

JVP never a third force but alternative one

Uva Provincial Council election is the last election before the Presidential election. The result of the election has great impact on the Presidential poll. How will the election affect the JVP?

Rajapaksa regime considers this election the precursor for the Presidential election scheduled to be held at the beginning of the next year. The JVP election front has experienced a setback but we were able to revive and direct the party towards a vote base increase in our own way at the Western and Southern Provincial Council elections. We hope to further improve those performances at the next election. The SLFP and UNP have ruled this country for 66 years. Senanayaka family, Bandaranaike family, Rajapaksa & Wickramasinghe family and Rajapaksa family ruled the country for 66 years. In our election propaganda campaign, we are educating people of Uva Province that we need to change the path of the country. We hold pocket meetings and conduct door to door canvassing.

Does the JVP appear for the idea of fielding a common candidate at the upcoming Presidential Election?

The entire Rajapaksa regime must be overthrown. Rajapaksa regime has completely destroyed the economy and the rule of law. All the structures needed to maintain a society have been demolished. Their cronies have devastated the entire country. Our aim is to create a progressive administration. A platform has been built by Madulu-wave Sobhitha Thera. We don't think that this dialogue is based on an approach for a broad social transformation. We think we must build up a broader programme to change this system. Meanwhile, UNP Gen-

eral Secretary, Tissa Aththanayaka, has declared that UNP leader Ranil Wickramasinghe will contest the next Presidential election. In such context, the dialogue that centres round Sobhitha Thera becomes invalid. Common process ends with it. In such backdrop, we think that we must build a third path. We hope the dialogue must be directed towards deeper reforms.

Do you mean the JVP will quit the common candidate platform in case Ranil Wickramasinghe contests the Presidential?

Ranil is not the common candidate. He is a UNP candidate. How can he become the common candidate?

According to JVP's thinking, who is the best candidate who can defeat Mahinda Rajapaksa?

We have to discuss it but I don't think Ranil is suitable to be the Presidential candidate. We know the UNP's past and present behaviour and the relationships they have with the government. Therefore, none of the UNP members can be the common candidate. If we nominate somebody, he or she will not be common candidate. We must discuss and resolve this issue. Individuals are not important. That is where we have erred. A common action plan is more important than individuals. Therefore, we hope the common attempt may be successful.

Has the JVP taken a decision to contest the Presidential election as a single party?

I think we must not panic. We have not taken a final decision. We think that the common programme will end if the UNP fields Ranil Wickramasinghe as its candidate. This is still open for dialogue.

The programme set

forth by Sobhitha Thera is also the same common programme, isn't it?

We are in a wrong perception that the present Constitution and the Executive Presidency are the root causes of all the problems we face today. Constitution is only one factor. Why do we need authoritarian rule in this country? You may recall the experience in 2002 and 2003. How did Ranil Wickramasinghe rule the country as Prime Minister even without powers of Executive Presidency? This is not a personal problem of Ranil or Mahinda. This is a problem in the social system. Due to the decline in the economic structure of this country, the capitalist system cannot anymore maintain with rule of law, independence of the judiciary and freedom of expression. The capitalist system of this country seeks for authoritative powers. We saw that it in Chandrika, Ranil, Mahinda and all. **Do you mean that this authoritarianism is not a product of this constitution?**

Yes. The Constitution provides a legal cover for this. In this country, we see two profitable businesses, i.e. selling drugs and politics. Even a Local Government member can amass wealth under this system. Who are the businessmen in this country now? They are politicians. We must turn this system to the right path. We must change this country's political culture.

Isn't the political culture you mention a result of the Executive Presidency and the present constitution?

No. The impact of the Constitution to the political culture is minimal. It is a wrong perception that the constitution is wrong. It is like beating the deer skin which is in the house while the

actual deer that ate the crops hides in the jungle. The Constitution is a creation of the crisis. The articles of the Constitution were designed to create an authoritarian style. The Rajapaksa regime has strength due to the legal protection guaranteed by the constitution. Can democracy and freedom of the judiciary guaranteed under such system? The Presidency is a representative of capitalism.

How long will it take for the change you highlighted? Should we keep this rule until that change is made realistic?

We must not calculate this in terms of years. This rule is not relevant to us. We don't care it. We want to change the system. We have always changed the engine driver of the train which runs on the same track. Now we need to change the track. There is no point in asking Mahinda to get down and Ranil to get in.

But this change of path is a lengthy process. How far will the destruction go until the change is made?

Yes. But it is the right process. We highlight that the society must be changed as a whole. It is not easy. But it is what we should do. It is easier to change rulers. We have to select the right path though it is difficult. That is our duty. We must unite immediately to prevent

destruction.

Is JVP ready to play a major role in uniting the people?

Yes, we are ready to join for a broad social transformation. But why must we contribute to the needs of those who want to taste the executive powers and those who want to take revenge?

Recently Lal Kantha said that alliances split the party. Was it actually a result of coalition politics?

I don't think that coalition politics was the reason for the split of the party. Coalition politics tarnished the party's image. A political error has affected the party vice versa.

