



## Mr Lacille de Silva writes.....

I am humbled and honoured to be nominated as the Leader and Presidential nominee for the forthcoming election. As a retired government servant with extensive experience in governance and legislation and 37 years of service in Parliament, I have reliable judgment on what has gone wrong in our system. As a public servant, I have always been committed to upholding the public's expectations and have never betrayed the trust placed upon me. Today, it is my duty to lend my services to my motherland, once again, in this critical state of crisis.

What we are facing is an arduous task with a huge responsibility and a commitment to change the direction of our governance for a better 'system' that serves the people and is robust and resilient to manipulation. For decades, people's demands for better services have fallen on deaf ears, and public institutions have failed due to a lack of inclusivity and fairness. As a direct result, law and order in the country are in disarray, with rampant corruption and poor political commitment to improving or enhancing public services, including education and healthcare. We are, therefore, compelled to help the nation take the necessary steps and resolve national issues in a people-friendly manner within a modified constitutional framework dedicated to democracy, transparency, and accountability.

We honour honesty, integrity, and pragmatism. This is essential for exploring effective and meaningful strategies and resolutions to create a self-sufficient and thriving nation. We need ethical practices in all public services, including our leadership, and we must promote the best options through consensus. We need a coalition of diverse leaders skilled in the processes of management, specifically in three distinct arenas: (1) Path Finding, (2) Problem-Solving, and (3) Implementing, as summarised by Harold Leavitt, an American Psychologist of Management at Stanford University.

Addressing the debt crisis is fundamental to supporting a sustainable recovery process for our country while mitigating the resulting political, financial, and social issues affecting the public. It is no secret that our debt crisis resulted from wasteful government spending exceeding revenues year after year, bridged by excessive borrowing for consumption purposes, and 'white elephant projects' riddled with poor governance and corruption often linked to politicians and politicised officials. All our Parliamentarians, including the President and the Cabinet of Ministers, are responsible for the current misery. They continue to orchestrate this path for their personal gain at any cost to the public while stifling dissent and criticism. We need a strong STATE built on a resilient, robust, impartial, democratic CONSTITUTION that has full control over the island and our seas. Our approach and strategy to achieve this are three-pronged: (1) ESTABLISHING DIRECTION: Developing the VISION, MISSION, and GOALS together with THE FIVE PILLAR GOVERNANCE SYSTEM to establish a strong governance framework to fulfil our goals; (2) ALIGNING PEOPLE: Communicating with all citizens to gain their support and full cooperation in implementing our proposals; and (3) MOTIVATING AND INSPIRING EVERYONE: Keeping citizens engaged in fulfilling their dreams while safeguarding national heritage, values, and assets.

We are confident that like-minded citizens rallying together for one common goal, with whatever support, however small, will generate sufficient momentum to realise our peaceful and prosperous future with plenty of opportunities for everyone to develop themselves. We must include religious leaders, dreamers, visionaries, professors, patriots, farmers, workers, teachers, doctors, lawyers, entrepreneurs, and businesspeople alike.

Leader & Presidential Nominee, #System Change Peramuna  
31st May 2024