333**



GAMPAHA DISTRICT

Estimated population 2,328,000

Number of voters 1,637,537

Annual births 40,535

Number who are converted into potential workforce 33,779

MANNAR DISTRICT

Estimated population 102,000

Number of voters 79,433

Annual births 1,776

Number who are converted into potential workforce 1,480

Polonnaruwa District

Estimated population 412,000

Number of voters 307,125

Annual births 7,173

Number who are converted into potential workforce 5,978

Puttalam District

Estimated population 778,000

Number of voters 553,009

Annual births 13,546

Number who are converted into potential workforce 11,288

Ampara District

Estimated population 666,000

Number of voters 465,757

Annual births 11,596

Number who are converted into potential workforce 9,663

Vavuniya District

Estimated population 176,000

Number of voters 109,705

Annual births 3,064

Number who are converted into potential workforce 2,553



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Jaffna District

Estimated population 593,000

Number of voters 529,239

Annual births 10,325

Number who are converted into potential workforce 8,604

Kalutara District

Estimated population 1,236,000

Number of voters 897,349

Annual births 21,521

Number who are converted into potential workforce 17,934

Killinochchi District

Estimated population 118,000

Number of voters 79,093

Annual births 2,054

Number who are converted into potential workforce 1,712

Batticaloa District

Estimated population 534,000

Number of voters 365,167

Annual births 9,298

Number who are converted into potential workforce 7,748

Matale District

Estimated population 494,000

Number of voters 379,675

Annual births 8,601

Number who are converted into potential workforce 7,168

The above statistics portray the potential employees, district wise. Accordingly, taking into consideration all the aforementioned districts, we have come up with solutions for the outlying problems.



- Jobs should be generated from all 25 districts.
- With the objective of reducing unemployment the Government will facilitate foreign employment for those with professional skills according to a target oriented programme.
- Vocational training centers will be set up so that those who terminate their education at any level can obtain professional certification.
- Immediate steps will be taken to ensure that those employed in manpower agencies, even those that are being operated informally, are made permanent employees.
- Targeting foreign employment, educational institutes should be set up, which has international recognition and accreditation. Of the technical colleges currently existent in Sri Lanka, German Tech, situated in Ratmalana has high value. Technical Colleges of this nature would be established in each of the other 24 districts. In addition to this, internationally acclaimed institutions would be founded within the 25 districts which would train youth in; computer science, accounting, hospitality, health, construction (carpentry, masonry, electrician, plumbing, painting), beauty culture, welding, and oil refinery. Through this, 40,000 trained and skilled workers would be produced who could opt for foreign employment.
- In every district, BPO (Business Process Outsourcing) offices will be opened where 10% of the unemployed youth will have access to jobs. The BPO's will be supplied with all necessary infrastructures which would enable them to carry on 24 hour service. For foreign companies who invest in BPO's in Sri Lanka, special concessions would be granted by the government. The proposed BPO's would be built at locations with easy access in terms of transport. 300,000 new jobs would be generated by this effort.



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- Whilst Vietnam, Thailand, Malaysia and Bangladesh have been able to secure enough and more investors to their countries, investors coming into Sri Lanka have steadily decreased. To address this issue, similar tax concessions will be awarded to investors, and the Board of Investment will be restructured to meet the new challenges, as well as to be geared to creating approximately 60,000 new jobs annually.
- Since we envisage a production economy, steps will be taken to set up 300 factories within the country and to develop 300 villages linked to the same. If each factory employs 500 persons, we can create 150,000 new jobs.
- Training will be given for 'Left hand side driving' which will make it easier for youth who plan on following the profession of driving, in foreign countries.

Employee Welfare

- A Minimum wage would be stipulated for the private sector.
- In relation to the rising cost of living, annual increments for the private sector would be initiated.
- A pension scheme would be introduced for the private sector, as well as to ones who are employed in foreign countries.
- All allowances currently being paid to public sector employees will be amalgamated with their basic salary.
- A national salaries commission will be set up with a view to introduce a national salaries policy which seeks among other things to resolve the issue of salary anomalies.
- The government will provide an allowance everyone of employable age who has yet to secure employment.



