

# Stop selling the harbour JVP warns the government

**JVP leader comrade Anura Kumara Disanayake said that the only strategy the Maithri-Ranil hybrid government has today is selling off national assets and borrowing. He was addressing a media conference at JVP headquarter in Pelawatta, Battaramulla on 29 April.**

He said that the government is now ready to sign the agreement to sell off Hambantota harbour to China. According to President Maithripala Sirisena's observation on proposed deal he presented to the Cabinet on 20 April,

Hambantota port will be sold to overcome the financial issues and serious economic challenge posed by the dilapidation of foreign reserves, following the recommendations by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and agreement

between Chinese Authorities and the government.

Comrade Anura Dissanayake said that according to these explanations, establishment of 15,000 acre industrial park and prudent economic policies that the leaders of the government are talking about are mere nonsense to justify this sell off. It is very clear that the sell off is merely to oblige the IMF conditions, face the crisis in the external sector of the

economy and the agreement with the leaders of the two countries.

Rajapaksa regime borrowed US\$ 1350 million to construct the Hambantota harbour. However, now it will be sold at US\$ 1100 million. The offer is far below the debt and the agreement will be signed for 99 years. In addition there will be a 15 year tax holiday, free from all taxes including PAYE tax relief for foreign employees. Over 1950 acre of land will also be given

Page 07 >>>





# US defense agreement need not be allowed to be extended *Comrade Tilvin Silva*

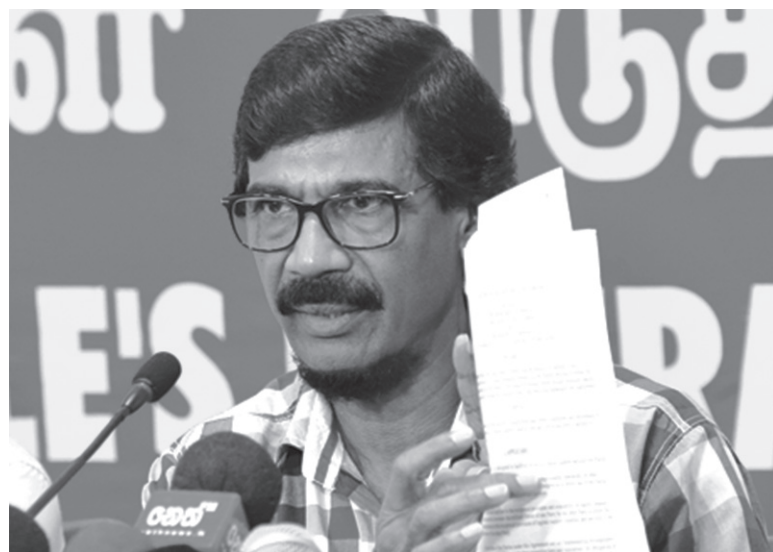
The General Secretary of the JVP Comrade Tilvin Silva warned that the present government is preparing to extend the US defense pact signed by Rajapaksa regime 10 years ago and added that the attention of all patriotic forces should be drawn towards this defense pact and the pact which is harmful to the country should not be allowed to be extended.

Comrade Tilvin Silva made these observations at a press conference held at the head office of the JVP on 5th March.

"The government and the Ministry of Defense should tell the country their stand about this pact. We have been reported that a discussion regarding the pact has surfaced. If the government attempts to conceal action that would be taken

regarding the pact the JVP would take all measures to create a strong public opinion against it.

The agreement was reached without any discussion with the people. However, the pact is harmful to the country. This government need not repeat the wrongdoing. We, as a country, need not be subjugated by another country. Also, we need not antagonize other countries.



Signing such pacts would create unfavourable situations for our country."

The Member of the Central

Committee and Western Provincial Councilor Comrade Lakshman Nipunarachchi was also present.

# Ministers pilfer migrant workers' money paid after pawning their valuables

**Comrade Sunil Handunneththi**

*Member of the Political Bureau and President of 'Ethera Api' organization*



A report by the Auditor General has revealed irregularities committed to the tune of more than Rs.159.7 million at the Bureau of Foreign Employment but the government has not taken any measures regarding it pointed out the President of 'Ethera Api' organization Comrade Sunil Handunneththi. Saying the relevant minister of the previous regime is a minister of the present regime as well Comrade Handunneththi blamed the government for not taking any action regarding the corrupt minister.

Comrade Handunneththi made these observations at a press conference held by the 'Ethera Api' organization at the main office of the JVP on 16th March.

"The Minister who had

committed the crime of wasting so much public money has not been summoned to the CID or the FCID. If the offence had been committed by an MP of the opposition investigations would have been instigated against him. The money that has been wasted this way was from funds reserved for the welfare of Sri Lankan employees in foreign countries.

Rs. 134 million has been spent for 'Ratawuru Star', 1 million has been spent for a music workshop, another million has been given as a donation for an old students' union, Rs.9.4 million has been spent for the election campaign in Badulla and Monaragala districts during 1st December, 2014 to 31st January, 2015. Rs. 2,265,000

spent as expenses for propaganda for a ceremony to appreciate the service as the minister. Rs.2.4 million has been spent for 'Bakmaha' ceremony at Badulla on 19th April, 2014. Rs. 1 million spent for the welcoming ceremony when former President Mahinda Rajapaksa visited Badulla on 23rd June, 2014. Rs. 615,000 spent to display flags for the International Workers' Day. Rs. 3.8 million spent for food, lodging and transport of a ceremony held at President's House on 8th November, 2014. Rs. one million was spent for 'Poson Zone at Badulla and altogether the total cost is more than Rs.159.7 million.

