

Slanderers unleashed!

With the exposure of large scale frauds and corruption of Maithri -Ranil administration and moves taken against such crimes various cliques including corrupt ministers of the present government have launched a mudslinging campaign and are spreading blatant lies against the JVP and its leaders.

It has been revealed that owners of web sites supporting fraudsters in the UNP government and their hirelings have been let loose for the sordid act. They are anxious to get

the support of the corrupt Rajapaksa clique as well to conceal and disguise frauds and corruption that have been committed.

Ministers who have been involved in frauds and

corruption have planned mudslinging campaigns against the JVP as their intention is to insult the JVP and its leaders to release the rage due to getting politically exposed

before the people.

There is also the need of the slanderers to breach people's confidence in the JVP as the 'people's centre' being built by the JVP for a new people's administration against the current administration, the Rajapaksa clique and the capitalist rule is receiving massive support from various mass organizations and forces and people's

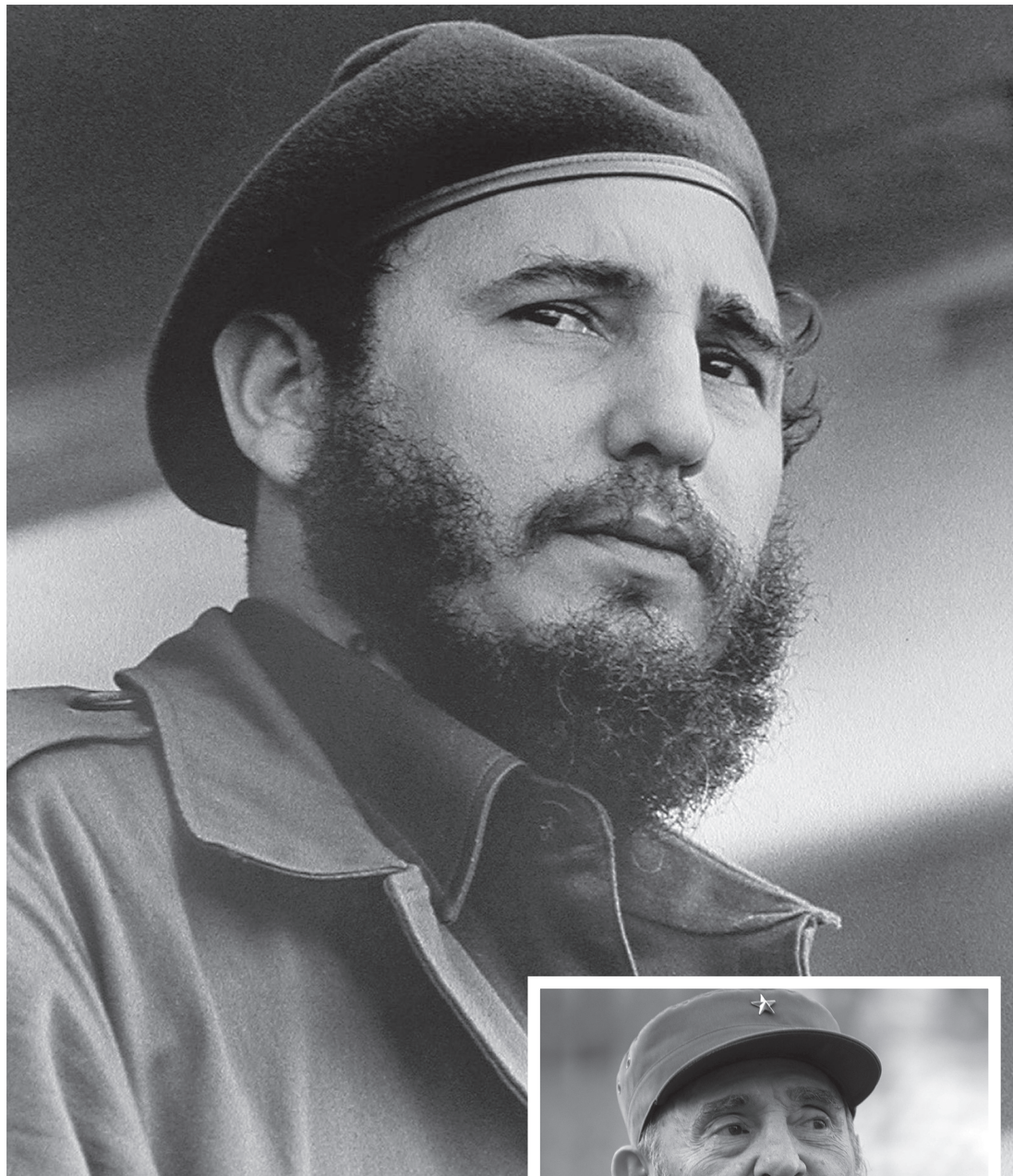
trust in the JVP is gaining rapidly.