Foreign employment

- Steps will be taken to waive all taxes pertaining to remittances brought into the country by those working abroad and to remove all obstacles that make it difficult for migrant workers to send money to their families.
- A special unit that works around the clock will be set up and a no-charge hotline installed to create awareness about different ways of harassment meted out to Sri Lankans working abroad. In addition legal and humanitarian counselling will also be made readily available.
- Opportunity will be provided for those working abroad can purchase tax-free vehicles subjected to the salaries earned and the remittances they make.
- Facilities will be provided for Sri Lankans either working or studying abroad to exercise their franchise in elections.
- The Government will intervene to bring home anyone employed abroad who is subject to a sudden illness or accident or dies. The costs will be borne by the Government.
- Instructional courses will be made available to anyone who wishes English; these include free modules on the internet, television programs and printed material. Those who complete will receive certification. The program will be gradually expanded so that it reaches the village.
- Even if children of Sri Lankans working abroad have studied under a different system of education but want to continue their studies here in Sri Lanka, such access will be made available to them. They would also be allowed to sit for local exams even if they are at the particular moment being educated elsewhere.



A house that is not a mere dream

Currently there is a population of 20 million in Sri Lanka. Of this, 500,000 people lay claim to houses in urban areas whilst 3.3 million own houses in villages. Another 200,000 possess estate houses, which brings the total to 4 million. 500 marriages per day currently occur in Sri Lanka which adds 180,000 family units to the country annually. The existent divorce rate is 50 each day, which sees 18,000 family units legally separating per year. A roof over their heads is a common need of both types of people mentioned above. Of the 180,000 new family units, 60,000 are able to satisfy themselves with houses that are already built. The remaining 120,000 are left with the need of building a house of their own. This is an issue which escalates in gravity each day. This problem has not been effectively addressed so far, by any government which has come to power.

Most people prefer urban life. People, who travel to Colombo in order to engage in their respective jobs, pose a bigger threat in this same vein since they require houses to live in. Most people who are married and with families opt to lodge in boarding houses or in rented abodes. The problems which crop up due to lack of proper housing are a major threat to break-ups of families.

Taking these outstanding issues into consideration, and absorbing it as a governmental undertaking, we will offer a house to all couples who are getting married, thereby addressing a host of social problems which emerge in this regard. We intend to address the issues in the following manner;

- By ascertaining the feasibility of apartment complexes, they will be constructed on an expedited basis.
- According to the nature of the family unit, a diverse range of housing projects would be initiated in urban areas of the country. Under this purview the following types of houses will be built;



- A house which would be sufficient for a new couple (one bedroom, sitting room, kitchen and wash room)
- A house suitable for a family with one child (02 bedrooms, sitting room, kitchen and wash room)
- A house suitable for a family with three children (03 bedrooms, sitting room, kitchen and wash room)
- In parallel, when houses are built in urban, semi urban and village areas, all infrastructures which support them will also be developed.
- With the development of apartment complexes, every complex would house a childcare and mother care clinic. This would also house a day care center; pre-school as well as a post office.
- Each new and existing apartment complex, a funeral service would be affiliated. Further, a playground, park, shops, medical centers, as well as cafeterias would be constructed, converting the apartment complex into a place where all services are under one roof.
- An inter-generation housing loans scheme will be introduced when housing loans are disbursed.
- When multi-storeyed apartment complexes are constructed the involvement of both public and private sector will be obtained to ensure that all basic facilities are provided.
- A total of 20,000 new housing units will be built annually for the ordinary public by both state and private companies and financial services will be provided to facilitate purchase.
- Housing units in complexes with all facilities will be provided for those living in slums and shanties located in vulnerable areas at present as well as those living in line-rooms.



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- Annually 25,000 of those living in substandard housing will be offered loans between Rs 100,000 and Rs 500,000 at a 1% interest rate to upgrade their units.
- Research and extension services that focus on the construction of low-cost housing will be encouraged.
- In order to resolve the many discrepancies and inconveniences caused by the lack of proper standards in renting houses, an institutional arrangement will be constitutionally established to obtain all relevant information and relevant laws instituted.