In Weerawansa's case, he gave party internal information to the enemy, and did not maintain the minimal discipline needed by a party leader and disregarded party decisions. Therefore, we had to take disciplinary action against him and he left the party. On the other hand, we must be able to understand the setbacks of the party. We must be resilient to the setbacks. We must believe in success. Various trends are formed among those who lack these capabilities. 2012 split is an outcome of such tendency.

Can the people understand the difference between your strategies and the coalition politics?

That is our duty and responsibility. Left movement must educate the people about the situation, social responsibility and our actions. We are doing it at present. You may ask if it is sufficient. No, it is not sufficient. That is the challenge.

JVP criticizes the present regime. But the same JVP ushered the present rule in 2005 to power. In this context, one may argue that the JVP has no moral right to criticize the government.

We brought Rajapaksa to power in 2005. There is no Rajapaksa if we did not act. That is why we have a greater responsibility to criticize him, expose him and to chase him.

Was it an error to have had backed Rajapaksa in 2005?

No. Don't take 2005 separately. As I said earlier, we did a political error in 2004 and 2005 was an extension of it. We toppled the government in 2004 creating a coalition opposing the UNP government's approach towards ethnic problem. Our decisions are right in singular terms. But if we consider the strategy as a whole, the entire project is an error.

JVP promotes a common candidate and rejects coalition politics. How do you relate this?

Alliances and coalition politics are two different entities. We reject coalition politics but we ad-



Com Anura Dissanayake - Leader (JVP)

About Israel's warfare on Gaza, we know protesters around the world have demonstrated. Cities seeing rallies range from London, UK, to Colombo, Sri Lanka. Orthodox Jews attired in traditional black dress were seen burning Israeli passports in New York. In short, world public opinion has turned against Israel. Egypt helped start peace negotiations that got Israel out of stalemate.



GAZA AND UKRAINE

Why The Killings STOPPED

Peace has arrived in Gaza. Peace talks with Israel were facilitated by Egypt.

Some in Israel blame PM Netanyahu for starting military action against Gaza. And a few strident voices ask why Netanyahu stepped back without defeating the Palestinians in Gaza.

But why?

Parallels can be drawn with the attacks in Vietnam. The US had the physical might to stay in Indo-China warfare but protesters around the world had made it unjustified for the US to stay.

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The number of the injured, the loss of life, the demolished houses and city infrastructure now fall to the account of the Netanyahu government whose US supporters outside the White House have stepped back. Among Netanyahu's plans was the acquisition of natural gas resources off Gaza's shore, to make up for Israel's oil and gas deficit. However, media reports show Netanyahu has now been left trying to save his skin.

Digging pits for Europe to fall

The Ukraine has also been in the news. Victoria Nuland, a State Department official, had declared that the US recently poured \$ 5 billion into the Ukraine. Her phone conversation had been recorded by an intelligence agency and the recording shows that she wrote off Europe with a four-letter word.

Many researchers claim that the US dollar has been tasked to break down the EU and its competing monetary unit, the euro. The US dollar has been earmarked to return to its role as the reserve currency for all nations; the



role that the Pound Sterling chose for Washington when the British isles found themselves without an overseas empire. In downgrading the currently competing euro currency, the Ukraine figured in dollar plans as a disaster zone into which the adjacent EU would be lured so as to mire and waste euro currency.

The US did not hope to keep financing the Ukraine for long because of a current US debt of \$17 trillion. European financing was essential in the plan for disaster. Unfortunately for this plan, domestic difficulties also forced the EU to step back. By mid-August 2014 three Cabinet ministers had resigned over France's economic issues and Germany's Chancellor Angela Merkel visited the Ukraine to send President Poroshenko for talks in Belarus with President Vladimir Putin. The talks could bring Russian assistance to the Ukraine.

President Petro Poroshenko chances to have been elected solely in areas of the Ukraine where peace was not directly disturbed by the dollar-sponsored coup in Ukraine's capital. In Ukraine's south east, voters did not take part in the election. Independent republics came to be announced in the south east.

President Poroshenko reacted by launching devastating army onslaughts on people in Ukraine's south east. However, his US backers now find themselves in too much debt to help him. Neither can the EU afford to help. His situation with the army has

President Poroshenko reacted by launching devastating army onslaughts on people in Ukraine's south east. However, his US backers now find themselves in too much debt to help him. Neither can the EU afford to help. His situation with the army has become grave. Some Ukraine army detachments have mutinied and crossed the border into Russia for refuge.

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Minority president Poroshenko is now busy trying to save his own skin. He has called out to the West about an invasion by Russia, altering his claim during the week to Russian soldiers captured in the Ukraine. Russia for its part has explained that soldiers on border duty cross at times into Ukraine territory. Analysts point out that borders are not strictly defined everywhere because

Russia and Ukraine belonged in one country until the USSR was abolished in 1991.

Suddenly - BRICS and peaceful futures

Gaza has told us of a victory of world public opinion against Israeli warfare. A note on the fatal weakness of the dollar and its current failure in trying to create a disaster zone to lure in the EU has been added by the Ukraine. Private financiers who set up the US Federal Reserve in 1913, issue dollar notes. The financiers collect business and revive when a nation breaks down and asks for dollar loans. It was this system that supported disaster capitalism for the world.