Also, there are certain other expenses mentioned in the audit report that lead to controversy. A private firm has been paid Rs. 2,854,000 for supplying food, Rs. 3,627,000 to buy t-shirts and caps and Rs. 7,406,304 as other expense from 'Rata Viru' welfare fund for 'walks' held in Colombo and Gampaha. A statement

from the firm that supplied food indicates there hadn't been any 'walks'. Money has been taken after producing an invoice.

Funds of Bureau of Foreign Employment have been totally used for political agendas. The money that has been wasted this way is the money paid to the Bureau by Sri Lankans going for foreign employment after pawning their lands, houses, jewellery and other valuables. The Bureau charges Rs.17,000 from everyone going for employment for the Middle East. A Sri Lankan employed in Korea who comes back and goes for another employment is charged an extra fee of Rs.10,000. Also, the government has decided to charge US\$50 from every Sri Lankan going abroad for employment. It is this money that has been wasted by the subject ministers. As such, we emphasize to the government to carry out legal action against perpetrators without attempting to conceal and protect the fraudsters."

# Gear up for a struggle to get solutions for youths' issues

**Comrade Eranga Gunasekera**  
*National Organizer of Socialist Youth Union (SYU)*



Comrade Eranga Gunasekera, National Organizer of Socialist Youth Union (SYU) complained that Ministers and MPs of the government have become like deaf and blind elephants and as deaf elephants need a big sound to hear anything the Socialist Youth Union (SYU) has decided to carry out agitations to make the deaf ministers and MPs hear the demand of the youths for solutions for their burning issues.

He said this at a press conference held by the SYU at the head office of the JVP on 1st March.

Comrade Eranga Gunasekera said, "The series of agitations of the SYU would commence from Tangalle on 5th March. The series of agitations would be launched demanding the government to find job opportunities for unemployed youths and to pay an allowance for the unemployed youths until they get employment, not to abolish the external degree, to establish state universities and broaden education, not to ban full-face helmets and to abolish SAIM medical degree boutique.

As the SYU we make an open invitation to all youths in the country, mass organizations to prepare for a struggle to win solutions for the issues of the youths."

The Members of the National Committee of SYU Comrade Sanjaya Vishwanath and Nadeeka Hemamalee were present.

The capitalist system in Sri Lanka has faced a serious crisis at this moment and the ruling classes are in a dilemma regarding maintaining the system. In a careful analysis of the situation, it is very clear that this crisis is serious enough to jeopardize the capitalist system in the country.

The hybrid government of President Mithripala Sirisena and Prime Minister Ranil Wickramasinghe has faced the most serious financial crisis in the history of the country. Foreign reserves of the country are depleting at a rapid pace and as a result Sri Lankan rupee is depreciating sharply. This situation has forced the government to earn foreign exchange by any means. Since a long period of time Sri Lanka has been incurred losses in the international trade. In the trade account total import expenditure is around US\$ 20,000 million while total export income remains US\$ 10,000 million low. The continuous loss in the international trade at this magnitude together with the huge amount of money government has to allocate to serve foreign debt, has aggravated the crisis. As a result, new borrowing has become difficult and risky and the government has no means to stop depleting foreign reserves.

Instead of increasing domestic production to earn foreign exchange, the government entrusted foreign investments. Those investments too are not new capital inflows for new project and they are mere sell off of important public assets such as harbor, airport or land to foreign companies. However, as a result of mounting public protest the government has still failed to sell off these public assets as they planned and therefore has not received expected foreign exchange. This has intensified the crisis.

As a solution to this intensifying crisis the government has proposed several solutions. One proposal is to offer visa for five years to any foreigner who brings over US\$ 300,000 into country. However, no one has accepted this offer and brought dollars into the country. Government sources also reveal that the government is going to invite Sri Lankans abroad to bring their assets in overseas and invest in Sri Lanka and as a concession the government would not ask the way they earned the

# Dilemma of the ruling class and the alternative to the people



money and the government would accept the money as legally earned. By this way the government is now opening an official channel for money laundering and bringing in all black money earned by Sri Lankans without any difficulty. However, these are not realistic solutions to the crisis the economy has now faced. These imprudent solutions may spur public protests that will lead to political instability of the government. The government is increasingly becoming unpopular as a result of lavish expenditure by the ministers and MPs for luxury vehicles and massive amount paying for rented buildings for the use of ministries ignoring the real crisis the government has already faced. Public protest is already mounting against these wasteful expenditure and these new imprudent ways of earning foreign exchange would further fuel these protests.

On the other hand the government is already in a serious crisis in balancing political power. As a result of power struggle and internal conflicts the hybrid government is now in the soup. Nobody

is responsible for the serious issues and as the conflicts between the two fractions (SLFP/ UPFA and UNP) intensifies the power crisis too is becoming a serious challenge. This is the reason for the government's hesitation to hold the local government election and postponing it indeterminately pointing out various pretexts. Usually, no government is scared of holding small elections of this nature as there is no any direct influence to the center of the power as such elections would not affect the power of the government. Government's fear for holding insignificant local government election shows the depth of the crisis and the weakness of the government.

Similarly, the two main capitalist parties have faced a serious issue over their leadership. The issue is complex. In the capitalist system the main confrontation should be between the capitalist class and the proletariat. Usually the capitalist class organizes into one front to avoid the power transfer to the proletariat class. However, there will be internal power struggle within the capitalist class itself,

between the fractions for power simultaneously. These internal rifts are mainly as a result of greediness to power and other privileges and this greediness dominates the class conscience of the capitalist class. At this stage various factions in the capitalist class start fighting against each other ignoring the real threat the class has faced. We are now witnessing this scenario.

President Maithripala Sirisena who came to power in 2015 pledging abolition of executive presidency as his main assurance is now working to continue it and become the president for a second tenure. On one hand he has now experienced the taste of the executive presidency; the power and massive privileges associated with the position, and his greed for them compel him to contest for the second time. On the other hand he clearly knows that at the moment he expresses his decision not to contest at the next presidential election, those who are now roaming around him for power would definitely leave him. Then he would lose the leadership of the SLFP and

everything he now enjoys. This is why he cannot give up his powers.

