



Brigadier Ranjan de Silva writes.....

We are a collective of Sri Lankan professionals, intellectuals, and civil activists in Sri Lanka and abroad. Our diverse backgrounds span various fields, from academia to corporate sectors, and we share a common interest in the progress of our motherland. Some of us, even from overseas, are actively involved in initiatives such as online English teaching to Sri Lankan children and advocating for solar-generated electricity and water pumps in rural areas, sharing our expertise and experiences.

We have watched with sadness the gradual decline of our country over the years, culminating in its bankruptcy in April 2022. Among the countries that gained independence around the same time, Sri Lanka has failed in its attempt at self-rule. Meanwhile, nations once less developed have surpassed us and are on the path to reaching developed status.

A Supreme Court ruling confirmed that our rulers are to blame. However, they cling to power, shamelessly preventing the sovereign people from choosing new leadership. Their motives are evidently self-serving, further demonstrated by the country's descent into bankruptcy under their watch. It is ironic that while the country is bankrupt and the people suffer, these rulers are thriving in wealth.

Despite the bankruptcy declaration over two years ago and the passage of two years of the six-year moratorium granted to start repayment, there is no sign of a plan to repay. Nor have the leading contenders for the presidency in the forthcoming election shown how they intend to save the country from being parcelled out to creditors. The national daily expenditure continues to exceed the national income, and what the sovereign people witness are unending quarrels within and between parties and litigation for leadership.

Considering these circumstances, we have banded together to offer our services, leveraging our expertise and unblemished records of honesty and integrity. We do not have blood on our hands—a singular qualification that none of the mainstream contenders can claim. Our country needs #systemic change, which must come from thinking 'outside the box.' Our professionalism, decades of experience, and service orientation, underpinned by high moral and ethical standards, give us confidence in our collective ability to rebuild the nation.

Please join us in this noble mission and 'take control' of our country by the people for the people.

Deputy Leader
#System Change Peramuna
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