More than a decade ago dollar promoters such as J P Morgan financiers noticed that BRIC would formulate a currency that would push the dollar into retreat. So in year 2014 we have seen the 1913 US dollar's final attempt to hold back BRIC, the economic union of Brazil, China, India, Russia and South Africa.

The dollar's role in digging pits for everyone finally falls by the wayside. BRICS nations will now assist in reconstruction and development in Gaza and the Ukraine. The Silk Route promises to speed goods overland through the Ukraine to European markets from Asia and vice-versa, in magnet-elevated Maglev freight wagons. It will stand among projects that will advance us into peaceful futures because financiers have exhausted their disaster capitalism method.

The 2015 budget proposals are being compiled at present. President Ma-hinda Rajapaksa, who has no knowledge of preparing a budget, gets down industrialists and businessmen to Temple Trees. These 'local industrialists and businessmen' who have been marvelously made up to suit the TV camera, with broad smiles say there are no defects in the economy. Their only issue was the delay in getting an opportunity to see President's comely face. As they have got an opportunity to visit the President they are thrilled and tell the TV camera with ear to ear smiles that all crises in the economy have been blown away. The President who is also the Minister of Finance together with his officials would prepare the budget for next year using the 'issues' raised by these 'counsels.'

However, the state of the general public that would be trapped in the tax net of that budget is completely opposite to those who make 'marvelous' proposals before the President. Among the general public would be state employees whose basic salary is Rs.11,730 and the employees of semi – governmental institutes that receive a basic salary of Rs.13,600. The minimum salary of wages boards of the private sector is Rs.8220. The employee in the estate sector who works for 20 days for a daily wage of Rs.480 receives Rs.9600 a month. The President called for proposals from all parties before he compiled the budgets earlier. However, salaries of none of the aforesaid parties were increased.

When Mahinda Rajapaksa came to power in 2005 the cost of living of a family of four was Rs.25,344. The masses that agitated stating the cost of living was unbearable brought Mahinda Rajapaksa to power. At the end of a nine year period of Rajapaksa rule the cost of living of a family has increased to Rs.50,792. This is according to government official statistics.



COST OF LIVING exceeds Rs.50,000

Salary & COL

In 2002, according to calculations of the government the value of the living index was considered as Rs.180. Accordingly, the cost of living of a family of four was Rs.25,344. On 30th June, 2014 the living index was 181.4 and the government itself changed the living index value increasing it to Rs.280. As such, the cost of living of a family of four increased

beyond the basic salary of a state employee indicates the extent of the crisis of the COL during the term of this government.

COL & wages

The COL of a family of four in 2005 - $140.8 \times 180 = 25,344$

The COL of a family of four on 31st Oct., 2013 - $176.1 \times 280 = 49,300$

The COL of a family of four on 30th June, 2014

affected not only by the cost of living but inflation too becomes a factor that should be considered. The real issue the masses are confronted which could be understood by the fact that the buying power is only half of the salary an employee gets. The lives of the working masses are determined not by the salary they get but by the ability to buy from their salaries.

When this is compared with the salary of a state employee that earns a basic salary of 11,730 the real salary ability is only half of it which is around Rs.5500. Even if the salaries are increased according to the COL and if we assume that a family of four gets a salary of Rs.50,792, the real buying power of the salary is only about Rs.25,000.

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The true value of the rupee calculates the consumers' purchasing power or the buying power of the consumer. When compared to 2012 the decreasing rate of the real value of Rs.1000 is 12.5%. As such, not only the buying power of a rupee but also the ability the masses could spend from their income goes down due to the increase in inflation every year. This is the true story of the COL crisis.

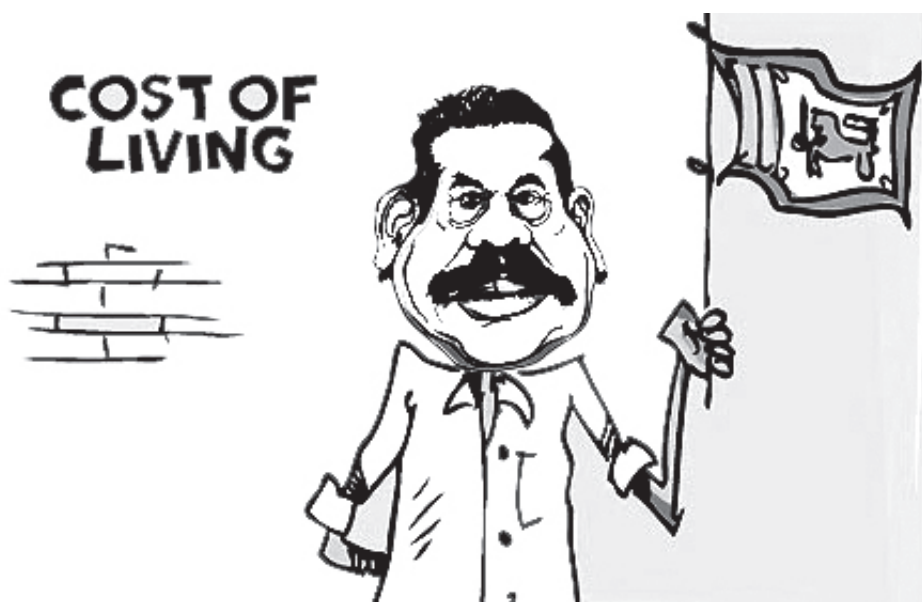
The 'local' farmers, workers, traders and industrialists who meet the President to 'advise' him on preparing the budget would merely pose for cameras but would never tell this bitter story to the President. It would not make any difference even if he's told the story.