A people-friendly government, An agreeable government service

The purpose of any government is to make the people happy, to focus on targets as the people are served. When we speak of a future government, the JVP emphasizes the provision of services to the citizens of Sri Lanka. A true leader is one who can create conditions conducive to endowing his team with strength and capability. A great leader generates other great leaders and considers leadership as a service dedicated to the well being of the country's people. Governance and government service are dignified responsibilities. It is a way of providing cordial services to all citizens. It is a key determinant of the direction that a country takes.

It is the people who have to take the responsibility of electing a party capable of providing a people-friendly government and an agreeable government service. We are confident that you will undertake this responsibility by heart and vote for this nation's conscience.

- A regime of regulations will be instituted to enable public servants to execute their responsibilities independently and free from external influence.



- In order to create a public service that can compete with the efficiencies of the private sector a training and monitoring programme will be introduced for public servants through the private sector.
- A code of conduct will be introduced to help train the public servant to provide a more courteous service to clients and enable them to maintain better public relations.
- When generating jobs in the public sector the operational principle will be one which does not consider the public sector as a job-provider but rather one which provides services necessary for the country's survival and its advancements.
- Whereas employees in the private sector are given targets to achieve this is not always the case in the public sector. Therefore, for the purpose of encouraging a more productive service this strategy will be replicated in the public sector as well. In implementing this, a system will be developed where those who do meet such targets will be appropriately rewarded.
- The level of new technology acquisition in the public sector is abysmally lower compared to the private sector. Taking this account, a stronger and more dynamic public service will be created through the use of computer technology, the internet etc.
- A system would be put in place to ensure that if a particular employee is absent for whatever reason no one who comes to obtain the said service is forced to go away and return on another day. It would be assured that the tasks of any employee who is absent will be attended to by someone else.



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“No dishonesty, corruption, drugs or criminal activities”- Equality before the Law

Today fraud has become an informal mechanism running parallel to the processes of governance. Attitudes have deteriorated to the point that there's a perception that corruption is inevitable. There's an entire drug economy controlled by a powerful group. All this has created a culture of crime in the country. If the law meant the law and nothing else then terms such as fraud, corruption, drugs and crime would have been quite unfamiliar. Our strategy is one that will rid the country of these multiple menaces. Our objective is to strengthen the court system to enable just that.

Control of drugs and crime

- Stiff punishment will be meted out to those found guilty of engaging of the drug trade. The law will be strengthened to ensure that those punished thus will not have their terms lessened or punishments made softer under any circumstances.
- Rehabilitation programmes will be established based on the premise that addiction is a weakness and not a crime. The rehabilitated will be encouraged to join programmes that seek to put an end to drugs and alcohol.
- Steps will be taken to rehabilitate and take care of alcoholics, drug addicts and juvenile delinquents who do not have anyone to take care of them.

A more efficient court system

At the beginning of every year there is a backlog of close to 900,000 unfinished cases in the court system. Around 25,000 of these relate to disputes over the division of property.



Of these only a paltry 2,400 or so of these are concluded by the end of the particular year. As such the average length of time for a property matter to be resolved is around 10 years.

There are approximately 25,000 unresolved property disputes. In a given year only about 4,100 of these are resolved. As such it takes an average of 6 years to conclude a case related to property disputes.

The backlog is about 48,000 cases when it comes to financial and business disputes. Of these only around 14,000 are settled every year on average. Thus it takes an average of 4 years to resolve such cases. In other countries, however, such cases are concluded within a year on average.

Around 235,000 cases are filed every year pertaining to excise and dangerous drugs while around 290,000 cases are filed for motor and traffic violations.

- Archaic laws will be replaced by new ones more appropriate to today's world. The independence of the judiciary will be upheld. A legal aid department will be established and its services made accessible to the general public. Such services will be expanded using human resources as well as technology.
- The number of judges will be increased in order to clear the backlog of cases pending determination. The hours for hearing cases will be extended. The number of cases completed annually will thereby be increased from 875,000 to 1.2 million.
- As a means of reducing the number of traffic-related cases from 290,000 per year to 100,000, steps will be taken to enable the Police to resolve cases through fines.

A Society where women and children are protected

A child is a nation's tomorrow. A woman is a critical factor in a healthy society, a mirror in fact of such a way of being. If the child is ensured



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of a children's world and if a woman is ensured social security, we can be assured of a better tomorrow and a more wholesome way of being. This is the pathway towards such a destination.