When 'Red Power' inquired regarding this the Information Secretary of the JVP Comrade Vijitha Herath said all reactionaries getting agitated and enraged is obvious as people who are tormented and oppressed are rallying with the JVP as it has become the only political party that

could be trusted by the people and that could find solutions for people's burning issues. Comrade Vijitha Herath emphasized that the heinous slanders of the bankrupt and corrupt individuals and groups could never stop the forward march of the JVP and added that people would never accept their slanders but would abhor them.



We salute Fidel Castro, the great revolutionary leader of our times



The Political Bureau of the JVP released a message of condolence over the passing away of the Leader of the Cuban Revolution and former President of Cuba Comrade Fidel Castro.

The message states:

Comrade Fidel Castro, the founder of Cuban Socialist Revolution and former President of Cuba has bid us adieu at the age of 90. We, together with the mourning revolutionaries, leftists, anti-imperialists and also millions of men and women who love the human race, pay our revolutionary salute to the great Revolutionary.

No one could ignore his contribution to raise Cuba that had been made the backyard of imperialism and its people immersed in the depth of illiteracy and poverty to the highest socio-economic indexes in the modern world. The influence of his leadership role that was not limited to Cuba only, had an astounding affect not only on Asian, African Latin American revolutionary and leftist movements but also in shaping the present day world politics. He was a powerful leader of the Socialist camp during the cold war period and the leadership he gave holding high the

banner of Socialism and with the slogan "Socialism or death" for the Cuban people to achieve victories despite the breakdown of the Soviet camp in the 90s would never be forgotten.

Even after he moved away from active politics Comrade Fidel Castro continued to inspire the world masses through his notes and reviews on world socio-economic-political events. He was an incomparable and heroic leader whose revolutionary zeal never eroded. His near century epochal leadership would remain in the hearts of the masses in the world and he would never be forgotten.

The JVP, together with the downtrodden masses all over the world who mourn the death of the great revolutionary leader of our times, salute Comrade Fidel Castro.

Political Bureau
Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna
26.11.2016

JVP proposes action to be taken on COPE report

The JVP presented a set of proposals to the government after COPE report was released demanding that they should be implemented immediately. We produce here the full text of the press release.

Immediate action to be taken as the COPE report on bond scam has been released

As soon as the present UNP – SLFP partnership government was formed Prime Minister's friend Arjun Mahendran was appointed the Governor of Central Bank and on 27th February, 2015 a large scale fraud was committed when issuing Central Bank bonds. The government incurred a massive loss of revenue.

The main demand of the mandate received after defeating Mahinda Rajapaksa regime on 8th January, 2015 was an end to frauds and corruption and take legal action against fraudsters and the corrupt. However, even before the warmth of the victory faded a large scale financial fraud was committed kicking out the mandate received. It was the JVP that revealed the fraud to the country as soon as it was committed. Without stopping at that the JVP asked for an immediate investigation regarding the fraud and to remove the Governor from the post, at least temporarily, to allow an impartial investigation to be carried out.

However, the government did not listen to any such proposal. Although the government, specially the Prime Minister, attempted to sweep the issue under the carpet, as a result of the Committee on Public Enterprises (COPE) taking over the investigation prevented the fraud being shelved. It is no secret that once the investigations and inquiries carried out by COPE on the Central Bank bond scam were completed and when the final report was to be compiled the UNP members in the committee attempted to weaken the report. Once the attempt failed they continue to make various statements and meanwhile the government is neglecting to take any action regarding

the recommendations. What they are attempting to do is to put the responsibility of the fraud on officials and save the government and the Prime Minister from the responsibility.

Although former Governor and several officials of the Central Bank, Perpetual Treasuries Ltd. are directly involved in the fraud, the government and specially the Prime Minister cannot shy away from the responsibility of the fraud. Specially, the Prime Minister should take the political responsibility of the act. It is according to the manner he acted throughout this period. The Prime Minister is responsible for the following acts:

- Taking over by the Prime Minister the Central Bank that was under the Minister of Finance
- Ignoring the opposition of the masses and appointing Arjun Mahendran, a Singapore citizen, as the Governor at the sole discretion of the Prime Minister
- Attempting to protect the former Governor from the time the fraud was exposed and also attempting to extend the period of the governor
- Not removing former Governor of Central Bank who was accused of a serious charge but waiting until his term ended (An attempt was made to retain him but had to abandon the attempt due to people's opposition to the move)
- Later, appointing Arjun Mahendran, with serious accusations against him, to important positions in the economy
- After COPE took over investigation of Central Bank bond scam getting Parliamentarian Velukumar to resign and appointing Parliamentarian Sujeewa Senasinghe in a bid to change the composition of the UNP representation in the COPE and attempting to save Arjun Mahendran through such a move

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Politics, opportunities & challenges



That the capitalist system in Sri Lanka can never be saved from getting destroyed is being realized by everybody now. All economic policies and administrative models followed to maintain capitalism in Sri Lanka during the 68 years since 1948 have failed. All those capitalist leaders who ruled the country until now too have been fallen to the same heap of failures. All such leaders, except those whose political careers terminated due to their sudden deaths, terminated their political careers after being opposed by the people and after being defeated in elections. Now, capitalism has no solutions for its crises. This is why capitalism has to be changed.