The only option President Sirisena has at this moment is not abolishing the executive presidency and contest for the second time. Therefore the government cannot bring a new constitution as it would create some other issues as well. President Sirisena's associates are now expressing minor changes to the constitution that can be passed by majority in the parliament avoiding referendum. In this method they can secure the executive presidency which abolition needs a referendum.

At the same time Mahinda Rajapaksa fraction too is going into crisis. This group is established around Mahinda Rajapaksa and he is the center axis that holds the whole power. However, according to the 19th amendment to the constitution Mahinda Rajapaksa cannot contest at the next presidential election. So now the Rajapaksa fraction needs a new leader to be presented at the next presidential election and the main potential candidate that already has been discussed within the circle is former Defense Secretary Gotabhaya Rajapaksa. However, Mahinda Rajapaksa does not like Gotabhaya and he has openly expressed his opinion at an internal discussion. Meanwhile party leaders such as Vasudeva Nanayakara, Dew Gunasekara too have expressed their displeasure over Gotabhaya as a candidate. However, if the choice is Gotabhaya, these old left leaders would not have an option.

The UNP is also in crisis. Winning a presidential election is not an easy task for Ranil Wickramasinghe. In 2015 too Ranil had to hide behind a common candidate due to this reason and he knows very clearly that he would not be able to win the presidential election. Compared to his position in 2015 today his reputation has deteriorated significantly as a result of his unpopular policies. However, there is no leader in the UNP to replace Ranil and contest at the presidential election. This is how the conundrum has been developing in the capitalist class.

Without merging the two fractions of the SLFP, neither Maithree nor Mahinda can think about securing power at an



# Let's struggle to win this world for the working masses

**Comrade Lal Kantha**  
National Organizer of the Socialist Workers' Union



**Red Power:** The struggle against private medical colleges that developed based on SAIMT institute has come to a crucial juncture. What have you got to say about this?

**Comrade Lal Kantha:** I'll first tell you what our stand regarding SAIMT is. This institute must be closed down. However, a justifiable solution should be given to children who studied and are studying in this institute. In giving this solution what is left free in the free education should be protected. This could be done by a committee that includes those who represent all parties involved in the matter. In bringing this struggle forward various parties have contributed in various ways. At a certain time the students movement took the lead. On another occasion the GMOA played the leading role. There were times when the action of the Sri Lanka Medical Council was anticipated. There were also instances in which judgment of the Courts were looked forward to. When all were silent the All Ceylon Government Medical Officers Association took the initiative to form the Center to Oppose Private Medical Colleges to enliven the struggle. Our party too is a strong stakeholder of the struggle against SAIMT. We did many things. We used the road as well as the parliament in the struggle. When Mahinda Rajapaksa and his lackeys that sired the institute wriggled in, some, without any shame, took them on their stages. Nevertheless, the majority in the country has become anti-SAIMT today. This is the first victory of the struggle. However, at the moment the struggle has bogged down. The struggle should take a new turn. This struggle cannot be won without forcing the government on its knees.

**Red Power:** What do you propose if the direction of the orientation of the opposition should be changed?

**Comrade Lal Kantha:** This struggle should be taken over by the working movement. The students movement has already brought the issue to the maximum within the prevailing political environment. The government asks us to call more fronts to the struggle. The time has come for us to do so. The medical students who are boycotting classes

should go back to their studies now. Having all faculties of all universities open is advantageous for the struggle. Students should struggle while studying. The trade union movement should take the initiative to amass all anti - SAIMT forces, come to agreements, establish a struggle center and take the struggle forward with the leadership of the GMOA until victory. We are prepared to make the maximum sacrifice for this task. If the government wants strike action, let's give them strikes. This issue cannot be solved without getting the government on its knees.

**Red Power:** Many intellectuals have predicted, with facts that an economic crisis is emerging. What is your definition regarding this?

**Comrade Lal Kantha:** Prime Minister Ranil Wickremesinghe said even if all the banks are broken into and all the money is taken it would not be sufficient to carry out affairs of the country. He asked the people to be prepared to have bitter medicine. As soon as they came to power it was said there was no money to pay loan installments. They took more loans from the IMF to pay loan installments. What is being fulfilled are not promises given to the masses but promises made to the IMF. People's assets and institutions are being sold. They say they are sold to settle debts. When VAT was imposed it was said taxes had to be imposed as they do not have dollars. The exchange rate of the dollar is being increased continuously. The rupee is getting depreciated. They invite any

rogue who would bring US\$3 million to the country. They go around the world inviting people to come with dollars to start industries, farms, service institutions, give employment for youths and give the dollars to the government.

All these statements and the actions being carried out indicate the country has been already bankrupted and now the country is to be handed over to foreign companies. This bankruptcy would end only after companies of various countries have exploited our people and have plundered our assets. What imperialists achieved with guns in the past is now being achieved deploying local lackeys of imperialists. In the end we become a subjugated nation politically, economically, culturally and socially.

**Red Power:** What is the mediation of the trade union movement in relation to the programme of the party targeting 2020?

**Comrade Lal Kantha:** This government's aim is to drag out people's money. Then the buying power of the masses decreases. The person who bought a kilo of dhal earlier would buy only 500 grams now and the government could save 50% of the dollars spent to import dhal earlier. The people have to be satisfied with half of what they enjoyed earlier. People get disgusted with the government. When the rupee is depreciated and more has to be paid for the dollar people's buying power goes down. More dollars can be saved but the prices of commodities go up.

As a result the working masses that depend on their salaries for living are made to struggle against the government. We, as a trade union movement, are giving leadership to this struggle. We are planning our programmes to struggle against traitors of the working

masses, to take the leadership of this struggle and to support and become a colossal strength to the party and the forces that rally around it to create a people's government in 2020.

