

Respect Mandate Of the People



'8th' marks one year since the defeat of villainous rule of Mahinda Rajapaksa regime but the aspirations of the people who made sacrifices to bring the victory have not been fulfilled. The rally organized by the JVP to demand the government to honour the mandate of the people was held at Nugegoda today (8th).

The protest march commenced from Kohuwela Junction and proceeded to Ananda Samarakone Open Air theater in Nugegoda town where the rally was held.

The rally commenced with the speech by the President of the National Trade Union Center (NTUC) and Member of the political Bureau of the JVP Comrade Lal Kantha. Comrades Ramalingam Chandrasekar and Anura Dissanayaka with several university professors and artistes addressed the rally.

University teachers, artistes, environmentalists, leaders of trade unions and members of civil organizations also participated with the JVP.

JVP rewarded with COPE chairmanship for its struggle against fraud & corruption

The Member of the Political Bureau of the JVP Comrade Sunil Handunneththi was elected as Chairman of the Committee on Public Enterprises (COPE) in the new Parliament. This is an acceptance of the struggle the JVP is carrying out against fraud and corruption.

JVP is in the forefront against fraud and corruption and has exposed many large scale frauds committed by Rajapaksa regime as well as the present government. JVP was the first to reveal the CBSL fraud **ctd. pg7**

JVP elected Vice – President of WFDY



The Executive Committee of the World Federation of Democratic Youth (WFDY) decided to appoint the JVP for the post of Vice-President of the organization at the 19th General Assembly held in Havana recently.

Three posts of vice-presidents are allocated for regions and

the Socialist Youth Union (SYU) was appointed as the Vice – President for the Asian region.

The National Organizer of SYU Mr. Bimal Rathnayake and the Member of the Central Committee of the JVP Dr. Nalinda Jayatissa participated in the Assembly representing

the JVP.

The appointment of the JVP for the post of vice – president of the WFDY is a victory the party received at international level said a spokesman for the party.

The WFDY is an anti-Imperialistic world youth organization founded in 1945. It includes more than 200 leftist, progressive and liberal youth organizations throughout the world. Founded in 1945 and recognized by the United Nations, the WFDY brings together a large number of youth movements of the world.

Government should resign if those corrupted are not punished

Comrade Bimal Rathnayake , National Organizer of the JVP

Comrade Bimal Rathnayake stressed that this government can no longer exist just uttering slogans of good governance only. He stressed that the government should immediately resign if it does not take necessary actions to take legal action against those accused of corruption charges. He noted this fact at a media briefing held on 7th November at the JVP headquarters Pelawatta. Comrade Bimal reiterated the following factors as well:

"Comrade Anura Dissanayake revealed in parliament about 22 allegations of corruptions of Rajapaksha regime including Avant Guard deal. This parliament debate revealed the true picture of Avant Guard front to the

country. Also, the Yahapalana front that protects the Rajapaksha front too has now been revealed.

We have revealed not only about Avant Guard deal, but also 22 other large scale allegations of corruption taken place during the past regime. 90 % of the speech made by Comrade Anura Dissanayaka was based on other matters while he used about 5 minutes only to talk about the Avant Guard issue. But, the team that included Minister Tilak Marapana, Minister of Justice and a group of UNP M.P s commented for clearing and purifying Avant Guard. As the ministers in charge of Justice and

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Budget 2016 has enormously pressurized farmer community and agriculture

“The history of our country, its location, the rainfall and all other factors are aligned for agriculture. However, the present coalition government has enormously pressurized farmer community and agriculture. The fertilizer subsidy given to farmers is a production subsidy. The chemical fertilizer helps farmers to get a good harvest in paddy, vegetables and other crops. There is a debate that has come up regarding the use of chemical fertilizers and it is necessary to have a scientific dialogue. However, the government slashes the fertilizer subsidy not based on bad effects of chemical fertilizer. If it is necessary to slash the subsidy on unsuitability the government should propose an alternative. What the government proposes is a cash relief of Rs.25,000 for a year. Earlier fertilizer subsidy was given for 5 acres. Now it has been slashed for 2.5 acres,” says the Leader of the JVP Anura Dissanayaka.

Mr. Dissanayaka said this at a media briefing held at the head office of the JVP at Pelawatta yesterday (7th). The National Organizer of all Ceylon Farmers’ Federation Namal Karunaratna and the General secretary of the Federation T.B. Sarath also participated.