The economy in Sri Lanka is in crisis. It bears a debt mountain of US\$103.9 billion. The debt burden is 76% of the national income. The annual interest installment exceeds the national income. However, the only solution the capitalist government has for this grave economic crisis is the recipe of the IMF concoction. It is increasing taxes, fines, slashing reliefs, privatization and getting more loans. The government can never come up from the pit of economic crisis it has fallen into.

This acute crisis of capitalism has spread to all sectors of the society like a cancer. The education is in crisis. There are many issues in it from admitting a child to grade one to university education. Of the 360,000 plus children who get admitted to grade one, 60,000 leave school before they complete their education in grade five. It is the result of this crisis. Also, public services such as the health service, transport have become a jumble. Then there are the social crises. Robberies, crime and cultural degeneration increase day by day. There isn't any sector that has not been caught up with crisis in capitalism.

As a result of this crisis everyone has been distressed. State employees have launched struggles demanding their rights. Farmers have taken to the streets. Fisher folk protest. Students demonstrate. Even those in aesthetic and cultural sectors have been

made to fight for their rights as performing, creation have become preys of capitalist domination.

There is a special difference in the crisis the country is confronted at present. The crisis, instead of flowing only at the low level has stretched itself towards the top as well. It is a favourable situation for those who expect a change in capitalism.

Marxist – Leninist teachers have told us that during a transition period when old capitalism is changed and a new society is created the crisis in capitalism manifests itself in the lower as well as in the higher levels of society. The crisis in the lower levels is the distress the ordinary folk undergo. The crisis in the upper levels is one that surfaces only when capitalism is confronted with the most serious crises. This is when the ruling classes are in crisis.

Currently, the ruling class in Sri Lanka is confronted with a massive crisis. A coalition government has been formed as either of the two capitalist groups is strong enough to wield power. This coalition is not a symbol of unity but one that of disunity. The presidential power and the governing power are at two different places. As such, both

powers have become weak. It doesn't have people's support either. The ruling UNP has not gained power in the whole island. As such, it doesn't have power at grassroots level. Due to the inability to establish local government councils yet the power in the peripheral levels of the capitalist administration remains weak. The UNP, unlike in the past, has not been able to gain power in trade unions, cooperatives in villages or village level societies. The UNP leadership is weak as well. Except for the Prime Minister, there isn't any other considerable leadership that could influence masses. Capitalism is confronted with a leadership crisis. It doesn't have enthusiastic and charismatic leaders.

Meanwhile, the SLFP has split. They have taken 'arms' against each other. Most of the SLFP members do not accept Maithri's leadership. If the presidential system continues Mahinda cannot become the President. Rajapaksa clique too is in crisis. This is why some have started thinking about Gotabhaya Rajapaksa. Rajapaksa clique formed a new political party. It too is in crisis. Some in the clique criticize the new party. Capitalism is in a dilemma. There are insolvable issues inside as well as outside

it. Generally, capitalism has fallen to the level that it has no leader to maintain it. This is why capitalist cliques are looking for new faces.

Although all these crises have fallen in line and the opportunity to end capitalism has dawned, still there are more challenges. Opportunities do not occur regularly in politics. However, such an opportunity is developing. Also, such opportunities do not come in isolation. They come with challenges as well. What is the challenge in our politics at present? It is the crisis in our class that is willing to and has a need to change capitalism – the crisis confronted by the downtrodden. Masses that are being oppressed by capitalism need a change. However, they still live with the ideology of capitalism in which they have lived for several centuries; within capitalist conventions and traditions. They have not been able to get fully free from archaic conventions. Many of them look for leaders for the country not from their class but from the upper classes. This is the state that should be changed immediately. People must change now. They should be changed.

Capitalism would never bow down from the stage of

history. Capitalists, racketeers and earners of black money, the privileged groups and imperialists would strive to muddle the ideology of the masses and regulate people's minds in a bid to protect capitalism. The era that we live in is one in which the media – specially the electronic media that is tremendously advanced technologically - manipulates mass consciousness. Who are the owners of electronic and print media institutions in our country? Most of them are racketeers who earn black money. Capitalism is necessary for them for the existence of their capital. They would always want to prevent an alternative political force that would want to topple capitalism taking the leadership of the masses and they would launch operations to find leaders who would protect and save capitalism. The struggle for a social transition has to confront such challenges as well.

