

## MR clique in crisis

*- an opportunity for the masses to know the truth*

**While the present internal crises within Mahinda Rajapaksa clique have intensified as the opposition that surfaced based on the leadership of the new political party and the candidature for the presidential election has exploded flabbergasting even members of the party who had high hopes of victory.**

According to political analysts, the immediate reason for the crisis is the severe opposition hurled by Mahinda Rajapaksa faction for the attempt by certain individuals from Mahinda Rajapaksa as the candidate for the next presidential election utilizing the legal obstacle that

prevents Mahinda Rajapaksa from contesting a future presidential election.

Initially, Mahinda used his close associates such as Welgama to attack Gotabhaya from within but finally he, himself carried out the task may be because the situation had become serious. Recently, at a ceremony held at

the office of Sri Lanka Podujana Peramuna, Mahinda stated, while having Gotabhaya beside him, that there was no such thing called 'Viyathmaga' and only 'Mahinda Chinthanaya' would be implemented in the future. It was the first direct furious attack by Mahinda on the Gotabhaya faction. Again after a ceremony in a temple Mahinda responding angrily to a question posed by journalists said once he came to power Gotabhaya could work in temples.

Gotabhaya clique has been made to make a hasty retreat

due to the strong opposition bombarded by Mahinda Rajapaksa himself and his clique. This is evident from the silence they are observing.

Also, there seem to be a number of secondary contradictions surfacing triggered by this contradiction. One such contradiction is the accusation by Gotabhaya clique that Vasudeva and Welgama, who had expressed views against Gotabhaya, had received money from India.

Meanwhile, a clash developed between Dilan Perera and Sarath Weerasekera, who is an

extreme communalist. Sarath Weerasekera has publicly said that Mahinda Rajapaksa has to select only one from the two of them. Also, Ajith Prasanna, a former Army officer who publicly stated that the candidate of the next presidential election would be Gotabhaya Rajapaksa, had to hold a press conference and publicly say that what he stated was not correct and he would not make such erroneous statements hereafter. It is said that Ajith Prasanna had to retreat his views due to an objection raised by Basil Rajapaksa.

Page 05 >>>



**The National Forum “A People’s Administration to protect & Develop Country” held at National Youth Services Center at Maharagama on the 14th of July.**

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## Two lessons from Pakistan

Currently locally as well as internationally a new dialogue is being spread about Pakistan. It is due to former cricket captain Imran Khan's political party Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (Pakistan Movement for Justice) that remained as a 'third' force' until recently was able to come to power defeating the two traditional capitalist parties that had ruled Pakistan. Imran Khan, a popular character in Pakistan could be the prime minister of the country.

One of the lessons Pakistan election result shows is when traditional political parties continuously fail people choose an alternative force. It is relevant to any country including Sri Lanka.

Pakistan is a country confronted with several crises. The Army constantly interferes in its politics.. Often Army commanders become the rulers of the country. There have been numerous military coups. Also, like in Sri Lanka, two capitalist political parties alternately form governments. The political parties and their leaders engage in large-scale frauds and corruption unhindered. The military power that has come into politics results in aggravating frauds and corruption. There is no limit to political vengeance and assassinations in Pakistan. Talking about frauds and corruption on election stages Imran Kahan said fraud and corruption have spread like cancer in Pakistan.

In such an environment, poverty and ignorance are the main factors that affect the society in Pakistan. Inflation and debt burden have become unbearable for the masses. The masses who were aggrieved by all these responded by defeating Pakistan Muslim League and Pakistan People's Party, the two traditional capitalist political parties, and bringing to power Imran Khan's Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf, a political party that was launched in 1996. His popularity too would have been a plus point for the victory. Pakistan has taught the world that people would reach a stage where they would reject traditional political parties and their leaders, who had ruled the country for some time, who had engaged in frauds and corruption and burdened the people with various taxes, to turn towards a new political force. This is a good turnaround.

Also, Pakistan teaches us another lesson. The world would comprehend this not now but only after some time. It is the mess that would be created when the masses that reject capitalist political parties are left to choose another capitalist force of the same old model as the alternative force.

It is evident that Imran Khan's party that came to power in Pakistan would not be able to make a big change in the country and for the people. For, it is another capitalist political party. The only difference it had, compared to other political parties was Imran Khan's popularity. Though he was able to win the election, mainly due to his popularity, it would not be easy for him to change the country the way the masses in the country expect. The people in Pakistan would not be able to experience the real change they expected by changing the political party. For, the new leader and his party do not seem to have an alternative programme or a set of policies different from capitalist political parties.

The reason for crises confronted by a country under capitalism does not occur due to the 'badness' of the leaders who administer the country. Capitalism has deteriorated no due to bad rulers. No solutions could be found for the issues under capitalism just because a new face, a popular person or a good person comes to power. What is needed is a change in the social system. This has not occurred in Pakistan.