We have carried out massive loads of work in the recent past. We were able to get authorities to make permanent the employment of 7000 man power employees of the Ceylon Electricity Board. We, with struggles, have applied breaks to government's attempt of selling the East jetty of Colombo Harbour. As a result of struggles by the trade union movement the government has not been able to bring down low-wage workers from India. We have linked these struggles with the programme of the party. The working masses that expect a change are rallying with us.

**Red Power:** Many political parties are getting ready to celebrate the forthcoming International Workers' Day. What is your response?

**Comrade Lal Kantha:** First of all we should tell these political parties that our Workers' Day has been with them for too long. Give back the Workers' Day to the working masses. The International Workers' Day has a colour. It is red. No other colour should be used to celebrate the International Workers' Day. The working class has its own flag. It is the flag with the hammer and sickle on a red background. It is not a green flag with an elephant, a blue coloured flag with a hand symbol on it or a red flag with a bell symbol on it.

We specially tell the leaders of the UNP and the SLFP not to destroy the May Day for their greed for power and money. We call upon all working masses to rally under our red flag with the hammer and the sickle. Wesak festival is celebrated not with green or blue flags. Buddhist flag is used to decorate on Wesak Day. Similarly, there are things particular for the International Workers' Day. Those who suppress and exploit workers have no right to celebrate it. The working masses have a world to win. At present this world belongs to capitalists. Let's struggle to make this world the world of the working masses.



# CIA's secret arsenal

New patterns of espionage being carried out by the Central Intelligence Agency of the US are currently being continuously revealed. An article published in 'Granma', the central organ of the Communist Party of Cuba is published herewith. This is an article authored by Sergio Alejandro Gómez.

The world is learning more everyday about the functioning and scope of U.S. espionage. While former Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) employee Edward Snowden revealed the National Security Agency's massive surveillance programs in 2013, the spotlight is now on the CIA, considered a state within the state, given its modus operandi and infamous independence.

According to the most recent documents released on Wikileaks, directed by Australian Julian Assange, the CIA runs a network of hackers charged with exploiting weaknesses in the security systems of the world's most widely-used digital devices, with the goal of gathering information and carrying out secret operations.

Under the title of "Year Zero," Wikileaks published 8,761 documents and classified files, from the period 2013-2016, extracted from the CIA's high security network in Langley, Virginia.

According to Wikileaks, at the end of 2016, the CIA had some 5,000 experts working on cyber-intelligence, and produced more than a thousand hacking programs, cyber-weapons, and malware to gain access to computers, smart phones, and even Samsung televisions.

The agency lost control of a large part of this arsenal, which ended up in the hands of former government hackers and other private agents, in an "unauthorized" manner. It

was one of these individuals who provided Wikileaks with the information recently published.

This is to be only the first installment of a series of more serious revelations from what is

known as "Vault 7," which the website describes as the largest leak of confidential documents in history.

Assange, who has been confined to the Ecuadorian Embassy in London since 2012, following the "Year Zero" revelations stated, "It is impossible to keep effective control of cyber weapons. If you build them, eventually you will lose them," and insisted that a debate on the political, legal, and forensic dimensions of the problem is in order.

## MORE THAN TELEVISIONS

One of the most startling programs revealed included that to hack a Samsung smart TV - albeit a now discontinued model

The project named "One" used the microphone embedded in the screen as an electronic listening device, which could function even when the TV was turned off. The data recorded could be stored on the TV's hard drive and transmitted to CIA servers once the set was connected to the internet.

According to Wikileaks, the program was developed in collaboration with British intelligence services.

## WEAPONS IN YOUR POCKET

The leaked documents confirm that cell phones are the intelligence agency's preferred targets. These devices have become part of the daily lives of millions and contain all sorts of sensitive information about their users.

The CIA's programs were directed for the most part toward taking advantage of vulnerabilities in the phones' operating systems, be they Google's Android or Apple's iOS.

When an operating system is hacked, any application can be controlled, regardless of the system used to protect data.

For the companies involved,

who have repeatedly described their wares as the world's safest, the news about how their weaknesses had been exploited arrived like a bucket of cold water.

Apple insisted that the majority of the vulnerabilities involved had already been patched in the latest version of their operating system, used in the famed iPhone and iPad. Samsung, their great South Korean rival and leader in Android telephones, simply stated, "Protecting consumers' privacy and the security of our devices is a top priority."

## ENCRYPTION

Another widely-used element of modern telecommunications, encrypted messaging services like Whatsapp, Signal and Telegram, also appear to be vulnerable.

The documents leaked show that the CIA has tools which can gain access to audio and text conversations conducted with these applications.

Experts have explained that the technique used does not involve breaking the codes used to encrypt messages, but rather takes advantage of the phone's vulnerabilities to access data before it is encrypted.

Open Whisper Systems, the company that developed the technology for the encrypted instant messaging app Signal, noted on Twitter that the documents published by Wikileaks show that hackers were able to introduce viruses into telephones, emphasizing, "The CIA / WikiLeaks story today is about getting malware into phones, none of the exploits are in Signal or break Signal Protocol encryption."

## OPERATING SYSTEMS TARGETED

The latest leaks showed that

network computers, servers, and devices did not escape the attention of CIA hackers. Apple, Microsoft and Google were in trouble in 2013, when Snowden showed that the National Security Agency had access to their servers. It is now known that the CIA has ways to infect

# China: Expanding its new bank



China's banking system has undergone significant changes in the last two decades: The Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) which has its headquarters in Beijing in China has for the first time given its member ship to 13 countries. The Bank was founded in 2015 and with the new expansion the membership of the Bank has increased to 70. The countries that have been received as new members are Afghanistan, Armenia, Fiji, Hong Kong, Timor, Belgium, Canada, Ethiopia, Hungary, Ireland, Peru, Sudan and Venezuela.