Speaking further Mr. Dissanayaka said, “It is agriculture in our country and the farmer folk who have been drastically inconvenienced by the budget proposals of the UNP – SLFP coalition government for 2016. There is a large number of farmers in our country who have made agriculture their main income. Their main income is cultivating a paddy field or a chena. Also, food security is an important aspect of the security of our country. As such, agriculture takes an important place in our country.

The history of our country, its location, the rainfall and all factors are aligned for agriculture. However, the present coalition government has enormously pressurized farmer community and agriculture. The fertilizer subsidy given to farmers is a production subsidy. The chemical fertilizer helps farmers to get a good harvest in paddy, vegetables and other crops. There is a debate that has come up regarding the use of chemical fertilizers and it is necessary to have a scientific dialogue. However, the government slashes the fertilizer subsidy not based on bad effects of chemical fertilizer. If it is necessary to slash the subsidy on unsuitability the government should propose an alternative. What the government proposes is a cash relief of Rs.25,000 for a year. Earlier fertilizer subsidy was



given for 5 acres. Now it has been slashed for 2.5 acres. Farmers in main farmer colonies such as Devahooa, Minneriya have about 5 acres each. However, subsidy is given only for 2.5 acres which is very unjustifiable. Farmers now get only Rs.12,500 for a season. It is only Rs.5000 for an acre. However, a farmer has to spend over Rs.11,162 for an acre for a season for urea and other chemical fertilizers. Earlier, farmer’s contribution was only Rs.2000. He received Rs. 9162 as the fertilizer subsidy. Now it has been slashed by Rs. 4162. Accordingly, a sum of about Rs. 10,000 has been slashed from a field of 2.5 acres. The farmer loses about Rs. 37,500 when harvesting a paddy field of 5 acres. Also, in the preface to the fertilizer subsidy in the budget proposals it is stated that the Parliament had approved relief to the farmer including fertilizer subsidy, lands, technical assistance, seeds and several other reliefs. This is an indication that the government is prepared to slash these reliefs.

Also, the guaranteed price of paddy has been reduced. In the budget proposals for the 100 day government a guaranteed price of Rs. 50 was proposed for ‘Samba’ paddy. It has been reduced to Rs.41 from this budget. As such, a farmer loses Rs.18,000 for a season when the government buys 2000 kilograms of paddy from him. For the two seasons of the year the loss is Rs. 36,000. With the slashing of Rs.20,000 from the subsidy the amount a farmer loses for a year is about Rs.56,000.

Meanwhile, an issue regarding the seed market has cropped up. The government proposes to hand over lands that have not been cultivated or unutilized to the private sector as an incentive. The government considers lands occupied by seed research institutions and seed farms as unutilized lands. Seed farms such as Maha Iluppalamma, Pelwehera have been made to

break down. The government is planning to hand over these seed farms and lands to the private sector. The farmer in our country is severely inconvenienced due to the shortage of suitable seeds. A kilogram of cabbage seeds that is Rs.4200 when it reaches the harbour is Rs.45,000 at the market. A kilogram of chillies is about Rs. 75,000. As such, what the government should have done is to develop seed research stations and seed farms instead of handing them over to the private sector.

Also, the budget has come up with various proposals regarding lands in our country. Lands are a wealth to a country. As such, other countries are strict regarding selling lands to foreigners. Citizens in our country would find it very difficult to buy lands in another country. If one of our citizens wants to open a small boutique in another country he will have to obtain a license in the name of a citizen in that country. The laws for buying lands by foreigners are so complex. However, the budget proposes to withdraw laws that had been enacted for foreigners. This is what the 24 month government of Mr. Ranil Wickremesinghe during 2001 – 2003 period did. Accordingly, a large amount of lands at coastal areas at Beruwala and in Galle Fort were owned by foreigners. After this 24 month government I became the Minister of Lands. While I was the Minister I enacted a tax of 100% when buying lands by foreigners. I did it as there is a big gap between income levels of Sri Lankans and foreigners. The per capita income in Singapore is about US\$35,000. In the UK it is about Rs.500,000. As such, foreigners have more income than Sri Lankans. Considering Sri Lankans and foreigners as equals when selling lands is not justifiable. A foreigner would be able to buy a land in Sri Lanka from his pension. Ranil Wickremesinghe and his

government is withdrawing the tax that was enacted for foreigners. We would like to ask the government whether they were elected to office by foreigners. They come to power with the votes of our people but remove taxes enacted for foreigners.