In such an environment all groups and those who are oppressed by the capitalist crisis have a responsibility. It is to become shareholders of the biggest and the broadest people's force that would topple this deteriorating social system and create a more justifiable Socialist society. They should amply contribute for it. They should not wait for 'baptism' of new leaders (like 'waiting for Prince Diyasena') or be deceived by the 'fables' of filling 'vacuums by civil society organizations and forces that protect capitalism in another round. In complex political opportunities such as that exist at present various groups and fraudsters would come to the limelight in various disguises to grab victories the masses should achieve. As such, social forces should prevent masses from being deceived by such pranksters but guide them to defeat challenges that confront them and grasp the opportunity the country has gained due to the capitalist crises. The people must change for a change in the society. Also, the people must be changed. It is the task of the era for genuine progressives.

Red Power: The government presented a budget for 2017. Who is this budget for?

Comrade Lal Kantha:

The government states it presented a budget. Of course, it is a budget for the government. But for the people in this country it is only expenditure. They do not gain anything from it. Whichever government that has ruled this country has talked about means for people to get an income so that they could conceal the taxes and fines imposed on the people and to stop disapproval of the people for the budgets. At the budget proposals presented this time while presenting it to Parliament, in debates Parliamentarians who spoke on behalf of the proposals never spoke about how people could get their incomes. They cannot do so as there is nothing in the budget to help people in their incomes.

This is the programme that takes forward the policy of the government. It is a programme based on selling resources, high taxes and heavy fines. It is a programme that makes living a challenge for the ordinary folk as it talks only about heavy expenditure without any income. It is a programme that allows the government to while away for another year.

Red Power: The government imposed VAT two weeks before the budget presentation and burdened the masses in addition to what was heaped on

It's the people who need to change...

Comrade Lal Kantha

The President of National Trade Union Centre, the Member of the Political Bureau of the JVP



mistake of the people. Bringing such rulers to power and blaming them later is fruitless. The people should understand that it is necessary to defeat the rulers as well as the existing socio-economic system. It is the people who have to change. This is why Bertolt Brecht said the people should change.

The solution for the issue is a different attitude of the people. The responsibility of the intellectuals and artistes in this country is undertaking the task of changing the people; to create citizens who become aware of their power.

the masses from the budget. How would the masses endure the burden of VAT and other increases?

Comrade Lal Kantha:

All those who get permanent incomes are dragged towards a critical economic crisis through the budget. The self employed carpenter, mason, barber would increase their charges. Those in the informal sectors could do so. However, those in institutional and formal sectors such as government employees, employees in the private sector, those who get permanent incomes, even the farmer would have to confront the most difficult times of their lives. For,

the budget doesn't mention any means of income. Others will increase their incomes when taxes, fines are increased. The barber who cuts hair for Rs.150 would increase his fare to Rs.200. The producer would increase the price according to his expenses.

The biggest blow from the budget is for the permanent income recipients. Even at this moment we are having this interview the budget debate is going on. We challenge the government to say how people could increase their incomes. There is no such thing in the budget proposals. People are unable to bear the burden of the

expenses. Just as they were fed up with the previous regime, they would reject the two groups that are ruling the country now. They will have to take up the path of struggle for their existence.

The people have a responsibility to understand that they cannot go further with the present day rulers. They will have to detach themselves from conventional political parties. They will have to choose a different socio-economic system. The existing state is not the fault of the rulers. It is no use blaming the rulers. For, they carry out their economic policy. Hence, as Brecht said bringing such rulers for power is the

Red Power: The Minister of Finance is repeating the recipe given by the IMF. Proposals are brought to sell state institutions. Proposals are included to encourage privatization of education and health services. How do the working masses in these sectors confront this situation?

Comrade Lal Kantha:

The policy of this government is not taking part in production. Production is goods and services. The government is specially withdrawing

from education and health services. The budget proposals are presented according to this policy. As such, allocations for health, education and agriculture have been slashed. The intention of the government is to go along with this policy. The government is not at all concerned about how many patients would die without medical attention, how many would lose their jobs, how many children will be denied education opportunities or how many farmers will commit suicide.

This budget is disadvantageous to the people; it is harmful. Due to selling of state resources, excessive taxes and fines the working masses in the state sector and the private sector will take the path of struggle. There would be a struggle lead by these sectors. Other downtrodden masses too have a responsibility of joining these struggles to achieve victory. When the budget proposals are implemented in January, 2017 the masses throughout the country will have to enter the path of struggle. However, the struggles against these policies could gain a lasting victory only in a political arena. The people should defeat the traitorous policies of these governments on the very first opportunity they get in the political arena.

Red Power: At the moment the working masses as well as all the people have been called for a common struggle. How do these struggles merge with the

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Fidel inspired those searching for a different world

Fidel Alejandro Castro Ruz was born on 13th August, 1926, near Birán, Cuba. Known as a rebellious, loud, and troublesome child, Fidel was sent to a Jesuit boarding school in Santiago de Cuba, where he was often teased by his wealthier classmates who called him a "peasant." He later attended Belen College before enrolling at the University of Havana, where he earned a law degree. After graduating from the university, Castro briefly practiced law,

By the time he graduated in 1950, Castro had been heavily involved in revolutionary movements, opposing right-wing governments — and not just in Cuba. In July 1953 Castro was arrested after a failed attempt to wrest power from Batista and later that year was sentenced to 15 years in jail.