Once Europe and the USA were subjected to financial crisis this bank was established with the initiative of China as an alternative to World Bank and the IMF. Its main objective according to the Bank is to bring countries together to address the daunting infrastructure needs across Asia and furthering interconnectivity and economic development in the region through advancements in infrastructure and other productive sectors. It aims cohesion between countries that have been weakened due to the financial recession and globalization.

# Russia: against missile threat



Russia says the USA has the potential to launch a sudden and secret attack deploying missiles it has placed in Europe and on board warships patrolling Russia's borders.

Viktor Poznikhir, deputy head of operations of the Russian general staff, told a disarmament conference in Geneva that "The presence of American ABM sites in Europe and ABM-capable ships in the seas and oceans close to Russia's territory creates a powerful clandestine potential for delivering a surprise nuclear missile strike against Russia." The Conference held in Switzerland is attended by 65 countries.

Russia's top brass has warned that the US' global antiballistic missile system is provoking a new arms race and adds that the US system, which includes sites in Alaska, Romania, and Poland, compromises Russia's nuclear deterrence capabilities.

Russia estimates that by 2020 the US will have as many as 1,000 interceptor missiles at its disposal, which would be a threat to Russia's missile capacity.

Poznikhir also said that the American system poses a risk to the peaceful use of space by other nations and added that the US is continuing to develop the system under a pretext of countering a perceived threat from North Korea and Iran, while ignoring Russia's wider concerns.





**“The charge sheet presented by Attorney General Victor Tennekone at the first meeting of the Criminal Justice Commission held at Examination Hall at No. 225, Bauddaloka Mawatha in Colombo 07 on 26th July, 1972 states:**

**A case will be filed against 41 suspects charged as stated in No. 1 according to clause 115 of the penal code.**

**No: 01.**

**You have committed a crime by conspiring at several places including Colombo, Kandy, Matara and Ampara between 1st January, 1968 and 31st December, 1971 to terrorize and topple Queen’s government.**

**No:02.**

**You have committed a crime during this period by conspiring to terrorize and wage war against the government of Sri Lanka.**

**No: 03.**

**A case will be filed under clause No. 114 of the penal code against 27 suspects for conspiring to wage war against the queen and supporting such criminal act during the period from 4th April, 1971 to 30th June, 1971.**

**No:04.**

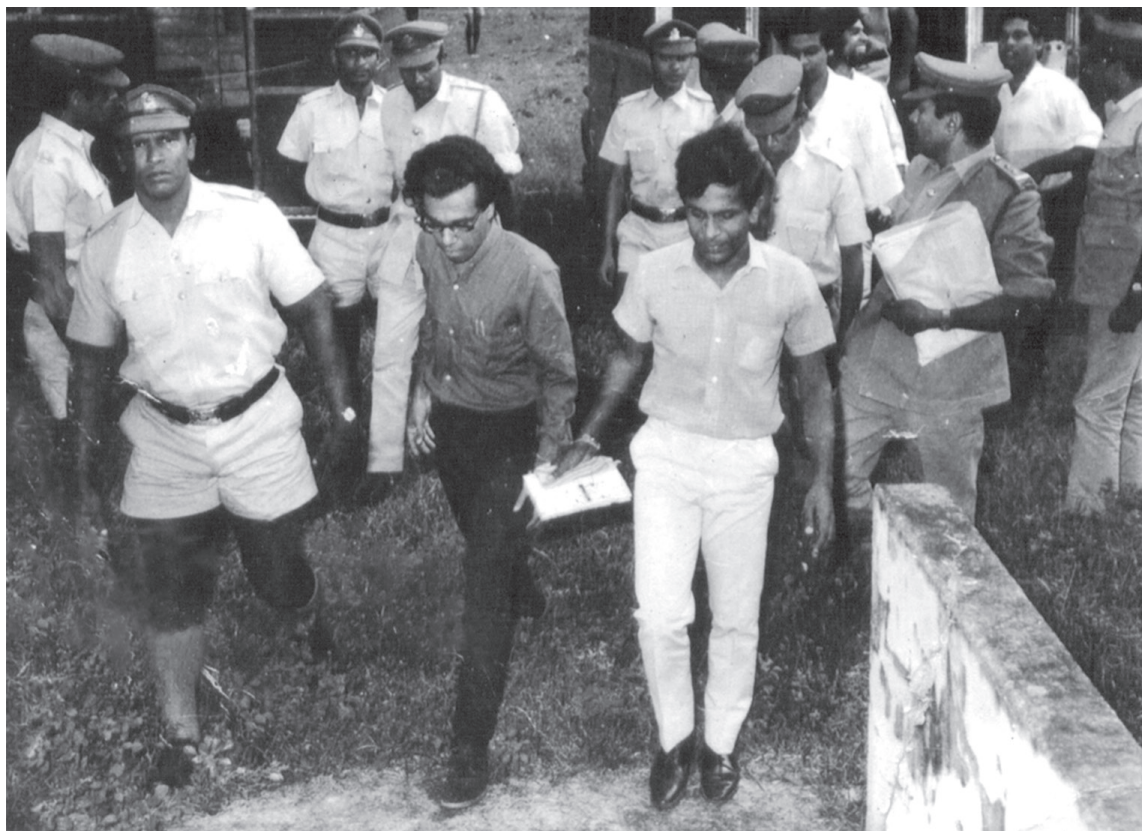
**As a criminal act has been committed by waging war against Queen’s government during this period a case will be filed against 14 suspects.”**

(This is a translation of an extract from Udeni Saman Kumara’s volume “71 trial – Wijeweera’s conscience”)

What is stated above are allegations presented by the Attorney General to the Criminal Justice Commission of 1972 against the suspects of the ‘main trial’ after the 1971 struggle. 3 of the 4 allegations are ‘conspiring to terrorize and topple Queen’s government’, to ‘wage war against the queen and supporting such criminal act’ and ‘waging war against Queen’s government’.