Also, the government proposes to withdraw limitations regarding the ownership of certain investments identified as obstructions for attracting investments to the country. The government is attempting to relax land laws in the country. The ownership of lands in our country belonging to temples, devalas and the Temple of the Tooth cannot be sold. The lands given to tenant cultivators too cannot be sold. The ownership of such lands come from generations. Partitioning of lands was banned when lands were given to farmers under the Mahaweli scheme. The laws regarding lands in our country are so strong. After the 1971 uprising there was a dialogue in the country that the possession of the wealth of lands in our country by several aristocratic families too was a cause for the uprising. As such a new lands law was enacted in 1972 that an individual could own not more than 50 acres. However, Ranil Wickremesinghe’s government is amending the land laws today to allow companies to get lease for lands up to 5000 acres. Also, the government proposes to form a ‘lands bank’. The bank is to be established with lands belonging to the government. Government lands are lands belonging to the people. What the government should do is to distribute these lands among the people. However, the government is attempting to hand over people’s lands to companies through a bank. Lands are our kinship. These lands have been nurtured by the remains of our ancestors. The government is trying to remove this kinship and hand

over the lands to foreigners and companies. We have to struggle against this process.

Also, the budget for 2016 doesn’t mention anything about farmers’ pension scheme. Farmers’ pension is not one that has been given by the government. Farmers have contributed for the scheme. The funds for the pension scheme were built by farmers by paying installments every harvesting season. The farmer should get the pension when he is 60 years old. Mahinda Rajapaksa regime extended the pension receiving age to 62. Also, the fund was annulled by electing cutouts and posters. The fund contributed to by the farmer was destroyed. Farmers’ pension should be given to farmers. It is their right. When the UNP Parliamentarians were in the opposition they said that farmers’ pension should be paid. However, the budget doesn’t mention anything about the farmers’ pension. Mahinda Rajapaksa regime proposed at least to pay the pension when farmers are 62 years old.

As such, the economic strategy of the present government is not relevant to agriculture or the farmer. Ravi Karunanayaka says farmers in our country should withdraw from paddy cultivation. Despite the likes of Ravi Karunanayaka, who do not eat rice, do not need paddy cultivation, people like us, who eat rice, say paddy cultivation is vital for our country. We have to investigate what the likes of Ravi Karunanayaka eat. Any country should have a protection for its staple food.

Australia, the USA, Germany, the UK, Japan and many other countries, however despite their development produce their staple food. For, it’s important for the country’s security as well. Food is more important than the weapons the country possesses. However, this government completely destroys food security in our country. Having trust on food imported is a fantasy.

As such, All Ceylon farmers’ Federation has organized protest campaigns, and ‘Sathyagraha’ campaigns against the moves by the government to slash various subsidies and reliefs. At present farmers under the leadership of All Ceylon Farmers’ Federation have commenced continuous ‘Sathyagraha’ campaigns at Dambulla and Embilipitiya. This ‘Sathyagraha’ campaigns will continue in Tissamaharamaya, Anuradhapura and Kurunegala within the next few days. Also, a massive agitation is to be held in Colombo with the participation of a large number of farmers before the 19th.

JVP fights against all sorts of deprivations

The speech delivered by JVP on 07.12.2015 Beijing ,China at the Workshop on the Theories and Practices of Capitalism in Contemporary South Asia

International department of the Communist Party of China deserves our thanks for giving the vanguard to have a symposium on the current political situation of the South Asian region under the banner of all the left parties in the region. Yet, this is not the first occasion that the communist Party of China organized such an event.

Let me extend my sincere thanks on behalf of the Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna (JVP-Sri Lanka) for inviting us to participate in this forum to air our views on this study tour.

We are passing through a very crucial period. On one hand capitalist system is faced with a severe crisis. September 2008 marked the explosion of this crisis and it is still on its ruinous course. It is developing in to a socio-political crisis unprecedentedly.

The world is heading towards a multipolar world. The unipolar world established after the collapse of the Soviet Union is no more .Imperialist camp headed by United States is economically and hegemonically weakening. The rising of the BRICS countries headed by China and Russia is a conspicuous development. The BRICS bank and Asian Infrastructure Investment Development bank are formed and on a steady progress as an alternative to the World Bank and International Monetary Fund. Unity developing in Latin American countries, against Imperialism and United States hegemony has to be viewed positively under these circumstances. Solidarity shown by these countries against imperialism is an encouraging example.

For all of us who are engaged in a hard struggle to win freedom for the South Asian peoples, the current trends in the world are of paramount importance. It is imperative to exploit these developments for the good of our struggle.