A genuine alternative political movement with an alternative programme and a vision is necessary to get solutions for the crisis in capitalism. Otherwise, the decision by the people to make a change would be wasted. Hence, instead of replacing a capitalist political party with another of the same kind, a political party with a Socialist vision should be the alternative.

Whatever it is, the first lesson Pakistan has taught us is an effective one. It is that the people do not hesitate to take decisions to reject old political parties and bring to power new political parties at elections. The other lesson is that the decision should be the correct one and they should turn to a people's political movement with an alternative programme and a Socialist vision. For this people should be intelligent and there should exist such an alternative correct political movement. This is the important lesson history teaches us.

## A national programme should be compiled to find employment for youths including graduates



**A national programme should be compiled to find employment to all youths in the country says the Member of the Political Bureau of the JVP Parliamentarian Comrade Sunil Handunneththi. He said this at a press conference held at the head office of the JVP at Pelawatta on 12th July. The convener of the National Centre of Unemployed Graduates Comrade Chandana Sooriyarchchi too was present.**

Comrade Handunneththi said, "The issue of unemployed youths has been a headache for all the governments that have ruled the country. It was a headache for the masses as well as graduates. A situation has come up for youths who study for 14 to 15 years and get a degree are unable to get employment. The choicest fruit of education is the degree in Art, Commerce, Science or Engineering. The degree is the highest symbol of education. A large portion of the national income is spent on education. Parents, as well as the government, spend for the education of our children at the school level as well as when they enter university. The government spends more than Rs. 1 million for an Arts graduate and more than Rs. 1.5 million for a degree in Medicine or Engineering. It is the responsibility of the government to get benefits from the youths for whom the government spends so much money. However, the degree has become a headache for the government as well as the graduate. Demanding employment has become a harassment for the government. Today, a situation has developed that graduates cannot get employment without engaging in Sathyagraha, a fast unto death or an agitation. The government states graduates expecting the government to find them employment is wrong.

Getting graduates employed has been an election promise in our country. As such, graduates have to come down to the level of canvassing for candidates, attending their meetings and pasting envelopes and stamps in election offices of various candidates. A national policy is necessary to find employment not only for graduates but also for others who have passed the A/L or a

diploma. Today find employment for youths has become a tragedy. For, governments in our country do not have a national policy to find employment for youths.

The graduates were last given employment in March 2012. Later, graduates in the Southern Province and Uva Province carried out massive agitations and a few graduates were able to get teacher appointments. After 2012 no programme was carried out to find employment for graduates. There are vacancies in state institutions. Also, there is a number that retires annually. However, the government does not have any official estimate regarding the number of vacancies that exist or the number of job opportunities that would be created annually. As a result, annually graduates fall into the heap of unemployed so that during elections politicians could get them to carry out their unpleasant and burdensome work.

The present government too promised that graduates would be found employment. On 6th August 2017, the graduates were asked to send in their applications. Interviews were carried out at District Secretariats on 16th and 30th April. The interviews were carried out by the Ministry of National Policies and Economic Affairs. The interviews were held very partially. The degree certificate, the year the degree was issued were not considered. The officials who conducted the interviews themselves told graduates that the interviews were held not to give employment. The government had manipulated interviews so that graduates would not be given employment. Graduates also had to visit residences of government politicians to beg for employment. The ministers, MPs, deputy ministers were given employment quotas without even considering the interviews held earlier. The government had decided to recruit 20,000 graduates. On 2nd July 5000 of them were to be employed. However, the government has stopped recruiting and has begun to hold interviews again.