For a longer period after the 1971 struggle all those who were connected with then United Front government said the JVP rebelled against the infantile socialist government that was formed in 1970; carried out a revolt against a progressive government. However, the allegations presented by the Attorney General of the government himself demolished the argument as he reveals what existed was a ‘queen’s government exposing the

# **’71 Struggle - armed uprising against Queen of England**



futility of the argument of those who attempted to define the struggle as a reactionary move. In such context the ’71 Struggle was anti-capitalist and anti-imperialist.

5th April, 2017 marks 46th anniversary of the 1971 Struggle. 1971 Struggle was the first armed uprising within capitalism in Sri Lanka. This is not the only reason for the ’71 struggle to be important historically. It is also historically important as it transformed a people who had chosen slavery on their own had brought the yoke upon themselves and were mentally subordinate to a people who were militant and also could create, within capitalism itself, people who could make sacrifices on behalf of the masses. The ’71 Struggle is also significant in stimulating the rulers to bring in the “1972 Republican Constitution”, getting rid of the dependencies of the British crown, influencing the rulers to bring in capitalist reforms such as Land Reform law of 1975 and the effect it had on performing arts and social consciousness.

The influence of the ’71 struggle on the society was so great that every year when 5th April approaches everyone in the country have to talk about it. Not only that, even those

who betrayed the ’71 struggle, those who abandoned the struggle and have become slaves in capitalism and never contributed for the social process after the ’71 Struggle, attempt to add value to their empty and barren lives and feign heroism do so by stating they too were involved in the ’71 Struggle. Some become heroes in weekend newspapers fabricating events that had never taken place. Even those who see ’71 Struggle as a blunder and consider the JVP as their arch enemy attempt to reserve their portion of the ’71 Struggle and write it in their names due to the regard the society has for the ’71 Struggle.

There is a saying that ‘Experience is the best teacher.’ The ’71 Struggle is important for the present generation in that context. The ’71 Struggle that made capitalist class tremble with terror, revealed the need of the youth for a new society and displayed to the world the sacrifice, the dedication and the endowment they are prepared to forgo to achieve it. Also, ’71 Struggle taught many lessons to the society and handed down the correct path of engaging in class politics instead of the corrupt party politics. The ’71 Struggle has given us immense experiences of heroism as well

as treacherousness, sacrifice, dedication and deception.

’71 Struggle is not an accident or an arbitrary action in spite of the enemies of the ’71 Struggle and the capitalists attempt to say so. Looking at the ’71 Struggle with such a petty capitalist point of view is wrong and anti-Marxist. ’71 Struggle was a creation of various political factors within the then existing objective situation. In the final analysis it was a creation of the capitalist suppression confronted by an up and coming proletarian revolutionary movement at its initial stages, internal conflicts that existed and experiences of world politics at the time. As such, it was not a conspiracy, an accident or a mistake. Comrade Rohana Wijeweera in his book ‘We may be killed but our voice will never die’ states, “The capitalist classes make use of their unlimited power in this society to subordinate members of the oppressed classes to bourgeois ideology. If the threat of an independent ideological development is observed within the ranks of the proletariat, the ruling classes realize the danger and employ all their customary methods to destroy it. They will infiltrate their agents to mislead and entice it towards them and to win over degenerate and

traitorous individuals within it. They will seek by every devious means ideologically to disarm this independent movement inside the proletariat. They will resort to disgraceful slanders in order to divide and humiliate it, its policies and its disciplined members. When all these efforts fail, they seek its destruction through capitalist laws, court, prisons, repressive rules and regulations and in the end, even resort to violent attacks and massacres. This is the truth, tested out in the annals of the class struggle.” The new generation should look at the ’71 Struggle based on it.

This too confirms that revolutions as well as people’s struggles do not occur spontaneously or due to an individual’s wishes but are created within a definite objective environment, when Socio – political conditions are fulfilled and only when there is a need for such a transformation. This is the basis the new generation should look at the ’71 Struggle.

’71 Struggle was an instance, in the Sri Lankan history of class struggles, where the class struggle between the capitalist class and the proletariat surfaced as a political struggle – an armed struggle. Not only in Sri Lanka but throughout the world the struggles carried out by the downtrodden classes against oppressive classes there have been armed uprisings. The armed uprising against dictator Batista by revolutionaries led by Fidel in 1953 was defeated but the armed struggle that began in 1956 culminated in victory in 1959. This is how the path was paved for the Great Cuban Revolution.

Even in Russia the armed uprising against Czar administration was defeated in 1905 but the armed uprising of 1917 was victorious. This is how Great Russian Revolution paved the way for Socialism in Russia. The uprising of slaves led by Spartacus in Rome was an armed uprising against slave owners. It was not a conspiracy by Spartacus or the result of his personal wish. Despite Spartacus’ struggle was defeated, it contributed to the breaking down of slavery at a later time. This is how history moves. This is how 1971 Struggle should be looked at.

In the very beginning of the ‘Communist Manifesto’ Marks and Engels say, “The



## '71 Struggle...

&gt;&gt;&gt; Page 06

history of all hitherto existing society is the history of class struggles.

Freeman and slave, patrician and plebeian, lord and serf, guild-master and journeyman, in a word, oppressor and oppressed, stood in constant opposition to one another, carried on an uninterrupted, now hidden, now open fight, a fight that each time ended, either in a revolutionary reconstitution of society at large, or in the common ruin of the contending classes." According to them the recorded history of the world – the history begun after classes were created – is the history of class struggles. The '71 Struggle that engraved an inerasable mark in the history of class struggles in Sri Lanka is a part of this history of class struggles.