It is our firm belief that socialist revolution would fulfill all the unachieved democratic tasks of the capitalism in this region. Imperialism, the final stage of the capitalism nothing to do



Sri Lankan bourgeois class has been governing the country for the last 67 years since she got the so-called independence. Yet, Sri Lankans as a nation has not been benefited by their rule. People of Sri Lanka have become oppressed to the halt by their decade's long rule. The cost of living has become an unbearable burden on them. Hither to Free education has been cutoff gradually yet invisibly. There is a nefarious attempt to do away with free health services of the country. The capitalist rule in Sri Lanka is taking every step to violate all the rights of workers, farmers, fisheries and all other sectors of the country.

with the democratic task of the capitalism. Imperialism cannot give any progressive thing to the human society. As comrade Lenin stated 'Imperialism is the dawn of socialism'. Therefore, we, all have to fight for the socialist revolution.

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Participants

1. Vice Minister, International Department of Communist Party of China.
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3. Communist Party of India (M)
4. Communist Party of India
5. Communist Party of Bangladesh (ML)
6. Workers Party of Bangladesh

with free health services of the country. The capitalist rule in Sri Lanka is taking every step to violate all the rights of workers, farmers, fisheries and all other sectors of the country.

As the leading leftist movement of Sri Lanka, Janatha

Vimukthi Peramuna fights against all sorts of deprivations of all the segments of the society and organizing them for the socialist revolution. The largest trade union movement of the government and private sector of our country is leading by our party. The farmer's movement,

the student movement, and fisheries community are also fighting to achieve their rights under our leadership.

Furthermore our members in the Parliament, Provincial councils, and local government institutions fight to safeguard the people's rights. In the current parliament of Sri Lanka the chief opposition whip is from our party. The chairmanship of the COPE is also held by our party.

The recently presented budget proposals in the parliament have taken steps to cut the pensioners rights and to rob the employee's provident fund and the employee's trust fund. Not only that but also they have blatantly taken steps to cutoff the rights of the free education. According to the budget proposals 75% of the income of the government is from taxes. It is an unbearable burden on the masses. It is obvious the country is heading towards neo-liberalism. We have already mobilized our energy to give necessary leadership to the masses to revert the government's neo-liberalist policies.

The ultimate objective of our party is Socialist Revolution. Therefore we have the challenge to win confidence of all the segments of the society. We have to represent demands of each and every segment of the society and fight to win their demands. It is a part of our daily struggle. Our immediate task of this moment is to become a broad based mass movement which has won the ultimate majority of the society.

The solidarity extended to us by all the leftwing movements of the region is commendable. We look forward to your helping hand in this regard all the time. Socialist Youth Union- The youth wing of our party- was elected as the vice president of the Asia-Pacific region of the WFDY (World Federation of Democratic Youth) at the General Assembly of WFDY which was held in Cuba last month. It wouldn't have been possible for us to earn unless you had extended your solidarity.

Our firm belief is solidarity among the left parties of the region is the most important to the victory of the socialist revolution. Recent developments of the world politics definitely pave the way to the socialist revolution.

Capitalist class would conspire & slander us! We'd defeat all & march forward to reach our objectives



You have gathered here to commemorate Comrade Rohana Wijeweera who founded and built our party, Comrade Upatissa Gamanayaka and all other Comrades who sacrificed their lives for the party and the country. We salute everybody gathered here unheeded of the torrential rain to commemorate our heroes. This proves again that no force - not even nature - can obstruct affairs of the JVP. This courage and determination was given to the party by November Heroes who made the supreme sacrifice in 1988/89 period. Today, many have started talking about them. The sacrifices made by November Heroes have become so strong not even our enemies could ignore them. Meanwhile, enemies of our party have started writing falsehoods to assassinate November Heroes once more. In an attempt to justify betrayals made to the enemy stories are fabricated to erase the spirit of those who made the supreme sacrifice. Another group that has retreated from the struggle is attempting to build their identities. However, we are gathered here to commemorate beloved Comrade Rohana Wijeweera who was taken away from us on 13th November and other comrades and resolve to achieve objectives they aspired for.

It was Comrade Rohana Wijeweera who logically taught our people that the bankrupt capitalist system cannot do anything for the people. This is further proved, even after 26 years of his assassination, as the country has been made bankrupt by capitalist rulers. The capitalist class in our country, divided into two groups, ruled the country alternatively for 67 years.

Now they have united to rule but they are proving that they are unable to find solutions for the issues of the masses. Then, what is the solution? It was Comrade Rohana Wijeweera who claimed that the only solution for the capitalist crisis is Socialism. Comrade Rohana Wijeweera founded the party to build a socialist society, apprised the masses, built a massive force on behalf of it, protected it from enemies and finally sacrificed his life to give us a party to build a socialist society.