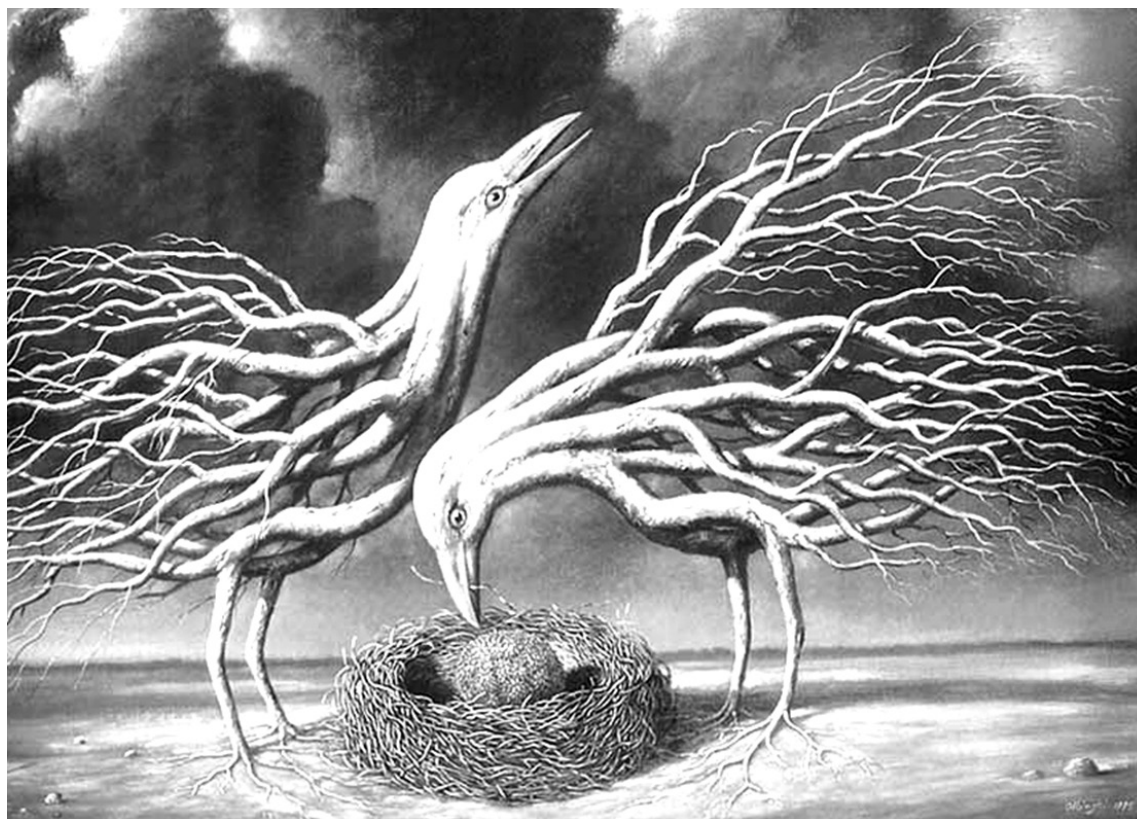
Now, the government has imposed a limitation that only those under 35

# Can capitalism in Crisis look for a radical change?

Sri Lanka's capitalism that quantitatively degenerated throughout the past 70 years and crashed from one crisis to another has dilapidated so that it could no longer go a step further. In the past capitalism in Sri Lanka was confronted only with an economic crisis. From the increase in the prices of essential goods, increased cost of living, depreciation of the rupee etc. it tumbled to a colossal debt burden. Later, it deteriorated to a political crisis and now it has slumped to political crumble that has led to political hooliganism. As the next stage of economic and political crisis and deterioration, the whole social body (including religious institutions) has collapsed. Studying this situation deeply indicates the present state is preparing the necessary environment for a blistering and a radical social change.

Marxist-Leninist politics point out several conditions that should be fulfilled for a social transformation that changes the capitalist society and creates a new society. Without fulfilling these conditions no one could carry out such a social transformation arbitrarily or because there is a wish to do so. Comrade Rohana Wijeweera in his book "We may be killed but our voice will never die" describes these conditions. In a nutshell, these conditions are:

- i. The deterioration that occurs in the society when productive forces no longer function effectively
- ii. Inability to solve issues confronted by the ruling class
- iii. People unable to endure suffering any longer
- iv. The wish and the determination of the masses to change the social system
- v. The existence of a revolutionary political party



of the proletariat that has a training to understand the moves of social forces, able to work out the direction the society moves and is determined not to allow the minority to suppress the wishes of the majority.

The last stated condition is, of course, the responsibility of a political party but the factors mentioned before that are generated by the crisis. What do we experience at present? That the factors mentioned above are becoming intense and this is why we should have a closer look at the present crisis.

How the first condition has been fulfilled could be seen when the economy of the country is observed. Within capitalism in Sri Lanka, all productive avenues have been broken down. The productive avenues are no longer fruitful. The country receives a minute income but the expenditure is massive. The result is the country is buried in a colossal debt mountain. Every citizen in the country is indebted to

the tune of Rs. 500,000. On the other hand, the economy of the country is decomposed with fraud, corruption and waste. While productions in the country are breaking down and productive avenues are getting bankrupt due to unproductiveness, a black economy is blanketing the economy of the country. Drugs, various illegal rackets, commissions, bribes contracts, deals, unscrupulous earning and hoarding have spread throughout the economy like a cancer, while the gap between the haves and the have nots has widened.

As a result of this economic crisis and due to the government's policy of burdening the masses with the dead weight of the crisis, the masses have been laden with a massive tax burden. While all who earn more than Rs. 50,000 a month have to pay a direct tax the indirect taxes levied for goods and services are enormous. The tax included in a bag of goods worth Rs 100

exceeds Rs.40.

On the other hand, the government in a bid to break loose of this crisis is slashing public utilities. The result is the services such as education, health and transport breakdown distressing masses further. Today, education is not only a financial burden but is a burden for the people. The parents in addition to the colossal sums of money spent to get their children admitted to schools have to spend on tuition classes, various events in the school, school vans. Often the parents have to contribute in cash, kind and labour for the maintenance of the school their children study. Also, the 'homework' given to students from the pre-school to A/L classes is a burden the parents are unable to bear.