- The current helpline regarding harassment of women and children will be developed in order to enable quicker and effective response while a trauma centre will be established to protect the privacy of those subjected to sexual violence, provide them with appropriate counseling and advice regarding initiating legal action.
- Laws will be enacted to deal with anonymous telephone calls and verbal abuse and stalkers/transgressors will be punished.
- School education will be made compulsory until the age of 16 and employment of those under 16 will be prohibited.
- Social and administrative reforms necessary for preventing violence against children including sexual violence will be put in place and transgressors will be dealt with through the law.
- An island-wide survey of daycare centers will be carried out and a programme to streamline the same will be implemented. Such centres will be established close to the work places of working mothers.
- Parents will be educated through the school system about pornography and the harm it may cause children and their support sought to ensure that such material is not accessible from home. For this new technologies will be used.
- The dowry system will be prohibited in order to eliminate the problems and inequities suffered by women in marriage while they will be accorded the right to decide whether or not to have children.



- A two-day course will be conducted for all young people intending to get married where they will be educated about issues such as purchasing property, constructing houses, managing finances, maintaining physical and mental health, the circumvention of sexual and reproduction problems, childcare etc., with a view to a more successful married life and to minimize divorce, violence against women, child abuse, mental pressures, inter-personal conflict and suicide.

A boost for agriculture — A revitalized fisheries sector

Sri Lanka is a country that is blessed in the matter of agriculture. There are no deserts or ice-covered territories where nothing can grow. There are climatic zones suitable for a wide variety of crops. It is indeed a wonder that this country cannot be turned into the proverbial and self-sufficient Granary of East considering its over 2000 year old hydraulic civilization, immense knowledge of cultivation and rich water bodies. This is the strategy to get us there.

There are around 266,000 persons as well as about a million dependents whose livelihoods are tied with the fisheries industry, both in the harvesting of oceanic resources as well as the inland water bodies. Successive governments have never acknowledged the size of this community and therefore tended to neglect them and their livelihoods. Both the farmer who derives value from the earth and the fisherfolk who mines the seas will benefit and prosper from the program we shall implement.

- Agriculture will be considered a sector that requires priority attention. Agriculture will be industrialized in order to obtain food security and in order to target export markets.



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- Seed research institutes and seed farms will be established and a network of seed producing farmers developed so that seed-rights are with the farmers. Steps will be taken to introduce technologies to grow new developed seed varieties and hybrids (F1).
- The use of organic fertilizer and adoption of biotechnologies will be encouraged.
- A national cultivation policy will be developed and implemented to control the fluctuation of prices for agricultural products.
- The Government will play a more active role in purchasing paddy. A price formula will be introduced. Fixed prices will be announced every year and legal cover will be obtained for the same.
- Measures will be put into place for the sustainable use of agricultural lands while community participation will be elicited for important issues such as land rights, farmer rights, filling of paddy lands and opening of new lands for cultivation.
- A system of model farms will be established in order to educate farmers about new technology and better management methodologies, and also to enhance productivity.
- Equipment necessary for land preparation and other activities will be given to farmers on a rent basis through local government authorities.
- Agricultural cooperatives will be introduced. Agricultural production societies will be introduced. A community of 400 farming families will be considered a production village/unit and a process will be established where new technologies are introduced through examples.



- Agricultural training and education will be based on the government's agricultural production.
- An agricultural insurance scheme will be developed with the participation of farmers and in ways that give them greater benefits when they are covered for climate change. This will be done with the involvement of the government.
- The government will intervene to offer relief to those in the fisheries and livestock sectors in agriculture who are suffering from debt burdens. A concessionary loan scheme will be introduced which provides technical assistance and offers education regarding the management of finances.
- Local research stations will be encouraged to develop high yielding seed varieties and the local seed industry will be developed in order to break the monopolistic hold that foreign seed companies enjoy.
- A fertilizer producing facility will be established to produce Urea and other fertilizers.
- The application of organic and inorganic fertilizers will be streamlined and an organic fertilizer manufacturing industry developed.
- New technologies pertaining to packing, transportation, freezing and storage will be introduced to minimize post-harvest loss. The participation of the people will be obtained for this purpose.
- All essential fertilizers will be made available to farmers at subsidized rates.
- The cultivation of flowers for export will be developed and special government farms established for this very purpose.