Acting as his own lawyer, Castro defended himself at trial for the

assault on the Moncada military barracks in Santiago de Cuba.

Much later he said "I began the revolution with 82 men. If I had to do it again, I would do it with 10 or 15 and absolute faith. It does not matter how small you are if you have faith and a plan of action."

While in jail, Castro and his fellow revolutionaries, including his brother Raul, built the 26th of July Movement, which would eventually overthrow the Batista government.

Under pressure, Batista granted Castro amnesty and released him from prison in 1955.

Castro travelled to Mexico, where he met Argentinean Marxist Che Guevara and spent time raising funds and building opposition to Batista.

He returned to Cuba in 1956 to conduct a guerrilla war against the Batista government, and in 1959, his 26th July Movement successfully

assumed power of the country after Batista was forced to flee.

Castro and 81 other men sailed on the yacht "Granma" to the eastern coast of Cuba, where government forces immediately ambushed them. The estimated 18 survivors, including Castro, his brother Raúl and Guevara, fled deep into the Sierra Maestra Mountains in southeastern Cuba with virtually no weapons or supplies.

The revolutionaries started reorganizing with only two rifles. But by early 1957 they were already attracting recruits and winning small battles against Rural Guard patrols. In 1958, Batista tried to snuff out the uprising with a massive offensive, complete with air force bombers and naval offshore units. The guerrillas held their ground, launched a counterattack and wrested control from Batista on January 1, 1959.

In 1960, Castro nationalized all U.S.-owned businesses, including oil refineries, factories and casinos. This prompted the United States to end diplomatic relations and impose a trade embargo that still stands today. Meanwhile, in April 1961, about 1,400 Cuban exiles trained and funded by the CIA landed near the Bay of Pigs with the intent of overthrowing Castro. Their plans ended in disaster, however, partially because a first wave of bombers missed their targets and a second air strike was called off. Ultimately, more than 100 exiles were killed and nearly everyone else was captured. In December 1962, Castro freed them in exchange for medical supplies and baby food worth about \$52 million.

After taking power, Castro abolished legal discrimination, brought electricity to the countryside, provided for full employment and

advanced the causes of education and health care, in part by building new schools and medical facilities.

Fidel Castro was a legendary survivor defeating what Cuban officials say were more than 600 attempts to kill him. He lived much of his long life in the spotlight -- and much of it in the cross hairs -- surviving a half century of assassination plots.

Imperialists plotted to kill him in a variety of ways, including poisoning him, dosing his dive suit with fatal botulism and blowing him up during a speech. Many of the plots were utter failures.

"More people have tried to murder the world's most famous socialist than any man alive," according to the 2006 British documentary "638 Ways to Kill Castro."

"If surviving assassination attempts were an Olympic event, I would win the gold medal," Castro liked to tell

interviewers.

His reputation as a cheater of death took hold early. As a young revolutionary he was reported dead twice by Cuba's press -- "perishing" once when he led a failed uprising against a military barracks and again when he returned from exile by boat with a guerrilla force.

Fidel once again demonstrated that the Revolution which had triumphed on January 1, 1959 was motivated by principles and that Cuba was no one's satellite. The heroism of those Cuban soldiers who fought in Africa and Fidel's leadership helped to change the history of the continent and, as Nelson Mandela himself stated, end apartheid. Cuba stood as a reminder that, when motivated by ideals of justice, even a small country can fight against global powers, it was revolutionary.

Cuba under Castro made great strides in the areas of education and healthcare under his rule, literacy rose to 98 per cent, 10,000 new schools were opened and infant mortality decreased.

"It appears there are two laws, two sets of rules and two kinds of logic, one for the U.S. and one for other countries. Perhaps it is idealistic of me, but I never accepted the universal prerogatives of the U.S." stated Fidel to envoys of the Carter administration in 1978, who traveled to Havana setting conditions for the improvement of relations.

His, a voice opposing those of the powerful, and in support of "the wretched of the world," inevitably spread like a fine powder across the plains, jungles and mountains of the continent.

The Cuban Revolution and Fidel's ideas have inspired all those searching for a different world; looking to overcome the contradictions which world powers try to present as inevitable.

All plundered public assets should be recovered

Comrade Anura Dissanayaka

The JVP and the forces that rally with it have the unassailable right in the struggle against fraudsters says the Leader of the JVP Comrade Anura Dissanayaka. He was addressing the seminar "Fraudsters & protectors" held at the Public Library auditorium in Colombo on the 1st November.

Comrade Anura Dissanayaka said, "There is a corrupt ring in the country. It is this corrupt ring that controls the rulers and administration. They have power in the media. Money is pumped during elections. It gets supplies from the underworld. Weapons are distributed. Hence, an administration should be built that protects masses instead of fraudsters. As such, the struggle against fraudsters

and corruption should be strengthened. The unassailable right of the struggle against the corrupt is with the JVP and the forces that rally with it.