Socialism is not a system that takes from those who have to give to those who have not. Equality in society is built not by taking from those who have to give to those who have not. It is by creating a massive production so that all would receive sufficiently. A society that treats everybody as humans is needed. In capitalism everybody is not treated humanely. Fredrick Engels, a founder of Marxism, wrote "Bourgeois society stands at the crossroads, either transition to Socialism or regression into Barbarism." We are witnessing the signs of barbarism at present. It is only in a barbaric society that little children who should be loved and protected, are raped and murdered. Instead a society that loves and protects all children should be created. Capitalism cannot build such a society. Only Socialism could build such a society. This has been taught to us by Comrade Rohana Wijeweera and November Heroes. At present there are no equal opportunities in education. Mothers have to sit on the public road to get their children admitted to schools. Sometimes mothers have to go to hotel rooms with principals to get an opportunity

for their children. Students who want to have higher education have to get their heads bashed on the roads. This is the type of country capitalism has built. A country where every child born is guaranteed higher education is necessary. Only Socialism could build such a country.

We would never give up our objectives in spite of the various conspiracies hatched by our enemies. After the Leader of our party Comrade Anura Dissanayaka raised the issue of 'Avant Garde' in Parliament, a front that guards Avant Garde has been formed. A minister who attempted to 'guard' Avant Garde had to resign. Then the President decided to hand over sea protection to the Navy. Why does such a change made if there is no issue with Avant Garde? Here too it was proved that the JVP was correct. Despite one minister has gone home, there is another group that defends Avant Garde. The JVP has the determination to struggle until the wrong is corrected. Comrade Anura Dissanayaka did his duty in Parliament. As a result those who are connected with the racket attempted to attack us from various fronts. It was Gotabhaya who was hurt when Avant Garde was exposed. They try to attack us saying Avant Garde incident was a fabrication.

In 1989 there was a challenge to defend Mother land, struggle against imperialism and build a new society. It is the same challenge that is before us at present. Despite there are no Indian forces, the US imperialism interferes in our country through Human Rights Council. This government has accepted the proposals with one accord. Our position is that



investigations regarding human rights could be carried out locally and justice meted out. However, imperialist forces should not be allowed to intervene in our internal affairs. The JVP does not have any animosity towards the USA. However, we are against the pressure they apply throughout the world.

When enemies attempt to hinder our progress, when those who flee from us form cliques against us and betray us to the enemy, we have raised again the red flag fallen from Comrade Rohana Wijeweera and other November Heroes and build the JVP as the political party of the people in this country. Though we do not get the votes, we have become the party that is in the hearts of the people. Whenever there is an issue it is the JVP most of the people turn to. This is because the JVP has participated in people's struggles. In Parliament it is the JVP that acts as the genuine opposition to represent people's issues. Comrade Anura Dissanayaka has been appointed to the post of Chief Opposition Whip. These are victories we had not achieved before. The enemies have not been able to prevent the party from getting such positions. We are achieving victories locally as well as internationally. We have achieved these victories, despite challenges from enemies, due to your determination and strength.

Friends we have won internationally and our local friends such as artists, university teachers, doctors, lawyers are working with us. We have to march forward with determination to win the day the red sun rises, the day heroes who sacrificed their lives in November craved for. Our enemies assassinated November Heroes and boasted that 'the match is over'. However, we have built the party and have made the JVP the only party that could unite Sinhalese, Tamil and Muslim masses under one flag.



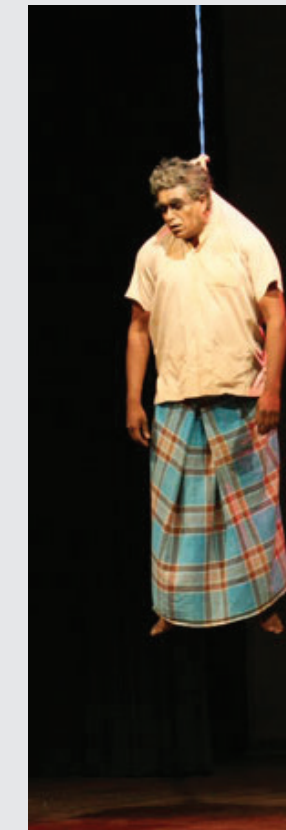
Sweat is a painting



Dahadiya Siththama" (Sweat is a painting) festival organized by the Literary Sub-committee of the National Trade Union Center (NTUC) was held at Tower Hall at Maradana.

Arts Festival of Working masses has been organized by the Literary Sub-committee of NTUC to promote creativity among the working masses in state, semi-government, private and estate sectors and to bring their creations to the society. The festival is organized annually and this year it is held for the 6th consequent year.