It is evident that the '71 Struggle was the response against the repression of the capitalist class by the JVP, created in 1965 to change the neo-colonialist, backward and impotent capitalist system in Sri Lanka that was secured to the queen of England and build a genuine Socialist society that would bring freedom and social justice to the people and to secure its right to engage in politics. Those who look at the '71 Struggle with antagonism and those arm chair advisers of the revolution could have a lot to say about shortcomings. However, they would never succeed in diminishing the greatness of the

'71 Struggle.

If any generation selects not to endure oppression but to struggle against it, change the bankrupt society to create a new society, struggle for common objectives instead of personal gains and sacrifice their lives with valour – such men and women are real heroes and a political movement that could create such heroes is a real people's movement. The generation of 1971 was such a heroic generation. The JVP that guided this generation is a genuine people's movement. This is the truth confirmed by many known and unknown heroes who confronted death instead of falling down on their knees.

Whatever is said the objective of the struggle and of the vast majority of those who were involved in it was not personal gains but the Socialist Revolution in Sri Lanka. They fought and sacrificed their lives with the intention of achieving this noble ideal. We should look at the '71 Struggle, absorb its experiences, determination, sacrifice, dedication and heroism with the intention of utilizing them for the Socialist transformation in Sri Lanka. For, the only tribute we could pay for those heroes and heroines who sacrificed their lives fighting for a common social objective is to create the society they aspired for.

## CIA's secret...

&gt;&gt;&gt; Page 05

and control computers running on Windows operating systems. One such hacking tool with the codename "Hammer Drill" is designed to sabotage operating systems, and is spread via programs installed by CD or USB.

The Agency has also developed multi-platform weapons that are capable of exploiting vulnerabilities in computers running on MAC OS (Apple), Solaris and Linux.

## SCIENCE FICTION

Although the latest news on electronic spying may appear to be nothing new, many believe that these Wikileaks revelations have opened a new era.

On the Teknautas website, Sergio de los Santos, Innovation and Labs Leader at ElevenPaths, commented, "What's interesting

is that many of the things we thought were science fiction are really possible."

It is now perfectly plausible that the control systems of new automatically driven vehicles could be accessed, in the opinion of De los Santos, and used as to commit crimes.

Another program, "Umbrage," would be able to take control of and operate the aggressive technology of other countries or agencies, with the objective of camouflaging their own actions and confusing investigators.

Snowden himself, who is still being sought by the United States to be prosecuted for the 2013 leaks, criticized his country's intelligence methods on Twitter, commenting, "Imagine a world where the actual CIA spends its time figuring out how to spy on you through your TV. That's today."

## Dilemma of the ruling...

&gt;&gt;&gt; Page 03

upcoming election. However, the development in the politics is widening the gap between the two factions and no possibility of peace could be seen between the two factions. Will Mahinda accept Prime Minister's post under Maithripala? Will Maithri agree to step down from politics paving the way for Mahinda? As Dr. Dayan Jayatilaka wrote in a Weekend English paper last week will Mahinda agree to become Prime Minister under Gotabhaya Rajapaksa as the President? Will Maithree allow this to happen? As the murders committed by Gotabhaya during his tenure as the secretary of defense are being revealed what would be the public image of Gotabhaya in the future as public protest against him growing? Under all these developments in the SLFP/ UPFA what would be the political strategies of the UNP to counter these options that SLFP has? Finding answers to all these

questions is not easy and that's how the ruling class has muddled up in the conundrum of power.

In this background the political arena is getting ready for alternative forces and the political environment is conducive for such alternative forces. The left has the opportunity of using this space to create a progressive peoples government. A common front has to be created by uniting all progressive forces. This would be the only alternative that can be presented to the people and organize the masses against this fragile ruling class.

Under these circumstances everyone has to struggle against executive presidency that obstructing the victory of the progressive forces while mobilizing all the progressive forces around people's center for alternative force.

## Stop selling...

&gt;&gt;&gt; Page 01

to the Chinese company together with the harbour. This deal and the agreement is detrimental to the country and worse than all previous port privatization agreements. In the Colombo South Port deal and QEQ deal with the SAGT only transshipment business was given to the foreign company. However, in the Hambantota Port deal naval services and all other services of the port will be given to the Chinese company. It is also reported that after the agreement is signed the international law will apply within the Hambantota port premises and the law of the country would not apply. So, the government has sold everything, the sovereignty of the country, business in the port and land for only US\$ 1100 million. The leaders of this country stole public money at the construction of this Hambantota port and now they are again stealing money in corrupt deals at the selling of the harbour.

"Minister of Ports should reveal his role in this deal. The Ports Authority is under his purview. The cabinet proposal to sell this port was presented without consent of the Minister of Ports or the Chairman of the Sri Lanka Ports Authority. It was presented by the economic committee that comprises of the Prime Minister Ranil Wickramasinghe, Malik Samarawickrama, Charitha Rathwathe and Paskaralingam. We have doubt over this economic committee, whether it is a broker company rather than an economic committee. Because there are other controversial deals that this committee is involved with. This economic committee of Charitha Rathwatte attempted to purchase aircrafts to the SriLankan. Instead of the minister responsible Kabir Hashim, this deal was initiated by Rathwatte. It is clear that this economic committee has powers than the cabinet ministers and they take decisions bypassing the cabinet ministers," comrade Disanayake said.

"We questioned Malik Samarawickrama over the agreement to be signed with China at several occasions. Always, they assured that all the agreements would be presented to the parliament. There should be a minimum ethics in the selling of public properties. The economic committee takes decisions ignoring recommendations of the cabinet minister concerned and the collective agreement in the cabinet. This economic committee is selling off the assets that belong to the children of this nation living today as well as to be born in the

future. What is the right they have to do so? If the agreements of this nature are not being discussed in Parliamentary Committees, what is the meaning of the statements made by Prime Minister on Strengthening the Parliament? Therefore we will not allow signing of this agreement without it being discussed in parliament," he added.