Some ask us whether a corrupt ring would exist even when we come to power. The business people who are fair and justifiable need not be scared. However, the likes of Mahinda Rajapaksa and Namal Rajapaksa should be scared. Now Ranil Wickremesinghe too will have to be scared. Even Ravi Karunanayaka has a reason to be scared. We would carry out investigations with 'refined' transparency. We do not have internal grudges with anyone. People in our movement are noble. We are not concerned with personal grudges. Our movement always stands with

the masses. Our struggle is with those who have stood against the interests of the masses. There are very good gentlemen in our country. I would like to ask DIG Ravi Waidyalankara of the CID to reveal to the country, after he retires from service, the log entries he has made. People should know who had interfered in investigations carried out regarding murders of Thajudeen and Lasantha Wickremetunga. There are good people in the JVP. There could be good people outside it as well. There are such good people in the police, the three services and the state sector. We would establish a mechanism with them. Then we would hold investigations regarding these assets impartially and with transparency. Assets belonging



to the masses should be recovered. Our country has been dragged to a beggarly state. Allocations for education and health are slashed. People are taxed. Money is amassed by a few. People are left to sigh. They have no solution when they are sick. They become miserable with employment. Shouldn't we take back the money that has been plundered? There is only one clean hand that could take back this money. It is the JVP. There is a large amount of money that could be recovered from these fraudsters and the

corrupt.

A force should be built not only to oppose frauds and corruption but one that could take the country along a new path. We would build a movement that could come to power in 2020. The people in the country have to decide whether this movement would be given power or not. We have already launched the task of building this movement. Everyone has a role to play in this task. We invite everyone to join us."

Government should solve issues of Sri Lankan workers abroad

Ethera Api

At a press conference held by the 'Ethera Api' organization at the head office of the JVP at Pelawatta on 8th November it was emphasized that the government should take measures to solve issue of Sri Lankan workers serving in foreign countries.

The General Secretary of the Organization Comrade Lakshman Nipunarachchi speaking to the media said despite workers in foreign countries are the main foreign exchange earners for the country, the relief they get from the government is minimal and added that the government should mediate to solve the issues confronted by them.

Speaking further Comrade Nipunarachchi said, "Their main request is permission to bring a duty free vehicle to Sri Lanka. We ask the government at least to allow them a duty free relief of a percentage of the money they send to the country while they are employed abroad. It would give a value for their labour and also they would want to send the money they send home by legal means. The government would gain when illegal means of sending money to the country stop.

Certain measures are being taken to give voting right to Sri Lankans working abroad. A Parliamentary Select Committee has been appointed on a proposal put forward by Comrade Sunil Handunneththi from our organization. However, this committee has not met yet. We request that this committee meets and necessary action taken soon. We propose that Comrade Sunil Handunneththi, who put forward this proposal, to be made the Chairman of this committee. Our experiences show that it would be a favourable move."

The Treasurer of 'Ethera Api' organization Attorney-at-Law Comrade Janaka Adhikari and Coordinator Comrade Sanjeeva Bandara also participated.

IMF budget drags masses from the pan to the hearth

The Information Secretary of the JVP Comrade Vijitha Herath charged that government's budget proposals have been prepared according to conditions put forward by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and said people have been dragged from the pan to the hearth by the government.

Comrade Vijitha Herath was speaking at a media briefing held at the head office of the JVP on the 11th to apprise the media regarding the stand of the JVP on the budget.

Speaking further Comrade Vijitha Herath said, "This budget has not been able to give any relief for the people in our country. Hence, the JVP would vote against the budget. Also, the JVP would rally the masses against the plundering economic agenda carried out by this government.

The government attempts to deceive the people by reducing prices of several goods such as sugar by Rs.2.00, Rs.5.00 and Rs.10.00. Indirectly, a large amount of money is levied from the people as taxes. The loan interest relief given to senior citizens has been



slashed. Also, there is a proposal to abolish pension for state employees. It has been proposed to abolish the pension and establish a contributory pension scheme from 2017. The facility of about 8 million private sector employees had of keeping their contribution of the EPF fund as security and obtain housing loans has been completely stopped. This is a death blow on the innocent wish of private sector employees to build a house of their own. The budget has slashed all the advantages the small man had.

This government does not have a programme to get over the

economic crisis that exists. The economy continues to be dragged towards a precipice. People are taxed for them to come out of the rut they themselves have created. People are being imprisoned in a debt trap. This budget has not been prepared by the government alone. Services have been slashed according to the orders from the IMF," said Comrade Vijitha Herath.

The Member of the Central Committee of the JVP Provincial Council Member Comrade Wasantha Samarasinghe too was present.

It's the people...

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programme of the JVP of building a broad people's force for a power transition?