"Dahadiya Siththama" (Sweat is a painting), is organized concurrently with the Arts Festival.



Win for reactionaries in Venezuela

The year 2015 ended with the results of an election of which the results were eagerly waited for by the imperialists and those who represent imperialist motives. The said results were in favor of the imperialists, specially to USA and it forces to open eyes for the anti-imperialists to re think of their plans of actions.

The right wing alliance of Democratic Union Round Table of Venezuela was able to obtain a two-thirds majority at the general election held on 06 th December. This alliance was able to win 112 seats out of 167 of the National Assembly (Parliament of Venezuela). The Alliance led by United Socialist Party which is the party of Venezuelan Bolivian revolution leader Hugo Chavez and present President of Venezuela Nicholas Maduro was able to win only 55 seats. President Nicholas Maduro who addressed the nation immediately after the release of the results declared that he personally accepts the results.

At this election, a 74.25% had cast their votes out of which a 64.07% had voted for right wing alliance while president Maduro's party received only a 32.93% of the votes cast. The new legislature would commence its functions from 05th January, 2016.

This is the 20th election held after the president came to power. It is only in two of those elections that the party led by Hugo Chavez got defeated. The first defeat was at the referendum held to pass the new Venezuelan constitution. The second defeat is this recent general election.

This was the most difficult election during a period of 17 years of Chavez's rule. The period of two and half years after the untimely death of Hugo Chavez was a period with much strains for his



followers. A continuous crisis was created in the country by the US imperialists and the right wing alliance who are their local agents. They created an artificial scarcity of essential commodities in the country while organizing disruptive activities throughout the country. They created internal strife and riots in the country. A huge media campaign against president Nicholas Maduro had been launched in the country. The situation was aggravated due to effects on Venezuelan economy as a result of the decreasing of oil prices in the world market. Although, the support was received from the anti-imperialist forces, the followers of Chavez including president Maduro were not able to keep the situation in favourable conditions. The win by the right wing in the previous election in Argentina too had ill effects on the election.

The political analysts who observed

this election declare that the right wing alliance mainly used local & foreign media and web sites to manipulate the election process. They had launched only an insignificant amount of campaign at the ground levels. The people who had undergone one rule for over 16 years too had wanted a regime change. This need was felt more due to the economic constraints they faced during the past one and half years. They sometimes had to be in queues waiting for seven hours per week to obtain food stuff. The Chavez' rule failed to provide sufficient intervention to face the economic war created by the right wing. According to political analysts the ground level organizing process of the party of president Maduro had weakened during the recent past. Though they are well ahead of the other world capitalist parties in ground level organizing and dealings comparatively it has weakened

to that of the first phase of Chavez's rule.

However, the question for everybody concerned now is what sort of strategies would Venezuela take by the right wing rule. It would not be that simple. As they have a two-thirds majority in legislature, they may go for a change of the constitution too. They may change the judiciary, elections commissioner and even the president. Therefore, they have the ability of a complete reversal of the Bolivian revolution and its after effects initiated by Hugo Chavez. Also, it is imminent that right wing imperialists may take steps to use their wins in Argentina and Venezuela to have influence on the other countries of the region. Hence, the ill effects of this trend of election results may affect not only in Venezuela but in the total region of Latin America as well. A period of 16 years has passed after the Bolivian revolution led by president Hugo Chavez. It brought a tremendous amount of welfare measures for the Venezuelan people. It eradicated their status of poverty to a considerable level, increased literacy rate, improved health conditions and strengthened the country's economy by retaining a mass amount of money that previously drained to foreign countries. Steps were taken to deliver the benefits of such measures to the masses. However, such measures have not been able to protect the Bolivian revolution.

This situation has once again proved that it is essential to obtain the state powers into the hands of the proletariat for the sake of socialist revolution. It is no reality to attempt a socialist revolution while having only the ruling powers in the hands of the proletariat when the state powers are with the bourgeois class.

SYU in 'solidarity with Palestine campaign'

The Socialist Youth Union (SYU) carried out 'solidarity with Palestine campaign' yesterday (4th) to sign a petition in Mosques in main towns in the island to mark the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People which was observed on 29th November.

Signatures were collected to a banner with the theme 'Let Palestine live!' and the main event held at Zahira Mosque at Maradana was attended by the National Organizer of SYU Parliamentarian of the JVP Bimal Rathnayaka. The National Organizer of SYU speaking at the occasion said SYU has participated in the just struggle of the millions of people in the world under the



theme 'Let Palestine live!'. He said the campaign to get signatures to the petition that commenced at Zahira Mosque takes place at various places in the island.