When the cost of living goes up to Rs.20,792 the state of the masses that confront this crisis would crash down in a similar proportion. The state and private sector employees demand a salary that would meet the cost of living. There are also hundreds of thousands who are trapped in government's tax snare. They are not earners but spenders. It's according to 2012/13 report of the Department of Census and Statistics. When 53.5% of the total income is enjoyed by 20% of the rich the 20% of the poor gets a mere 4.4%. According to the analysis of the government the other 60% gets only 42.1% of the income.

One thing is evident when considering the factors of the real ability of the salary and the COL. The volcano of people's COL has reached the stage of eruption. The attempt by capitalist rulers to find arguments to justify the crisis of COL would never succeed.

COL & wages

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The increase in COL from 2005 to 2014	- $50,793 - 25,344 = \text{Rs.}25,448$



to Rs.50,792. The increase in the period of Rajapaksa royal family rule of nine years from 2005 to 2014 is Rs.25,448.

When the increase in the COL was Rs.25,448 the salaries of state employees did not increase but stagnated at Rs.11,730 (which is the basic salary). The increase in COL going

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Salaries & inflation

It is evident that a salary is not paid to meet the cost of living. To come close to the COL the salary increase should be trebled. Also, the salary is

According to a consumer price index used in 2002 to calculate inflation the living index in 2002 was 154.4 while the real value of Rs.1000 was Rs.647.6. In November, 2013 the real value of Rs.1000 dropped to Rs.566.6 as the consumer price index had dropped to 176.5. As men-

tioned earlier, the living index by 30th June, 2014 was 181.4. Accordingly, the real buying power of Rs.1000 was Rs.551.26 ($1000/1814 \times 100$). The real buying power when compared with the year 2002 has come down by 50%.

When this is compared with the salary of a state employee that earns a ba-

Legal Action Against Political Appointments In Ministry Of External Affairs

While criticizing the country’s foreign policy JVP Leader Anura Kumara Disanayake revealed names of relatives of government politicians and henchmen in the Foreign Service. Discussions are being held with lawyers says the Leader of the JVP Anura Disanayaka to take legal action regarding appointing political henchmen for diplomatic services representing Sri Lanka.

Mr. Disanayaka says fundamental rights of the general public have been violated by appointing relatives

and henchmen of politicians for diplomatic service. He said he had received more information regarding shady dealings that have been carried out in Foreign Service after he revealed discrepancies in Parliament.

Among the latest information he received is an instance of appointing a daughter of a Parliamentarian of the Opposition for foreign service on recommendations from a UPFA Parliamentarian connected to the Ministry of foreign Affairs said the Leader of the JVP.

Names Of Relatives in Foreign Service

Name	Designation	Country	Relationship
Sarath Kongahage	Ambassador	Germany	Former Chairman at Rupawahini Corperation
Nawalage Bannat Cooray	Ambassador	Italy	SLFP organizer in Kolonnawa
Ferial Ashraff	High Commissioner	Singapore	Wife of Former Minister MHM Ashraff
Gamini Rajapakshe	Ambassador	Jordan	Former UNP Member who crossedover to the government
H.R. Piyasiri	Ambassador	Myanmar	Former UNP Member who crossedover to the government
Buddhi Athauda	Ambassador	Netherlands	Son Of Minister Athauda Seneviratne
Udayanga Weeratunga	Ambassador	Russia	President Rajapakse’s cousin
Jaliya Wickramasuriya	Ambassador	USA	A Close Relative of President Rajapakse
Dickson Dela	High Commissioner	Maldives	Father Of Diyawadana Nilame Nilanga Dela Bandara
ASP Liyanage	High Commissioner	Nigeria	Friend of President Rajapakse
Oshadi Alahpperuma	Ambassador	Sweden	Brother of Dullas Alahpperuma
Yasara Abenayake	Consulate	Sydney	Ex-Girlfried of President’s Son
Bharathi Wijeratne	Ambassador	Turkey	Wife Of former Minister Mano Wijeratne
Dr. Ivan Amarasinghe	Ambassador	Vietnam	Friend of President Rajapakse
Srimal Wickramasinghe	Deputy Head	Austria	Brother of President’s Wife Shiranthi Rajapakse
Waruna Epasinghe	Minister Consular	Washington	A Son Of President’s Advisor
Karunaratne Paranawithana	Consel General	Canada	Minister G.L. Peris’s Private Secratary
W.K.S. Disanayake	First Secretary	UAE	A Close Relative of President Rajapakse
Lalith U. Gamage	Minister Cosular	Indonesia	One of the UPFA Candidate in Galle
H.N.B. Ratnayake	Second Secratory	Russia	Son of Minister CB Ratnayake
Lionel Premasiri	Deputy High Commissioner	Canada	Former SLFP Organizer in Galle
Harshana Herath	Second Secratory	Singapore	Son of chief Minister Maheepala Herath
Chamithri Rambukwella	Second Secratory	New York	Daughter of Minister Keheliya Rambukwella
Methsiri Cooray	Minister Consular	Netherlands	Friend of President Rajapakse
Muthu Padmakumara	Second Secratory	UK	Daughter of Lake House Charman Bandula Padmakumara
Dr. Kokin Vaidyaratne	Minister Consular	UK	Wife of Dr. Ajith Ranaweera who is president Rajapaksa’s physician
Umayangana Randeniya	Second Secratory	Singapore	UPFA Politician Ravindra Randeniya’s Daughter
J.M. Bandara	Second Secratory	Kuwait	National List MP Janaka Bandara’s Brother and Close Relative of President Rajapaksa
Dickson Perera	Consular General	Nepal	Former MP of SLFP
Osanda Yapa Abewardane	First Secratory	Australia	Son of Minister Lakshman Yapa
M.I. Thuduwwatte	First Secratory	China	Presidential Security Division DIG Dhammika Thuduwwatte’s Daughter
Rathna Ranaweera	Second Secratory	Australia	Wife of President’s Additional Secratory