Comrade Lal Kantha: No party was given power to form a government of their own at the last general election due to the frustration masses have regarding the so-called main political parties. Using provisions in the Constitution they have formed an alliance government despite people not voting them to form such a government. In 2020 people will not vote for Maithri's SLFP, Ranil's UNP or Mahinda's 'bud'. As such, what they intend doing is to form a tri-party coalition government in 2020. It would be the most reactionary government in the history of this country.

Even now the three groups are unofficially linked with each other. They use this state to escape from being punished for frauds, corruption and thefts. All fraudsters and their protectors would join to form a tri party coalition. Already, this coalition has been unofficially formed. This is why Minister Lakshman Kiriella participating in the budget debate says that Mr. Mahinda Rajapaksa should help them.

The people should understand this situation and the hazard. Forming such a government should be prevented, all three reactionary forces should be pushed aside and a political movement that is capable of forming a people friendly government should be built. The JVP warned at the last election that the existing alliance government would be formed. Also, we said that thieves would never work against thieves. This has been proved. People have the responsibility of taking measures from now on to defeat the alliance of people's enemies.

People have a struggle before them to protect state resources, services they have partaken and punish fraudsters and the corrupt that plundered people's assets. This struggle cannot be won from fighting only in one's sector. It is a common struggle of all of us. We invite people to rally around the broad people's front that is being built by the JVP that foresaw the danger and launched building the front.

JVP proposes

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- Not taking any action against Mr. Arjun Mahendran even after COPE report confirmed that a fraud was committed in the bond transaction, it incurred a massive loss to the government and the governor and certain officials in Central Bank are connected to the scam and points mentioned above indicate that the Prime Minister cannot shy away from the responsibility of the scam.

In such a situation we demand the government to stop making false statements but implement recommendations of the COPE report immediately and to take measures to implement the following considering them as immediate measures.

1. Based on the COPE report take immediate measures to take legal action against all those who are involved in the scam, mete out severe punishment for those who are found guilty and recover all the money defrauded from the state
2. Remove former Governor of Central Bank of Sri Lanka Arjun Mahendran, who has been accused of involvement in the bond scam by COPE report, from all positions he occupies in the government and the economy and not appoint him hereafter for any position in the government.
3. As there is a possibility that Perpetual Treasuries Ltd. that has gained a massive profit through the bond scam could take assets it has gained by illegal means away from the country, immediate legal measures should be taken to stop assets and funds owned by the company and all other companies affiliated to Perpetual Treasuries Ltd. from being taken away.
4. As COPE report has revealed that Perpetual Treasuries Ltd. is involved in the bond scam, it should be immediately withdrawn from the list of primary dealers of the Central Bank.
5. The officials of the Central Bank, who neglected their professional responsibilities to assist in the illegal transaction, could interfere in the investigations being carried out on the bond scam. As such they should be removed from relevant responsibilities.
6. Also, taking into consideration the COPE report presented on 9th August, 2015, a comprehensive investigation regarding frauds and irregularities that have been committed in the issue of bonds and various other financial transactions carried out throughout the past by the Central Bank should be carried out.

Don't abandon 'Independent Palestine' policy due to imperialists' pressure!

The JVP in a press release warned the government that it will lose the support it receives from friendly countries if it abandons the 'independent Palestine' policy'

The Press release states:

29th of November marks 50 years since Palestine was invaded. The latest report of the UN group of representatives present in occupied territories states the Israel invasion has become the worst obstacle for the development of Palestine people.

29th November also marks 40 years since UNO declared it as the 'International Day of Solidarity with Palestine'. Despite the issue of Palestine people being discussed in international forums or the UNO mediating with its resolutions and other means for decades, the invasive policy of Israel, moves of repression, war crimes and committing mass punishments against Palestine people have not stopped. This has revoked

the fundamental rights of the Palestine people and has posed a threat to international and regional peace and security.

We recognize the sovereignty of the Palestine state and its territorial integrity and vehemently condemn Israel's colonial settlement policy that violates international law, human rights and UNO conventions and all policies and moves that are connected with it.

The JVP totally supports the just struggle of the Palestine people to permanently stop all sorts of invasions that have been set in motion against them by Israeli state terrorism, to achieve a just and final solution for the Palestine issue and defeat all moves carried out to prevent getting full membership for the state of Palestine in the UNO.

Also, the JVP calls upon all progressive states, international organizations, progressive organizations and progressive masses to come forward for a final solution that would end Israel's invasive

policy, confirms the peaceful existence of two independent states, establishes Palestine state that includes territories that existed before 1967 having Eastern Jerusalem as its capitol and that finds solutions for the Palestine refugee issue as well.

Since 1967 the government of Sri Lanka has recognized the existence of an independent Palestine state and has acted accordingly. However, Sri Lanka refrained from voting for the resolution adopted recently by UNESCO condemning the Israeli policies around the al-Aqsa Mosque compound. We, as the JVP, condemn government's move not to vote. Also, we call upon the government not to abandon, due to imperialist pressure, the 'independent Palestine' policy and not to relinquish the diplomatic support of long term friendly states to Sri Lanka.