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- Mobile soil research labs will be set up so that crops appropriate to the particular soil conditions can be determined as well as to find out which inputs are necessary for particular tracts.
- Steps will be taken to ensure that at least one tree of high value timber is grown on each plot of land provided space is available.
- Facilities will be provided for the adoption of better packaging systems using vacuum technology in the case of high value foods for the export market.

Fisheries

- New anchorages in addition to the existing 58 will be established. During the first year 25 new anchorages will be established. The 880 piers will also be developed.
- Since the existing freshwater breeding centres are inadequate their facilities will be upgraded, new centres established and new species suitable for Sri Lanka introduced.
- Food processing factories will be set up to cover fish and water plants.
- A systematic programmes will be set up to communicate information to the fishing community about conditions at sea that could be dangerous. This system will use the network of anchorages and fisheries harbors. Modern technological devices that can be used on boats will be introduced.
- Steps will be taken to put a complete stop to poaching on Sri Lanka waters by fishermen from India and other countries. All Sri Lankan fishermen will be accorded full protection.
- The support of relevant units will be obtained to offer immediate solutions to the housing, water, health and other problems faced by the fisheries community.



- All fisherfolk will be offered pensions under the general insurance scheme of the government.
- An insurance scheme whereby Rs 1 million will be given to the family of any person who perishes in the deep seas.
- There are countries which use 'fish finder' devices fixed to small fishing boats. Such equipment will be made available for those who use small boats so that they can quickly ascertain what kind of fish can be found at which location and depth.

Livestock development

- Poultry farming as well as bee keeping will be developed to help increase incomes of rural areas.
- An authority will be established which includes producers of eggs, milk and meats to ensure that the major share of the price accrues to the producer.
- The government will intervene to help the cultivation and promotion of better grasses with higher yield taking into consideration specific soil and climatic conditions.
- The cultivation of grasses that can be harvested to produce feed will be promoted.
- The programme to develop 1000 'dairy villages' will be implemented while the government will intervene to promote dairy products such as yoghurt, cheese and curd in both local and international markets.
- Medium entrepreneurs will be encouraged to invest in this sector to precipitate speedy growth of milk production.
- A plan will be implemented to obtain self-sufficiency in milk and milk-based products.



Protection for the environment

Today the forest cover of this country is but 28.5% of the total land area. Since proper land use management has been absent in the matter of adjusting to population growth, every year we lost 0.5% of our forest cover. At this rate we will lose all forest cover in another 57 years. Our objective is an environmental conservation that restricts neither people nor the environment.

- A media policy will be created to target community participation in protecting the environment where education programmes will be developed to create awareness among the people about the importance of conserving the environment. The subject 'Environment' will be introduced into the school curriculum to create awareness among children about the importance of protecting the environment.
- Mechanisms to prevent plants and animal species with mutant genetic codes from entering the country will be put in place. Steps will be taken to either eradicate or manage such species that have already entered the island.
- In order to resolve the issue of water scarcity within natural reserves, all reservoirs within them that are now silted will be rehabilitated so that there's water around the year.
- As a solution to the problem of wild elephants attacking villages, natural fences will be erected to complement electric fences.
- Early warning technologies will be put in place so that relevant institutions and communities will be forewarned about climate change that can have adverse impacts.
- The scientific disposal of waste will be made a non-negotiable responsibility of local government authorities. Relevant



knowledge and technical advice will be provided for this purpose. Severe penalties will be imposed on institutions that fail to adhere to these regulations.

- Traditional trees will be cultivated in large scale on lands that are idle or have been planted with trees that are harmful to biodiversity such as Pines and Turpentine.
- All development activities will be screened by environmental impact assessments.

Transport which will save time and grant ease

When a government develops infrastructure related to transportation, automatically there's a saving on monies that would otherwise be spent on transport that wastes time. This naturally improves the quality of life of the people by improving ease and saving time.