JVP Never from Page 01

mit strategies. We agree to a common candidate since it is a strategy. But it is not the end. It can be either a strategic move or a common programme based on the progress of the programme and our contribution to it.

Can the people understand JVP’s language?
I think they understand. Those who do not understand now, will understand later. Everybody needs a change today. But if we ask what change they need, there is no uniformity in the ideas. Our duty is to educate people about the change they want.

Is the JVP racist? Are you ready to join with the TNA to defeat this government?
We are not racist at all. We think that all people of this country must have equal rights. We are ready to join with them if they give up racism and appear for all races. They are the Tamil elite of north. They manipulate Tamil chauvinism to grab power. As a community, Tamil elite did not suffer immensely. They try to grab power through manipulation of Tamil people’s sufferings. We reject both Sinhala racist movements in south as well as Tamil racism in north. Rejecting racism is not taking the side of minority racism. In this country, there is a mentality that appearing for minority communities is progressive. We must reject both majority community racism as well as minority community racism.

Although you reject the Tamil elite in north, you ally with the Sinhala elite SLFP in south in 2004.
You are correct. But I explained to you what happened in 2004. We allied strategically. We may ally with TNA also strategically. But we cannot join with them for a social transformation. In 2010, we joined with them to promote Fonseka at the presidential election. The

challenge ahead of us is uniting the Sinhala, Tamil and Muslim people for common struggle.

Does JVP hope to come to power?
Definitely, we have. We are optimistic. We give you a guarantee that we will come to power during our generation.

Are you the third force of this country?
No. We have never been the third force. We are the alternative force of this country. Third force concept is based on numerical order. Alternative concept is rejecting that numerical first, second and drawing the division accurately between them and us. We are the alternate.

Is the JVP more a revolutionary party?
Yes. We are a political movement that aims to change the society in a revolutionary way. Proposals like removing executive powers, appointing committees, reinstating the Prime Minister etc. are brought by reformists. Revolution is not mere armed struggle. Changing social ideology is also revolution.

Have you given up armed struggle?
We are in the view that armed struggle is no more valid in the world due to the technology, armaments and training the conventional armies have achieved. Changes in social elements also add to it. At this moment, armed struggle is not practical. Only people’s struggles are practical at this moment.

Do you agree to the idea that street agitations are the only solution to the situation?
No. We must manipulate all institutions like Parliament created by capitalism for this struggle. We must manipulate media institutes as well. Street is also part of struggle. We are everywhere.

Workshop on Women Workers in Vietnam

Comrade Samanmalee Gunasinghe Participated in a Workshop on Working Women Organized by Vietnam General Confederation of Labour and World Federation of Trade Unions Held in Vietnam from 23- 27 July 2014. Here is the Country Report Presented by her.



Dear Comrades,

First of all I would like to thank the Leadership of the Vietnam General Confederation of Labour (VGCL) for inviting the Inter Company Employees Union (ICEU) to participate in this great occasion. VGCL and ICEU work with good understanding of each other and exchanging the experiences. And let me thank VGCL again the leadership for sending comrade Chau Nhat Binh, the Deputy Director of International Department of VGCL, to Sri Lanka on last May 2014 to celebrate International Workers Day together with the working people of Sri Lanka, respecting to the invitation of my trade union. The discussion and workshop on Working Women is very important and timely issue. The total population of 15 years old and above in Sri Lanka is nearly sixteen (16, 364, 677) and the labour force falling into that age group is little more than eight million (8,670, 987). Out of that total labour force 5.6 million are male workers and 3.0 are female workers. According to the Census and Statistic Department of Sri Lanka, the general unemployment rate in Sri Lanka is 4.1% and the female unemployment is 6.4 %. We believe that the unemployment rate is higher than the official figures published by the government. We heard very recently that one of the high ranking officers