People have been distressed as they have to spend on medicines and other health matters due to the slashing of health services. Admission to government hospitals cannot be done not through the Out Door Patients section that doesn't

levy any fee but through channel services after paying exorbitant rates.

Transportation too has become a source of distress in our country. It is especially acute in urban areas. The governments that have ruled the country have not been able to build the public transport services. Instead, they prodded people to have their own personal transport. Leasing companies too took advantage of the situation and incited masses to get a vehicle for the 'cash-in-hand'. The result was many in urban areas got indebted and bought vehicles for 'Pay by Installment' system. This, instead of solving the transportation issue, created a new crisis. A large number of people die in road accidents due to vehicle congestion. Earlier, going places was difficult due to a lack of vehicles. Now, going to a place is difficult due to congestion on the roads. In this way, the capitalist economic breakdown distresses masses in various ways.

Meanwhile, the final result of all these breakdowns is the absence of discipline and order that leads to a severe collapse of the society. The daily escalating number of crime, plunder, theft, rape, child abuse, murder, suicides indicates that the degeneration of the society is very serious, no one would be spared and everyone is insecure. Today, not only the highway but even the home, school and religious places are becoming unsafe areas.

Recently, a number of incidents were reported of baby girls sleeping in their homes been abducted, abused and murdered. There have been reports of principals demanding sexual bribes from mothers when they wanted to get their children admitted to schools and teachers who had committed sexual abuse on their students.

There were such incidents reported from temples as well. It was recently that a police officer who had gone to a temple to hand over a warrant was murdered by strangling inside the temple. The breakdown of parent-child relationships could be seen from news items published frequently. Among such reports are instances where mothers

Page 05 >>>

**Red Power: JVP has launched a series of public rallies aiming to hold 10,000 rallies across the country. In a situation where no election has been declared, what is the reason for launching this kind of campaign?**

**Comrade Tilvin Silva:** Firstly, we, the JVP, is not a party that goes to people only at the time of elections. We have a deep political dialogue with the people. We think that the ideal time for such a dialogue is when elections have not been called.

We have prepared a programme to change this country whose social, economic, political and cultural spheres have deteriorated. Our objective is to take this message to the people. Now, the time has come to change this political system of ruling the country by main political parties alternatively. We want to educate people on this political situation and make them active stakeholders and participants of the Peoples' Center, a broader political front of the people, we are now creating. This is the target we are attempting.

**Red Power: What are the JVP's objectives of this program and what are the facts that you stress during this campaign?**

**Comrade Tilvin Silva:** We have a theme for this program "A Peoples administration to protect and develop the country" and our objectives can also be seen clearly in this theme. Our country has been ruined at this moment in all aspects. Economically, it has been bankrupted by a massive debt burden and default. To pay loan interest and instalments the rulers have been compelled to sell strategically important ports and airports.

On the other hand, the tax burden and the cost of living are increasing while concessions given to

marginalized section are slashed. As a result, the life of the ordinary people is becoming harder. The whole country is enveloped in corruption. Crimes have been increasing and all institutions/ sectors including religious establishments have deteriorated to the rock bottom. Under such circumstances, the country cannot move forward anymore. The country needs a revolutionary change urgently. We have launched this program to make policies, mobilize people to implement those policies and to form a peoples' government. The intellectuals, professionals and several voluntary organizations that have understood the crisis the country is confronted with have come forward to save the country. Organizations of farmers as well as trade unions of workers have joined peoples' forces. All these forces would be amalgamated to form a force that could administer the country. This is our objective.

**Red Power: Can you further explain your theme "Peoples administration to protect and develop the country"?**

**Comrade Tilvin Silva:** First of all we have to protect this country. From whom? It is not from the Tamil people living in the north as some of the racist elements say. We all worked to defeat the separatist terrorist movement in the North and the East when there was a threat to the country. Now there is no such terrorist organization in the north or there is no such threat. There is also no threat from the Muslim community in the country though racist elements say otherwise. We have to protect our country from foreign countries, multinational organizations and the capitalist rulers who sell

this country to them.

The countries that provided loans to the government lock, stock and barrel have now got our political leaders to kneel in front of them. The former president has been purchased by them and he has betrayed the country for their money. All the capitalist leaders have surrendered to the debtors and they are now selling resources of the country without even considering the threat to national security. Hambantota harbour was sold out to China and now there is an attempt to sell Mattala Airport and oil tank farm in Trincomalee to India. A large extent of lands has already been sold to foreign companies and the process continues. Under this situation, the country is losing valuable resources and the national security is in danger. Therefore, we have to defeat this process and protect the country. In the 16th century, Europeans captured our country by using guns. Now foreign countries do the same by loans and bribing the political leaders. Defeating this is the protecting the country and it is true patriotism.