- We have identified 1400 rural areas from which people have to travel more than 2 kilometers to reach a main road. 'Mini buses' will be provided to all these areas with the support of the private sector.
- The train service will be completely modernized and made more efficient and expanded to transport goods as well as people. Underground railways will be build in major town and congested areas. For this purpose local human and physical resources will be used to the extent possible.
- A programme will be developed to enable retired and elderly citizens to travel at concessionary rates.
- The bus, train and airplane network will be expanded in ways that tourist zones are interlinked.
- Immediate steps will be taken to develop new road networks, improving existing roads widening where necessary, setting



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up of parking spaces in ways that take into account future needs that are produced by development.

- Road development will be planned in concert with institutions devoted to other elements of infrastructure development to prevent the damage and waste of laying pipes or wires after roads are built, repaired, widened etc.
- Pavements will be built and crossings properly marked to help pedestrians.
- Those who provide transportation services will be exempted from import taxes for vehicles and spare parts in order to bring down transportation fares.
- Steps will be taken on a priority basis to solve the problems faced by three-wheel operators and in order that the dignity of their vocation is not harmed. A special unit will be established for this purpose in the Ministry of Transport.
- Air-conditioned and double-decker buses will be introduced to ease the morning traffic congestion along the 6 routes leading to the City of Colombo.
- The expansion of the use of electric vehicles has been hampered by the lack of charging stations. As a solution to this issue, 600 such stations will be established throughout the country. While there are no laws related to this at the moment, such laws as are necessary will be introduced.
- The taxes on hybrid vehicles that have been raised will be lowered to previous levels.
- All railway stations will be modernized and instead of the 6 carriage trains currently plying between cities trains with 15 carriages with extra seats will be introduced so that a larger number of passengers can be transported.



- The government will arrange to pay Rs 1 million to the family of any passenger whose death is caused due to an accident in a train, a state-run bus or a private bus.

Let's build the tourist paradise of the Indian Ocean

There are historical artifacts thousands of years old that astonish the world and call out to tourists to visit Sri Lanka. The beautiful beaches, lush landscapes, wild life, and wetlands that are haven for bird species leave tourists amazed. There's sunlight to bathe the sun-loving tourist around the year. How is it then that the tourism industry is in the state it is now? We shall develop it to where it ought to be in the following ways.

- Steps will be taken to increase number of airplanes that arrive in Sri Lanka from 70 to 150 per day. In this way the number of tourists visiting Sri Lanka will be raised to 3 million per year.
- A mobile app named 'Beautiful SriLanka' will be developed and opportunities provided for tourists to upload pictures they take during their visit with the best photograph of the week being offered a special prize.
- The efficiency levels of tourist police stations will be raised so that it stands with the best in Asia and ensures the security of tourists visiting this country. All tourists entering the country will be provided information about telephone numbers and emails so that they can contact the tourist police if needed.
- A special tourist court will be established to hear minor complaints with the purpose of minimizing the amount of time that the Police and other law enforcement have to expend on such things.



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- Special attention will be devoted to the following in order to develop the tourist industry:
 - Eco tourism
 - Agriculture based tourism
 - Entertainment and relaxation focused tourism
 - Education-related tourism
 - Adventure tourism
 - Health and wellbeing related tourism based on Ayurvedic and Spa treatment
 - Heritage and archaeological tourism
 - Culture and spiritual tourism
 - Ocean and maritime tourism
 - Wildlife tourism
- In order for tourists to enjoy a wider shopping experience shopping centers and exhibition halls will be set up island-wide catering especially for tourists.
- Systematic training will be provided for drivers operating private vehicles in the tourist industry so that a courteous, safe and comfortable service is offered to tourists.
- A pension scheme will be introduced to tour guides so that they are more committed to the industry.
- Tourist zones will be identified in order to attract tourists and to ensure that cultural heritage and natural endowments of the country are protected.



- Steps will be taken to develop the handicraft industries and other traditional arts close to selected tourist zones. As a start, 30 villages will be developed to produce traditional artifacts.
- In order to develop a tourist industry based on indigenous cultures of Sri Lanka, a special programme will be designed and implemented where young artists are encouraged to produce traditional artifacts such as masks and sculpture and where work of exceptional quality is exhibited and marketed to both local and foreign tourists.
- In the first year, a centre will be set up with courses designed so that those who take up vocations associated with tourism become highly skilled.
- Mobile apps will be developed so the information related to all archaeological sites can be readily accessed. The support of the foreign service and Sri Lankans domiciled abroad will be obtained to promote a well-designed website containing such information.
- Educational institutions will be set up by the Government to teach Chinese, German, Indian and other languages.
- Steps will be taken to develop and beautify existing parks to promote eco tourism while camping facilities within the parks will also be developed.