of the government had meddled with the figures of unemployment rate in favour of the government. Therefore, there is a doubt about the accuracy of the figures which published by the government. When we consider the labour force participation rate, it is 74.4% working males. Even though the male workers are dominating the labour force, the majority of the country's population is female. According to the figures of Department of Census and Statistics- Sri Lanka, the mid- year population in 2013 is twenty million and four hundred eighty three thousands (20, 483,000) and the number of females is ten million five hundred and forty four thousands (10,544,000). The female population rate is 51.48%. This is an indication of backward character of our country. The first lady Prime Minister in the world was elected to power in Sri Lanka and also one of our Executive Presidents in the past was a lady (1994- 2005). The former Chief Justice (2013) also was a female. And further, there are considerable high ranking female officers in both Private and Public sectors. However, still in Sri Lankan woman is backward and handicapped in the society. It is a challenge before us to establish equal status and opportunities and for women. For example, we experience unequal treatment among women too. When we take into consideration



the maternity benefits in Sri Lanka, the Public Sector workers have more benefits than the Private Sector workers. The Public Sector women have 84 days (excluding Sundays and public holidays) maternity leave with full payments and if the mother wants she may apply for further three months leave with half wages and another three months without wages. In Private sector, the mother is granted only 12 weeks leave, generally there are some differences between the Plantation women and the women working in shops and plantations.

This different treatment in maternity benefits is against the International Labour Standards. Finally, I would like to mention that to win equal rights for the working women would not become a reality under the prevailing neo-liberal economic policy. So we believe that we have to work hard to establish socialism in the world to make the world a place which prohibits the brutal exploitation of a man by a man.

Thank You
Samanmali Gunasinghe

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Col from Page 01

increase of the cost of living from 2005 till 2014 is Rs.25,344/=. During this ten year period the Government took no meaningful step to increase the Basic Salaries of the employees. As a result now the increase of Cost of living accumulated is more than the basic salary. It is clear that to meet the increase in expenses a threefold increase of salaries is needed.

Another important factor that should be taken into consideration is the decrease of the Buying Power due to Inflation. In the 2014 the buying power of

Rs.1000/= has gone down to Rs.551.26/=. Since 2005 the buying power has decreased exactly by half.

The Mahinda Rajapakse regime has failed miserably to achieve economic development. Under this regime Industries, Agriculture and services recorded negative figures. Country became the hub of vices and a paradise of local and international rogues.

Now the country demands a genuine change that brings prosperity to the people.

CIA... from Page 01

that the United States government has not renounced its hostile,

interventionist strategy in Cuba, meant to create destabilizing situations and provoke change in our political order, and to which millions of dollars are destined every year. The United States government must immediately end all subversive, illegal undercover operations in Cuba, which violate of our sovereignty and the express will of the Cuban people to perfect our economic and social model, and consolidate our democracy.

Havana, August 5, 2014.

Is This... from Page 01

programme of violating election laws and using state power. The government has also used public transport buses for its election campaign by forcefully pasting stickers in all of them. The government that violated all laws has now gone a step forward by attacking members of opposition parties, setting fire to election offices, destroying stages put up for legal meetings and using firearms to shoot at their opponents.

This situation has severely escalated in Monaragala District. Armed gangs of thugs, taking law into their hands, travel in Defender vehicles to sow terror in Monaragala. On the 24th night these terror gangs set fire to a large number of election offices. Among them were 14 JVP election offices. The most serious incidents of these terror campaign occurred on 25th night. A public meeting to be participated by the Leader of JVP Comrade Anura Dissanayaka was to be held at Badalkumbura. It's a legal meeting for which permission had been obtained. A gang of UPFA thugs assaulted and shot at our comrades who were putting up the stage and decorating the scene and set fire to the stage. The public address system and motorcycles that were there were attacked. Certain loudspeakers were taken away. Without stopping at that the thugs roamed in the area and created panic. Our comrades were not allowed to make a complaint to the police or go to the hospital for treatment.

The police was not able to control these gangs. They carried out their terror acts after chasing away the police. On the same night three of our legal election offices at Monaragala were shot at and destroyed. Empty cartridges have been found at these places. Despite a complaint E.I.B./201/54 has been made, no one has been arrested yet. Gangs of thugs who had come to our candidate Comrade Wijesiri's residence have shot at walls, remained there for more than 45 minutes terrorizing the residents and destroying property. The police personnel that have come there have been chased away. Comrade M.K. Somaratna's residence too has been attacked in the same manner.

In such an environment, parties of the opposition are unable to carry out an election campaign. Armed government thugs, travelling in Defender vehicles, used by security forces, have created panic among the people and carry out a planned programme to obstruct smooth functioning of the election campaign. They are thugs who have been brought to Monaragala from other places. The thugs, armed to the teeth, using vehicles used by VIP security sections ignore election laws. They have created an environment where

police officers and election officials are unable to maintain law and order.