On the other hand, we have to rebuild this country which has been bankrupted economically. The present economy that runs on debts has to be replaced by a production economy that would earn new wealth. New policies and plans have to be formulated for it. The challenges have to be identified and strategies planned out to face them. Public utilities and services such as education, health, transport, housing, and power have to be uplifted. Their objective should be to provide service to the people instead of profit earning. Also, fraud and corruption in the country have to be eradicated and rebuilt.

This change cannot be done by the old political parties that ruled this country for over 70

# All should rally to take country towards social justice & progress

General Secretary of the JVP  
Comrade Tilvin Silva



years. Therefore, a new government has to be formed by intellectuals, professionals, working people together with public support. Peoples' government is not just only a name. It will be a government where people become stakeholders in building the country's economy as well as enjoy a fair share of its benefits. It will be based on the principles; economic development, social

justice, democracy and ethnic unity. Those are the factors that include in our theme.

**Red Power: While you are talking about peoples' government, some others in the country propose totalitarian government. What is your view?**

**Comrade Tilvin Silva:** When a country or a society deteriorates, the administration collapses,

anarchism creeps in, the people are severely distressed and the society craves for a change two tendencies surface in the society. One is the need to create a leftist people's administration. Achieving this is difficult and it confronts many obstacles and challenges. However, it is the most successful and the best alternative. On the other hand, due to the

# The JVP sends message of support to people in Greece over the tragedy caused by wildfires

***In a statement to the Communist Party of Greece over the tragedy caused by wildfires the JVP offers its condolences to the family members of the victims and wish rapid recovery to those injured. The statement also pays tribute to the Communist party of Greece for its immediate action in organizing assistance to the needy, gathering material help and mobilizing volunteers to help the needy.***

The statement in full:

Statement on disastrous wildfires in Greece

According to media the worst wildfire to hit Greece in over a decade in a small

resort town near Athens on Monday afternoon has killed at least 81 people, injured almost 200, disappeared several others and forced hundreds more to rush on to safe places as the blaze devoured houses and cars.

A state of emergency was declared in the Attica region, which includes Athens and three days of national mourning has been observed. We express profound fraternal solidarity with the Greek people and offer our condolences to the family members of the victims and wish rapid recovery to those injured as a result of the tragedy.

According to media the damages are

very serious as the fire had hit mainly high populated villages and neighbourhoods that lacked indicative infrastructures and escape routes to be used at such an emergency situation. It is also mentioned the lack of government coordination planning and the frail firefighting services due to the austerity measures of the government.

We hope that there will be no other casualties in humans and that the wildfires will soon be under control. Our party assures you that in these difficult moments, we and all progressive people are with you, the citizens of Athens and all of Greece at this hour of need.

We hope, as the Communist Party of Greece has demanded, the government would mobilize all the necessary forces of the state machine to support the residents in the area who have lost or injured their loved ones and property. We also pay tribute to the Communist party of Greece for its immediate action of organizing assistance to those in need, gathering material help and mobilizing volunteers to help the needy.

Long live international solidarity!

Tilvin Silva,

General Secretary,

Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna (People's Liberation Front – JVP)



***The JVP in a statement condemns the cowardly attack on Venezuelan President Comrade Nicolas Maduro stating the sinister act would make Venezuelan President more determined to continue with added***

***vigour the revolutionary process he is heading in Venezuela.***

Full text of the statement:

Condemn the cowardly imperialists' attack on President Nicolas Maduro

## JVP condemns cowardly attack on Venezuelan President

It is with concern we came to know about the failed cowardly assassination attempt on Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro. According to the media, the assassination attempt was made using several drones loaded with explosives while President Maduro was delivering the closing speech on the 81st Anniversary of the National

Guard.

Assassination attempts on progressive leaders when they cannot be overthrown democratically, economically, politically, and militarily is the last attempt by imperialist conspirators who would not hesitate to deploy the extreme rightist opposition in the country to carry out their schemes.

We, as the JVP,

vehemently condemned the cowardly attack and are relieved that no harm has come to President Maduro who, we are sure, would be more determined to continue with added vigour the progressive process he is heading in Venezuela.

The JVP always stands with progressive and left forces and their leaders and condemn all attempts by imperialists and their

lackeys to deny the cause of progressive social transformation of its front-runners.

Long live the Bolivarian Revolution!

Long live International Solidarity!

Anura Dissanayake, Leader

Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna (People's Liberation Front – JVP)

## Can capitalism...

>>> Page 03

kill or abandon children, old parents being left on the roads or caged in kennels. These indicate that this society has degenerated within capitalism and it cannot be salvaged. As Marx once said, "all that is holy is profaned".