Selling off of public assets and natural resources has been continuing since 1980s. Selling off and borrowing are the only options these regimes have. During President Premadasa's era this selling off of public assets was called "Nationalisation" because "the word "selling" created public protests. During this period estates owned by the government were nationalized. President Chandrika Kumaranathunga used the word "Restructuring" and sold the Gas company, a part of the Petroleum Corporation, Oruwala Steel Corporation. Today, Maithri-Ranil hybrid government uses the word "Public-Private Partnership" to sell public assets. During the past 30 years all the governments have followed this same policy.

The other path the government has is to borrow money. Returning after foreign tours to IMF, World Bank and Donor Meetings these leaders proudly said that those institutions agreed to give credits and it is a great victory of the government. They pledged that they would build the country using these funds. The leaders who spread myths of easy credit, without shame now say that the economy is in a crisis. The leaders have not developed real assets using the credit. For instance, the previous government borrowed for the construction of 265 km of the Northern railway. The amount borrowed is sufficient to construct 1400 km of railway and the borrowed money has not created wealth as a result of massive corruption.

Therefore we insist that the people in this country do not have any responsibility to these accumulated debts. The leaders who take decisions to lead the economy to the crisis in this magnitude are respondents. Now the leaders ask the people to tighten their belts. This economic policy of selling off and borrowing may not be a long term solution to the economic crisis and in the long run the crisis would be aggravated. Therefore we should defeat this processes, comrade Disanayake emphasised.

Western Provincial Councillor of JVP Comrade Sunil Watagala was also present at this press conference.



## For justice to become the law of the country...

Three Army men involved in the Rathupaswala shooting during Mahinda Rajapaksa regime have been arrested and remanded. Army intelligence personnel have been accused of killing Lasantha Wickremetunga and the attack on Keith Noyahr. Throughout the past members of security forces have been accused of murders and attacks.

This leads to several facts. One is that Rajapaksa regime deployed military power and certain sections created due to the war situation were deployed to murder and suppress regime's opponents. In the past, specially during JR Jayawardene administration, unofficial gangs of thugs that received government protection were deployed to murder and suppress opponents. However, during Mahinda Rajapaksa regime groups in official security forces were used to commit these crimes. It was with the blessing of Gotabhaya Rajapaksa's defense secretary post.

What's happening now? Security personnel and police officers involved in murders and attacks committed during the past regime are being arrested and remanded and each and every party comes out with its own interpretation regarding these arrests and legal actions.

According to Ranil – Maithri regime the arrests are carrying out of justice and fair play, implementing of law and order and a good example of good governance. This is how they define it. However, according to Mahinda's 'joint opposition' clique it is a case of avenging 'war heroes' to please imperialists and the Tamil diaspora. It was no one else but Rajapaksas who made the 'war hero' a thug who shoots at and breaks limbs of Rajapaksa opponents. As such, those who are cajoled by Rajapaksas and their lackeys to carry out various crimes need not be kept above the law labeling them as 'war heroes'.

However, this is not the serious issue. The present regime that arrests the three Army soldiers, who carried out the shooting at Rathupaswala, has not arrested those who have sent the soldiers to the scene and ordered them to shoot. It is evident that the three soldiers who were arrested did not have any personal grudge against the three persons who were killed at Rathupaswala. It is similar with Lasantha Wickremetunga. There was no reason for the members of the Intelligence Division who are suspected of committing the murder, to have any grudge with Lasantha. It was Rajapaksas who were angry with Lasantha. It is the same with the attack on Keith Noyahr. Accordingly, all these were moves carried out on orders from 'above'. However, the issue is that the present regime evades those individuals who gave orders from 'above' but pursue the soldiers who carried out the orders.

It is the same with Thajudeen murder. Former DIG Anura Senanayaka was arrested and is in remand for concealing evidence. However, the murderers are at large. This is how the government has taken the role of King Kekille. The government that shackles the hands of Anura Senanayaka doesn't want to shackle the powerful that planned and carried out the crime. The government that shackled the hands of soldiers who pulled the triggers at Rathupaswala is not prepared to shackle those who are 'above' who had deployed soldiers and had ordered them to shoot. It is because they are in the same class in society; they are friends and partners. They have to be protected. This is the truth.

The government's attempt to shove the responsibility of Rathupaswala shooting on the shoulders of soldiers or the killing of Lasantha Wickremetunga on the shoulders of Intelligence personnel should not be allowed to do so for the sake of justice. Of course, the soldiers who did the shooting should be arrested. Also, the law should be implemented against the powerful and the brains behind the crimes.

Meanwhile, a lesson should be learnt from the situation confronted by the likes of Anura Senanayaka, who is behind bars for concealing evidence to protect murderers, soldiers who are lamenting in prisons for carrying out orders of their masters without a second thought. All those who carry out atrocities under the shadow of their masters who wield power till people throw them out have to encounter the same fate. Those who gave orders do not come to the rescue of the soldier who carried out their orders. Rajapaksas would not come to save the likes of Anura Senanayaka despite using him for various detrimental activities. This is common in any administration. Hence, it should be remembered that those who wield power would not have it eternally and when they fall from power it is those who carry out their orders that have to pay for the crimes they commit.

On the other hand all those who cherish democracy and justice and wish to minimize crime should rally to defeat the present system that shoves the responsibility of crime on those who carry out orders but protects the real perpetrators who give orders. Only then does justice become the law of the country.



Commemorate Inter national Women's Day



Youths take to the streets!



Against summit of EU heads of state



In Canada for 'Ethera Api'



Against selling John de Silva Memorial Hall