Sports that makes everyone a winner

Sport is an activity that enhances physical and mental health of all, regardless of age. It is also something that strengthens the sense of togetherness. In many countries sport is recognized as something that is ideal to create an active and tension-free society. In these countries sport is also one of the leading commercial industries. Our plan is to develop sports as a means of creating a mentally and



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physically healthy Sri Lankan race. We shall also put in place the necessary foundation to build a sports economy that has largely been foreign to this country.

- A pension scheme for professional sports men and sports women will be established.
- Sports scholarships worth Rs 2000 a month will be given to 1000 school children who have demonstrated talent at the district level for each registered sport.
- Sports will be a compulsory subject for the Ordinary Level Examination because children should not be focused only on books but must also pay attention to physical well being.
- Every year 50 persons from each sport will be offered scholarship to train abroad with a view to make them more competitive internationally.
- A training centre will be established to train all trainers in all sports, with support obtained from internationally renowned sports instructors.
- A special sports school will be established exclusive for only those sports persons capable of reaching international standards in the particular sport or discipline of choice.
- Fully equipped sports complexes will be established in every district.
- Sports will be made a compulsory subject in the school curriculum and will be introduced from the first grade itself.
- Disabled persons who have talent in particular disciplines will be provided training by experienced coaches so that they can compete in the international arena.
- Rs 50 million each will be disbursed to develop 100 fully equipped stadiums in schools.



- Stadiums and small sports complexes will be established so that each district has at least one stadium and one sports complex.
- The base hospital of every district will be equipped with a sports medical unit so that sports men and sports women can access proper advice.
- A sports school will be set up in the first year to train technicians, managers, trainers, organizers, producers of sports equipment and sports correspondents. In addition a sports university covering all sports will also be set up in the first year.

An indulgence to Arts– Personality to culture

Art is like an example of the beauty of a people's sensibility. Culture is a personality that is passed from one generation to the next. A society divorced from art is dry, barren and belligerent. A society that forgets culture is crude, restless, acquiescent. Our programme envisions art as something that nudges society towards a wholesome experience and sees culture as instruments of a society's norms and values.

- The art and cultural heritage of Sinhala, Tamil and Muslim communities will be protected and nurtured, while they are used to build friendship, solidarity and unity among the communities.
- The national intellectual property regime will be strengthened to protect the rights of artists.
- At least two training centres will be established to offer systematic training to those in television, theater, painting, sculpture etc. Steps will be taken to develop a performing arts centre and film academy of international standards.



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- Theatres will be developed at the regional level to make drama more accessible to people.
- Galleries will be set up outside Colombo and rented to artists who want to exhibit their work at concessionary levels.
- National and international art competitions will be held on an annual basis.
- A life insurance scheme and a health insurance scheme will be introduced for artists while a pension scheme will be advised for senior artists.
- Low interest loans will be offered to artists so that they can engage in literature or other arts.
- Halls and auditoriums of state institutions will be rented out at concessionary rates for young artists, film-makers and playwrights to present their new work to the public.
- The protection and conservation of historical heritage, ancient sites and artifacts will be a priority responsibility of the government.
- Immediate steps will be taken to stop the vandalization of archaeological artifacts.



A people-friendly government, An agreeable government service

The purpose of any government is to make the people happy, to focus on targets as the people are served. When we speak of a future government, the JVP emphasizes the provision of services to the citizens of Sri Lanka. A true leader is one who can create conditions conducive to endowing his team with strength and capability. A great leader generates other great leaders and considers leadership as a service dedicated to the well being of the country's people. Governance and government service are dignified responsibilities. It is a way of providing cordial services to all citizens. It is a key determinant of the direction that a country takes.

It is the people who have to take the responsibility of electing a party capable of providing a people-friendly government and an agreeable government service. We are confident that you will undertake this responsibility by heart and vote for this nation's conscience.

----- **Quoted from Page 22** -----

People's Liberation Front
"A Country to Live Happily"