While the masses are distressed due to the economic and social crisis, the ruling class too is confronted with its own crisis. It is the fulfilment of one of the factors we mentioned above. The ruling class is divided and has weakened. The country is under a state of anarchy. The dissension among the

ruling class has escalated. There is discord between Ranil and Maithri as well as within the UNP. The SLFP is divided. The old faces are outdated. Politics in the country has come down to the level of searching for Hitler type dictators.

In the past, a wrong opinion spread by the capitalist class was that Socialism was a dictatorial system and it didn't suit a society. However, the same society now states a dictator is appropriate for this society. It is because capitalist democracy is in crisis. Capitalist political parties have not been

able to rule the country following the old system.

All these factors we are experiencing today establish that our country has reached the end of capitalist rule and the factors necessary for a social transformation are being fulfilled speedily fulfilled. The masses will not be able to endure this environment for long. As such, the masses will definitely get the need for a change in the social system. Already, people are feeling the need for a 'change'. This need would get intense soon. Hence, what is needed,

at present, is the task of a revolutionary movement that totally understands the passage and the rhythm of the society and uses this environment consciously to make the people aware of the situation, rally and prepare forces for a social transformation. For, reformative solutions within capitalism are not valid anymore for the capitalist crisis. The present crisis demands a radical change in the whole social system – a social transformation.

## MR...

>>> Page 01

This is affirmed as Ajith Prasanna left Sri Lanka Podujana Peramuna and criticizing Basil at the press conference held to state that he was leaving the 'Peramuna'.

The contradictions centered on Mahinda, Basil and Gota that have surfaced due to the state Mahinda is confronted with have created a massive chaotic situation. Also, it looks that the circumstances would further deteriorate. The latest scenario is that a group of provincial council members have adopted a proposal that Welgama should be made the candidate if Mahinda is barred from it. All this indicates the internal crisis of the Rajapaksa faction that surfaced due to power struggle has taken a drastic turn.

Many in the political sector say the present environment is a fine opportunity for those who are still being deceived by the Rajapaksas to understand the extent of their power hunger.

# We have to take on a new liberation struggle...

**Today a new liberation struggle has arisen before us says the Leader of the JVP Comrade Anura Dissanayaka. He said this at the main rally of the 'Brotherhood Day' celebration organized by the Socialist Youth Union (SYU) held at Ananda Samarakone Outdoor Stadium on 23rd of July.**

A large number of people including members of mass organizations, leaders representing all religious, university lecturers and professors, lawyers, artists were present.

Speaking further Comrade Anura Dissanayaka said, "The incidents that occurred in July 1983 did not happen as isolated or accidental happenings. They were not incidents that were committed by any group due to sudden fury. It was really the result of communal politics that was continuously nourished. Also, it was a crisis of those who were involved in administering the country at that time. Communalism that develops minutely could end in massive destruction. Also, it has been shown that any ruler whose existence is in crisis would transform his politics into communalism to get over the

crisis. The occurrences in 1983 tell us how destructive such politics is. Lives and property were destroyed. Many fled the country and these incidents were not the results of that day's happenings. Communalism that gradually spread throughout the island suddenly erupted on 23rd July 1983. What is the story that unfolded thereafter? A type of hatred, suspicion developed between the Tamils in the North and the Sinhalese in the South that could not be cured. We continue to feel the consequences of the occurrence. A new history was written about the politicians and communities in the country. Prabakaran was able to create suicide bombers not without reason. The politics in the South developed into a civil war not as a coincidence. The communalism that intensified due to the incident soaked the earth with blood and tears. Those who try to interpret the incidents as mere occurrences cannot be considered as human beings. Humans must learn through experiences. However, what does the politics that open up before us indicate? Have we, as a society, learned a lesson from the history that has taken us backwards as a country, where

thousands of lives were lost, a colossal amount of property was destroyed and had experienced the result of the suspicion that had been created among the Sinhalese, Tamil and Muslim communities? The politics that spread out tells that even today the most extreme division is communalism.

Gradually, Sinhalese communalism is becoming the politics among the Sinhalese. The politics of the Muslims is becoming Muslim communalism while Tamil communalism is becoming Tamil communalism. What has been created in the country is a political environment to gain short-term needs that would pave the way for a destructive future.

It is in such an environment that the SYU and many other organizations are carrying out a struggle against communalism to protect the cultural identity and build a truly civilized Nation. It should be completed with victory.

What is the struggle that exists before us? Is the struggle to liberate the South from the North? Is it to arm the South against Vijayakala? Is it a struggle to save the Muslims from the Sinhalese? We have a struggle for liberation apart

from differences between the Sinhalese, Tamil and the Muslims. This new type of struggle is common to all Buddhists, Hindus, Muslims and Christians, whether they are from the North, South, East or West and whether they are from urban areas of remote areas. This struggle is for economic freedom, political freedom and to liberate the country from destructive rulers. It is a struggle that should be carried out without any partiality. We believe this new liberation struggle would unite all communities in the country.