Speaking further Mr. Bimal

Rathnayaka said, "As you know the issue of independence for Palestine has a history of about 70 years. After Israel was created inside Palestine in 1949, Israel invaded and occupied the land



belonging to Palestine and now Palestinians have only 11% of the land allotted to them by the UN in 1949. It is no secret that the USA is behind the vice move by Israel to make Palestinians prisoners in

their own land.

At present 136 countries of the 193 member countries of the UN have recognized Palestine as an independent country. It is a massive victory Palestinians have achieved. Since September this year its flag flies at the United Nations next to those of all Member States. The most important state that recognized Palestine as an independent state is Vatican.

Palestinians have come very close to their dream of their own state. This has been achieved with the sacrifice of thousands of people and also as a result of the international pressure," said the National Organizer of the SYU.

Comrades in 88/89 fought to prevent division of the country and build a Socialist society – Lal Kantha

“The real intention of the commemoration of ‘November Heroes’ should be to build a Socialist society the November Heroes struggled and laid down their lives for. It is necessary to win state power to build a Socialist society. A Socialist society would not happen automatically. The valiant heroes made the supreme sacrifice and aspired to win such a society, said the Member of the Political Bureau of the JVP K.D. Lal Kantha speaking via Skype at the Commemoration of ‘November Heroes’ organized by the JVP committee in the UK held at the auditorium of Vale Farm Sports Center in London on the 29th. A large number of JVP members and well wishers from various parts of the UK participated at the ceremony and what was distinctive was the participation of a large number of new members.

The proceedings commenced with floral tributes to fallen heroes before the colourful, impressive and creative commemorative pillar setup inside and an introductory speech by Mr. Ranjith Wijesiriwardene who made the audience recall events in 88/89 period.

The Organizer of the JVP Committee in the UK Mr. Darshana Hettiarachchi chaired the proceedings and

the commemorative address was delivered by Mr. Lal Kantha via Skype.

Mr. Lal Kantha addressing the audience said, “The real intention of the commemoration of ‘November Heroes’ should be to build a Socialist society the November Heroes struggled and laid down their lives for. It is necessary to win state power to build a Socialist society. A Socialist society would not happen automatically. The valiant heroes made the supreme sacrifice and aspired to win such a society. The highest tribute we can pay for them is to come forward with awareness to bring victory to the party. Today, our party is working on several fronts to achieve this. The electoral front is only one such front. Comrades who represent the party in Parliament are fulfilling their tasks in an excellent and a very professional manner. However, having a few Parliamentary seats or a few positions would not allow us to have state power. Hence, our party is working vigorously among state and private sector employees, farmers, fisher folks and the estate community, youths, women and students as well as intellectuals and scholars, in rural areas as well as in the North and the East to win their confidence.”

SAITM is protected by govt. as offspring, wives & in-laws of Ministers study there



Why does Minister of Education Rajitha Senaratne performs for the private medical school? His daughter-in-law, Parliamentarian Chathura Senaratne's wife, is a student of the 6th batch of SAITM. Her registered number is MF121/F006/AMD77 and has been registered using her driving license. Also, State Minister

of Higher Education Mohan Lal Grero's brother's two daughters are educated in the school. There are also daughters, sons, nephews, nieces and in laws of ministers of the previous government as well as the present government studying in this medical school.

As such, it is evident why the

former government as well as the present government is taking so much effort to protect private medical school. The previous government gave money to protect the institution and the present government is handing over public assets to the private school,” says the National Organizer of Socialist Students' Union (SSU) Rangana Devapriya.

He said this speaking at a media conference held at the JVP head office at Pelawatta yesterday (17th).

National Committee members of SSU Dasun Udara from Moratuwa University, Buddhike Deshapriya from Sabaragamuwa University and Samadhi Rajapaksa from Rajarata University also were present.

Government should from Page 01

the police, these ministers have a responsibility of giving explanations to the parliament on all the complaints received in this regard since last January. That is because no legal action has been taken so far though the police investigation and CID reports on all complaints made by us against all allegations of bribery and corruption have already been submitted to the Attorney General's Department. Hence, those ministers have a responsibility to give explanations

on those charges. However, they have made no comments on the charges. What they wanted was to provide explanations only on Avant Guard.

The MPs, who used private media channels and held media briefings on corruptions in the past, made speeches in praise of Avant Guard too. While the Yahapalana faction including the UNP was acting in this manner, the Rajapaksa group responsible for such large scale corruption charges was admiring

the Yahapalana faction. Today, both the Yahapalana faction and the Rajapaksa group work together to protect Avant Guard. Avant Guard has become the common candidate of both the groups.