The government has violated laws throughout the election campaign in both districts. On the 6th, the day nominations were handed over, demonstrations were held without heeding orders from the Commissioner of Elections and the IGP. Anura Vidanagamage, a candidate of the UPFA, threatened police personnel with death. The situation is serious at Monaragala. The main reason for this is that the chief ministerial candidate of the government party is in Monaragala. He is President Mahinda Rajapaksa's elder brother's son. He is using president's and government's powers.

There are many illegal election offices of the ruling party in Monaragala District. Illegal offices have been put up at Kiriibbanara and Thanamalwila areas. Stickers are displayed illegally on public transport buses. According to election law a candidate could use only one vehicle. However, candidates of the ruling party use many vehicles. The chief ministerial candidate and several candidates of the ruling party who have power carry out their campaigns violating laws.

The government party is also deploying state employees and resources in its election campaign. All graduates recruited recently by the Ministry of Economic Development have been called to Uva Province on the 3rd and 4th of next month. Despite stating they are called for an economic census, the real purpose of calling them is to use them in the election campaign of the UPFA. In addition, Samurdhi Development Officers, 50 from each Divisional Secretariat area, have been called to Uva on 7th, 8th and 9th. The government deployed state employees and resources in the same manner in previous elections too violating election laws.

At the moment state employees using vehicles of state institutions are engaged in election campaign of the ruling UPFA throughout the Uva province. We have seen a group of employees from Ceylon Petroleum Corporation wearing t-shirts of the Corporation engaged in the UPFA campaign in CPC vehicles.

Uva PC election is very disadvantageous for the government. The government did not enter the Uva PC election with a winning mentality. At the last election the government lost 250,000 votes and 17 seats. This is why the government isolated Uva PC election thinking it could get a big victory. The government is planning to go for an early presidential election. As such, Uva PC election is important for the

government. This is why election laws are violated and a terror situation has been created.

The government first changed the composition of the number of seats in districts. Three seats were taken from Badulla District to Monaragala District as the government is not confident in winning Badulla District. The government has a scheme of increasing its number of seats through plunder of votes to form the PC. Shasheendra Rajapaksa is the person who is in the forefront of violating election laws by distributing goods and creating terror.

JVP is complaining to the IGP in writing. We would complain to the Commissioner of Elections as well. JVP would take maximum actions to be taken legally. Also, JVP would attempt to carry out our election campaign according to election law despite the terror situation created by the government. Police officers should give us protection for this. The police should take measures to disarm gangs of thugs. It is the responsibility of the police to create a situation so that every political party could have a fair opportunity. How could an election be free and fair if supporters of the opposition parties are assaulted, their houses are shot at and they are intimidated? We would emphasize one thing to the people of this country. We ask them not to vote for the government that violates country's election laws and uses its power to create panic. It is the government in power that should give an example of protecting laws of the country. People need not vote for a government that is unable to do so. We also ask the people not to endorse violence created by the government. If the police cannot protect the law of the country and the Commissioner of Elections cannot protect the election law the people should use their power to give a message to the government that sustains gangs of thugs. Don't vote for candidates who engage in violence and violate laws. The journalists in this country too have an exclusive responsibility. They have a responsibility to report speedily incidents that happen in Uva, which is far away from Colombo. Police stations in those areas do not function properly. The police are controlled by gangs of thugs in the areas."

JVP Urges the media to expose this situation. JVP is confident that people will give a good answer to the government that engages in violence.

JVP doesn't know on what basis the Commissioner of elections said that all three main political parties are violating laws. The Commissioner of Elections has

made a special written thanks to the JVP regarding not violating election laws. JVP has never violated any election laws. JVP does not have any illegal election offices, display any illegal cutouts. does not use public transport buses for our campaigns. does not deploy a large number of vehicles for election propaganda. JVP does not bribe the voters or deploy state employees in election propaganda. JVP only put up posters. It could be against election law. However, it is carried out by all parties. JVP launched its poster campaign even before the election law became effective. Hence, it is not a very serious violation. JVP holds legal meetings to make people aware. The Commissioner of Elections by comparing putting up posters with mass scale violations by the government is creating a situation advantageous to the government.

The gangs of thugs cannot be identified even by candidates of the area. For, they have been brought from outside, with power and protection from the government, use Defender vehicles used by security forces and illegal weapons. Only Shasheendra Rajapaksa has the ability to deploy such gangs. Deploying of such gangs of thugs has become a menace for other candidates of the UPFA too. It is definite that the government is behind these gangs of thugs. As such, the IGP should deploy special protection to Monaragala.

What is being implemented is a law that has been made of two laws that were used for two elections. There is a difficulty in using the law that was used for the first pass the post and proportional system, for the election of member. As such, what should be done is not to violate laws but to change the law so that it could be practically used. There have been instances where such changes have been made. However, what happens now is that parties of the opposition that have no power have to contest with the government party that has state power. It is like an unarmed slave is made to fight with a fully armed Roman gladiator. The result is clear to all. This government goes beyond its limits. JVP offices are destroyed, they are set on fire and members are shot at. When JVP complains to the police they say we have to decide whether we are to hold meetings in such environments. What would happen if the JVP is not able to hold meetings for which JVP has obtained permission? "The responsibility of the police is to overpower thugs."