Are we an independent state economically? We are not independent economically. Hambantota Harbour was not constructed for our own economic requirement. According to the economic requirement of the country, Hambantota Harbour should have been built as a harbour that provides services. The function of the harbour should have been supplying water, fuel, food and repairs to ships. However, according to the economic requirement of China Hambantota should be a cargo port. The harbour was constructed according to the economic need of China.

China builds its economic nerve centres in other countries. Are we economically independent? India couldn't bear when China was given Hambantota Harbour. What did the government do? It said India would be given Mattala Airport.

The new Inland Revenue bill was presented in Parliament. Within two days the Governor of Central Bank of Sri Lanka said the IMF has praised the new Inland Revenue Bill and has agreed to release the latest tranche of the loan to Sri Lanka government. Despite there are people's representatives who are expected to pass laws in Parliament, the laws are compiled according to the wishes of the IMF. Whose need was the Singapore trade agreement signed recently? It was according to the wishes of the World Trade Organization opposed by the people of the world. It is the same with ETCA. Are we independent? As such, the struggle that we have before us is a struggle to win economic freedom.

Are we politically independent? The higher political authorities are being manipulated by embassies. When the President and the Prime Minister quarrel with each other, it is the US Embassy that is asked to pacify them. This shows that we are not a Nation independent politically. As such, we have a struggle before us to win political freedom. The ruler has become a big plunderer. Today, frauds and corruption exist in palaces and mansions. When the top has been deteriorated what would be the future of the country? It was the President of the country who took money from China. The Prime Minister of the country has been accused of the Central Bank bond scam. The country should be liberated from the thieves in palaces. Hence, the liberation struggle would also build unity.

We were unable to build a successful struggle against the British imperialists. Like in India we build the National Congress. However, in a short time the National Congress breaks down and various other organizations representing on a communal basis are built. Even then there was no struggle carried out united by the Sinhalese, Tamils and the

Page 07 >>>



**All should rally...**

&gt;&gt;&gt; Page 04

anarchism that exists in the society, a tendency could surface to turn towards a dictatorial administration. The existing anarchic situation would pave the way for a fascist type of an administration. It is a very dangerous trend. This could be observed throughout the world. When the existing system is outdated and the capitalist democracy no longer functions properly, people are urged to look for dictators. This happens as the capitalist system can no longer continue its archaic mode of administration. This is why such a dialogue has commenced in our country as well.

However, the responsibility of the people is defeating this trend because despite showing an easy way of changing the society and giving solutions to existing issues, it is too dangerous to the society. Therefore our responsibility is to use this anarchic situation to create a peoples' government instead of a totalitarian regime. True democrats, humanitarians

and progressive people cannot just wait and see the forming of a totalitarian regime. They have

the responsibility of defeating this trend and creating a progressive government. This is what we are attempting.

**Red Power: Recently there was a conference of intellectual and professional organizations where the leaders of your party too participated. What are the objectives and targets of this move?**

**Comrade Tilvin Silva:** The intellectuals and professionals who have identified the threat the country is confronted with in economic, social and political frontiers as a result of the crisis in the capitalist system, which I explained earlier, have come forward voluntarily to rescue the country. They formed "National Intellectuals Organizations" island-wide in the last couple of years and the convention of these organizations was held at Maharagama recently. One objective of this move is to formulate policies to rebuild

this country. We formed committees to formulate policies for main sectors such as economic, education, health etc. We believe that the best intellectuals in the country in these sectors or subjects were appointed to these committees. They would definitely formulate the best policies for the country.

However, only policies are not sufficient. To implement these policies we need political power and a political centre to get the power as the political parties that have ruled and are ruling this country are bankrupt today. Therefore by January next year, we will start a dialogue with the people on these policies and get their views and feedbacks and finalize the policies. We will create a political force, a peoples' centre to face the next election. This political centre will consist of intellectuals, professionals, civil society organizations, organizations of the working people. We, the JVP, will provide the political leadership and we are prepared to do this to the best of our ability.

However, this is not an

easy task. This cannot be done only with good policies and a peoples' centre. It needs the support and contribution of the people. Therefore it is the responsibility of the people to give the political power to this peoples' centre. We all have the responsibility of educating and mobilizing the people for this task. The campaign of 10,000 public rallies is only a part of this process.

We invite all the people who have been cheated over the last 70 years to join with this progressive force to rescue our motherland from all these crises. We invite the social movements and individuals to educate the people about this situation and use every occasion and all the modes they can be used to achieve this.

Our country is at a decisive junction where we have to decide whether we go back to barbarism or go forward towards social justice. We all should work hard to defeat the trend of moving towards a barbarian society and move towards social justice and progress.