It is a must to stop this process with no direction but with deals for a period of last 10 months since January. Immediate action must be taken on all the files related to bribery and corruptions handed over to the Attorney General”.

‘Women for Rights’ to save women sentenced to death by stoning in Saudi Arabia

‘Women for Rights’ has organized several programmes to save women who are sentenced to be killed by stoning in Saudi Arabia. A signature collecting campaign was held opposite Nugegoda Railway Station today (16th) as one of the series of such programmes.

At present nearly 50 Sri Lankan women have been sentenced and have been imprisoned in Saudi Arabia. The co-president of ‘Women for Rights’ Samanmalee Gunasinghe talking to the media said the series of campaigns is organized to

draw the attention of the government in Sri Lanka and Saudi authorities to save the women who have been sentenced.

‘Women for Rights’ also held a seminar under the theme ‘Let's save our women sentenced to be stoned to death’ at Ambalantota yesterday (15th) to make the people aware of the predicament.

The co-president of Women for Rights' Ms. Saroja Savithri Paulraj and Attorney at Law Jayantha Pathirana addressed the seminar at Tangalle.



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committed as soon as the present government came to power.

Members of the JVP and other organizations affiliated to the party have filed more than 300 complaints of fraud and corruption at Commission to Investigate Allegations of Bribery or Corruption, FCID, CID and Presidential Commission of Inquiry to investigate and inquire into Serious Acts of Fraud, Corruption and Abuse of Power, State Resources and Privileges (PRECIFAC).

Comrade Handunneththi, as the chairman of COPE has said he hoped to take COPE closer to the people with the assistance of the media and through social networks in the internet but would remove traditional rules and regulations that have guided it so far.

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New Year New Challenges

All people in the world have completed the year 2015 and have entered year 2016. It is according to the calendar. As the New Year approaches people wish one another for an auspicious year. This is a good custom as it would give people an opportunity to escape their monotonous and routine lives. Wishing each other is good socially as well.

There is nothing new when the year is surveyed physically. The Earth moves along the same old axis around the Sun. However, according to the calendar that measures time for the mankind the beginning of a year is a new beginning. It is a New Year. It is a good opportunity for the people to cast away old unnecessary things and begin life anew to gather new things. As such, the New Year would be a real New Year only if people throw unproductive and inappropriate things away and focus on productive and appropriate things. If the same old moves are repeated, if the thinking is the same, the life is guided in the same direction and the same old decisions are taken, the year would not be new or auspicious.

None of the past years were auspicious for the common people in this country. Every year people had to bear the burden of increased prices of essential goods, taxes and economic difficulties. Year by year the education of the children became a demanding task; the unemployment went up; crime soared; life became arduous and enduring. The wishes made on 1st January did nothing to change the situation. What was the reason for it? Despite wishing each other for the New Year, the people did not become new in their thinking and practice.

2016 dawns when many challenges are before the masses. On one hand there is the threat of carrying the burden of the massive economic crisis that is demonstrated by the budget deficit that exceeds Rs.740 billion. As a result the risk of slashing of social welfare including education and health is imminent. Elections are being postponed. Capitalist political parties are planning to introduce new constitutions and new electoral systems to resolve power struggles that exist within their parties.

Masses would be drawn towards a struggle to get relief from the burden heaped on them and to protect the rights and reliefs that are being slashed. The challenge of not allowing the draft of the new constitution of the capitalists moving on a line harmful to the masses is before the masses. The challenge of winning over new rights too is before the masses. However, as all these reliefs and rights given by capitalists are temporary and could be taken back, the need also exists to enter a new political path to win permanent and genuine victories.

The old capitalist system is outdated. It cannot give masses anything 'new' or 'auspicious'. When living in an old and outdated society no new year would be new or auspicious. Hence, old capitalist outdated social system should be eliminated with its old issues, old conflicts, all old woes and pains, old injustices, old administrations which are indeed imperative characteristics of such a society. Alternatively, a genuinely new social system should be built. The old capitalism should be defeated to bring victory to Socialism. For this, the old, traditional and the unsuccessful political path that was advantageous to capitalism should be abandoned and a new political journey should be initiated to end in victory for the masses. Then only the New Year would be really new and auspicious.

We invite all to leave behind the old path and resolve to take a new path in this New Year and wish you all the courage to take this new and bold decision.



'November Heroes' commemorated in London



A seminar Held in United States



A 'Brotherhood Day' celebration in Italy