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UVA ELECTION IS DECISIVE

THE UVA PROVINCIAL COUNCIL ELECTION WILL BE HELD ON THE 20TH SEPTEMBER 2014. THIS IS THE LAST PROVINCIAL ELECTION TO BE HELD BEFORE THE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION SUPPOSED TO BE HELD ON 8TH JANUARY 2015, ONE YEAR BEFORE THE SIX YEAR TERM OF THE INCUMBENT PRESIDENT MAHINDA RAJAPAKSE ENDS. CERTAINLY THIS INDICATES THAT MAHINDA RAJAPAKSE IS LOOSING HIS POPULARITY FAST.

Uva Province is the poorest out of all nine provinces in Sri Lanka. The heroic people of Uva fought against the British Colonialists in the year 1818 only after three years they conquered Sri Lanka in 1815. Before 1815 the people in the Uva enjoyed freedom and prosperity. Uva province was then known as the "rice - bowl" of the country. Poverty encroached the rich province after 1818 when the British rulers massacred all the men above 14 years of age and destroyed the Irrigation System, Agriculture and Buddhist temples and the Education system that existed. To inflict punishment for the patriotism displayed by the masses British rulers neglected Uva.

In 1948 the British masters handed over the country to their local agents. They too continued implementing the very same policies of their masters and they too neglected the Uva Province. Successive governments allocated only 1% to 3% of the national income of the country towards Uva. Uva remains a backward province at present 66 years after "Independence".

Provincial Council System too failed Uva and other provinces during the last 25 years. The Moneragala District which is one of the Districts in Uva Province is the Poorest District in Sri Lanka. That is the "ACHIEVEMENT" of the ten year rule of the capitalist United National Party (UNP) and the fifteen year rule of the capitalist United People's Freedom Alliance (UPFA).

Former Chief Minister of the UVA was Mahinda Rajapase's nephew. He is the most unpopular Chief Minister in the country. In 2010 when he came to power in Uva the percentage of poor people in the province was 13.7% and now it has risen to 20.8% according to the leading candidate of the JVP of Badulla District Samantha Vidiyaratne. UPFA supporters are disillusioned. The people believe that Uva election results will send shock waves to the UPFA. The government suffered setbacks at the elections held recently to elect the Provincial Councils in the Western Province and the Southern Province.

The defeat of the Governing UPFA in Uva is certain if it doesn't resort to violations of election laws. Already the Rajapakse regime is misusing public funds, public properties and engaging public servants in its election campaign in Uva. Government sponsored thugs are also in action in the Province.

UPFA is determined to win the election by hook or by crook because the result in Uva will be decisive as far as the Presidential election is concerned.

16 years of unjust imprisonment

Free the Cuban Five Now !!



Friday, Sept. 12 marks 16 years since Gerardo, Antonio, Ramón, Fernando, and René were arrested in Miami and thrown into solitary confinement. 16 years since they began the wait for their unfair trial held in the city of Miami, and even more unfair by virtue of secret government payments to journalists writing articles to inflame passions against Cuba and the Five. René and Fernando are back in Cuba now, but only because they finished serving their unjust sentences, not out of any sense of compassion or justice on the part of Barack Obama or his predecessors. It is up to us to intensify the pressure to free Gerardo, Ramón and Antonio



Historic Protest in NYC Jews burn Israeli passports

Anti-Zionism Jewish protesters have set fire to their Israeli passports in New York City in condemnation of the crimes committed by Tel Aviv against the Palestinian people.

A number of protesters on Tuesday gathered in front of the United Nations' building and chanted "Judaism yes, Zionism no, Israel must go."

The protesters are angry about the recent Israeli offensive against the Gaza Strip.

"This is the worst crime and it will bring the worst punishment for the Zionist evil people," Anti-Israel Rabbi Abraham Chaim Cheshe told Press TV.

"I burned this because it is a symbol of heresy and rebellion against the Almighty. According to the Jewish religion, we have to burn it. We still have not the right to exist," he added.

Last week, people in New York City took part in a rally to support the Palestinians and unfurl a giant Palestinian flag over the Brooklyn Bridge.

Hundreds of people and civil rights activists chanted anti-Israeli slogans while crossing the Brooklyn Bridge on their way to Manhattan City Hall in a rally dubbed "March for Palestine."

Unlike in the past when the Zionist regimes bombed Gaza the devastations carried out by Netanyahu regime this year was widely condemned throughout the world. World could see mass demonstrations worldwide during the Israel's assault on Gaza.

There were many demonstrations in many big cities such as London, Paris, Rome etc; JVP also demonstrat-

ed in front of the US embassy in Colombo. In Israel peace loving citizens took to the streets demanding Netanyahu regime to stop the genocide.

Nearly three thousand Palestinians were killed. Among them there were many children. As usual the Secretary General Ban Kimoon maintained silence. It is impossible that he is not aware of the fact that Zionists attempt is to wipe out Palestinians from Gaza with the intention of plundering the gaz reserves in Gaza territory. JVP unconditionally supports the Palestinians' just struggle to win their home land.