**A national programme..**

&gt;&gt;&gt; Page 02

years of age could participate in interviews. The graduate who was 30 years old in 2012 is 36 years old at present. It is the graduates who have to suffer when the government was unable to find them employment after 2012. As such, the government should not come out with such restrictions. As a result of such restrictions, a graduate who is above 36 years of age would never find state employment. Also, the government is attempting to slash external degree holders. How could a degree obtained from a recognized university become an issue whether it is external and internal? If so, the government should explain whether an external degree could be recognized as a degree or not. We say all graduates whether they hold internal or external degrees should be found employment. What the government does is to extend the graduates' issue until the next election. They want to make graduates political puppets. It is the graduates, the generation of students, who have to suffer due to the lack of a national educational policy for the governments.

At present, there are about 57,000 graduates without employment. A programme should be compiled to find employment for all of them. There are job vacancies in corporations, boards, authorities and state institutions. However, the government has no intention of finding those vacancies. Why can't the government offer jobs for graduates if the degree is the highest qualification for a state job and if the government spends a large sum of money for higher education? What's the use of a government if it cannot find a job for a graduate? As such, we, as the JVP and the National Center of Unemployed Graduates, demand that the government should take measures to find employment for all graduates. An extensive programme should be compiled to find employment without making it a political project of political parties of the government. Also, all irregular interviews should be stopped and a national policy in which all graduates would be able to find employment should be compiled."

**We have to...**

&gt;&gt;&gt; Page 06

Muslims. What existed was a struggle to ask benefits from the British. As we were given so-called independence, we become a divided nation. The UNP brought the citizenship act to deny rights. Our rulers, instead of thinking as national leaders and giving leadership to all communities, carried out a kind of politics that opposed such sentiment. After independence, the roadmap of politics was laid separating the Sinhalese, the Tamils and the Muslims. As such, we need a national politics and a national leadership now. The most necessary struggle to achieve this is the new liberation struggle. However, reactionaries attempt to build in the South myths about armed movements in the North.

We are fully confident that no armed movement could be created in the North in the near future. However, the reactionaries attempt to build suspicion in the South about the North. When a grenade brought by a soldier explodes media

announcements are published in the South regarding a 'return of the LTTE' has begun. Even after the correct incident was revealed, the channels that telecast the wrong news about the 'return of the LTTE' never corrected their versions. It is because the politics in the South is bent on creating a fear and suspicion about the North. Then the 'Ava' clique came to light. There were such cliques in the South as well. Kaduwela Wasantha, Wambotta, Ratnaweeras of Sooriyawewa were some of them. Our society always looks for an enemy. The real enemy is concealed and the false enemy is put forward. It is the masses in the North who would become the biggest obstacle for the creation of another war. It is the people in the North who were severely hit by the war. There were conflicts between the LTTE and PLOTE, LTTE and TELO, LTTE and EPDP. These struggles killed a large number of Tamil youths.

Even today there are houses in Jaffna that had been subjected

to attacks by the Indian Army. The war continued for 30 years. There are 45,000 war widows, 2500 children who have lost both their parents in Jaffna. There are families without proper houses and children who do not have a school to go to. They live a life of misery. Do you believe that the masses in the North would get involved in another war?

The wishes of the parents in the South for their children are a good education, to find them good employment, to give them marriage, to build them a good house. This is the same as the parents in the North as well. There is no difference in their love for their children. However, a picture is created in the South by reactionaries that children in the North are brought up to do war.

Today reactionary politicians in the North too want a communal politics. The provincial council in the North has not done anything for the North. Communalism is spread to get back the power they have been denied. As such, national unity

should be built without allowing communalism to spread its wings.

Communalism is not a mere thought that was born in the brains of Sinhalese, Tamil and Muslim youths. Communalism is politics. As such, the struggle against communalism too is politics. The JVP and the SYU and other organizations that have rallied with them are prepared to bring victory to the politics against communalism. We are not men if we allow incidents to be buried in the past without as mere incidents. The characteristics of men should be to get experiences from incidents. We have had numerous experiences. There have been tragedies that have occurred before our eyes. As people who have learnt lessons from these incidents we should come forward to bring victory to the struggle against communalism and establish national unity."

# RED POWER



'20' receives blessings of Maha Sangha



Participating in WFTU legal committee



Against unjust fuel price hike



Celebrating 'Brotherhood Day'

The National Forum under the theme "A People's Administration to protect & Develop Country" held at National Youth Services Center at Maharagama on the 14th of July.

At the seminar, committees were appointed to recognize the crises confronted by the country, find solutions for them and compile a new programme for the country. Accordingly, committees were appointed to various sectors including education, economy, national unity, health, agriculture, environment, transport, culture, sports etc.

A large number of people including leaders of political parties, university professors and lecturers, artists, trade union leaders, leaders of farmers' and fishermen's associations, representatives from mass organizations, experts of various sectors were present.