Department of International Affairs

Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna

People cannot be deceived with milk toffees**Comrade Eranga Gunasekera National Organizer of SYU**

The budget proposals have shown that the President and the Prime Minister are unable to solve the issues of the people says the National Organizer of Socialist Youth Union Comrade Eranga Gunasekera and added that the people in the country cannot be deceived by handing over 'milk toffees'.

He said this at a press conference held by the Socialist Youth Union (SYU) at the head office of the JVP on 17th November. Speaking further Comrade Gunasekera said, "The President and the Prime Minister have forgotten



their beginnings. Mahinda Rajapaksa too existed like a king. However, our youths opposed his moves through facebook and other social media. He had to go home. It is such a force that has been forgotten by Ranil

Wickremesinghe and Maithripala Sirisena. SYU would amass the intelligent youths in this country, rally with progressive forces to defeat the budget," said Comrade Gunasekera.

A new thief or a new society?

Recently a propaganda poster of a play had been pasted on the walls at many places. It stated “Wanted – a new thief!” This is true for current politics in the country too. For, capitalism is making an attempt to find a new leader aka a new thief.

Currently, all capitalist leaders who have ruled and are ruling Sri Lanka have been unsuccessful. Mahinda Rajapaksa became unsuccessful in his 9 years of wielding power and as a result he got defeated in January, 2015 revoking any opportunity of coming to power again. Maithri – Ranil, both who are ruling the country at present have failed even before they have been in power jointly for two years. This is why capitalist system is looking for a new face. Despite certain quarters are attempting to dress up Mahinda Rajapaksa and bring him to the arena, it would not succeed as he is a leader rejected by the people and according to the 19th amendment he cannot contest a presidential election. (This is so even when there is no possibility of abolishing executive presidential system.)

In such a situation a new face is required to continue with capitalism. A new leader – a new thief is required. This is from the point of view from the thieves. Capitalist system is one that has legalized robbing. This is why within capitalism the legalized robbing is called exploitation. Pierre-Joseph Proudhon, French politician and the founder of mutualist philosophy said “property is theft”. According to him in capitalism ‘private property’ is another name for stolen goods. He asks “how could a government of proprietors be anything but chaos and confusion?” This capitalism has degenerated further. In addition to ‘legalized’ robberies there is large scale plunder of money by ruling cliques wielding the power they have accumulated. In countries like Sri Lanka the government is made up of a gang of robbers.

Their intention is to rob public money through commissions, contracts and various frauds. Currently, this occurs on a wide range - from the bond scam to getting MPs vehicles at Rs.700,000 monthly rent per MP. This process has a leader for the government group and he becomes the leader of the country. Of course he becomes the leader of the gang of robbers as well. This is the truth.

The band of thieves who scuffles for power within capitalism does not need any development but all they need is to plunder state assets and fatten their booties. For this they need a leader. It becomes necessary in a situation when the leader or the leaders of the group that rule the country become unpopular and are unable to win the confidence of the masses anymore; in a situation they would be defeated in the next round. A new face that could win people’s trust is necessary when the leaders of the ruling group are rejected by the masses. Currently, Sri Lanka is on the horns of a dilemma. It is the inability to bring back defeated Mahinda Rajapaksa when people get fed up with the administration of Maithri – Ranil coalition. This is why a search is on for a new leader. The gang of thieves that has been defeated is planning to bring Gotabhaya Rajapaksa as their leader to get out of this crisis.

What do the masses who have been distressed within capitalism, who have been subjected to plunder and deception need now? It is not to bring a new thief to give leadership to the old gang of thieves but to create a new society by toppling the capitalist system that uses thieving and wretchedness for its existence. Just as capitalism, an outdated system can never create ‘good leaders’, ‘good leaders’ cannot do anything in capitalism. For, capitalism asks for a person who could give leadership to a gang of thieves.

The entrance of a new thief to the capitalist administration would not change anything. Now, capitalism has been made so impotent that it is unable to give the gang of thieves a new face. The same gang of thieves jump from one side to another, change the party and the colour to carry out their plunder. However, the masses are always on the receiving end. This is why people have to determine to change the system of the thieves.

The people must get ready to defeat both these gangs of thieves, who have been responsible for the biggest plunder and wastage of public money, frauds and corruption in the history of our country, save the country from their clutches, to go on a new political path under a new leadership that could lead the country and its people to achieve Socialism. What the country should demand is not a new leader or a new thief for capitalism but a social system which is an alternative to capitalism.



November Heroes Commemoration in Kuwait



November Heroes Commemoration in Qatar



November Heroes Commemoration in France



November Heroes Commemoration in Belgium



Brotherhood Day in Rome



At the launching of 'Disintegration of the Soviet Union'