



THE YOUTH FORUM

Leaders for Youth

INAGURAL GATHERING

At: JETWING COLOMBO 07

From 1.00 pm onwards

Change makers, this is your time!

THE MANIFESTO

Introduction

Sajith Premadasa's manifesto, presented on behalf of the Samagi Jana Balawegaya (SJB), outlines a comprehensive vision for national development, focusing on economic resilience, social equity, and governance reforms. The manifesto emphasizes creating a social market economy that prioritizes social justice, transparency, and accountability, with a particular focus on youth development.

Youth Development

Youth development is a cornerstone of the manifesto, with detailed plans to enhance education, vocational training, and entrepreneurship opportunities for young Sri Lankans.

Education and Vocational Training:

- **Smart Schools Initiative:** Every school will be transformed into a "smart school," with 100% electricity, water, and digital learning facilities. This is aimed at making Sri Lankan students globally competitive.
- **STEEAM Education:** Prioritization of Science, Technology, English, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics to align with global trends, supported by extensive teacher training and curriculum updates.
- **Foster School Program:** Attract donors to support the establishment and improvement of SMART schools and digital infrastructure.
- **University and Vocational Training Reforms:** Expansion of loan programs to cover private vocational institutions, modernization of curricula, and collaboration with international institutions like IIT/IIM India.

Entrepreneurship and Employment:

- **Support for MSMEs and Startups:** Special emphasis on rescuing and nurturing MSMEs through access to digitization, capital, and training programs. Initiatives like the '18+ Startup Project' will provide loans, mentorship, and resources to young entrepreneurs.
- **Youth Empowerment:** Focus on providing the latest facilities for education and training, alongside facilitating new domestic and foreign opportunities for youth.



Governance and Social Welfare

Transparency and Accountability:

- Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI): Introduction of a DPI to improve public service delivery, ensure good governance, and create a cashless society.
- Public Sector Reforms: Overhaul of public services through digitalization, performance evaluation, and anti-corruption measures.

Social Welfare:

- Healthcare: Expansion of free healthcare, enhancement of the 'Suwa Seriya' (සුව සැරිය) Ambulance Service, and the introduction of the 'Husma' (හුස්ම) program to improve healthcare accessibility and quality.
- Social Protection: A comprehensive overhaul of the pension system, introduction of a universal contributory pension scheme, and targeted social welfare programs for vulnerable populations.

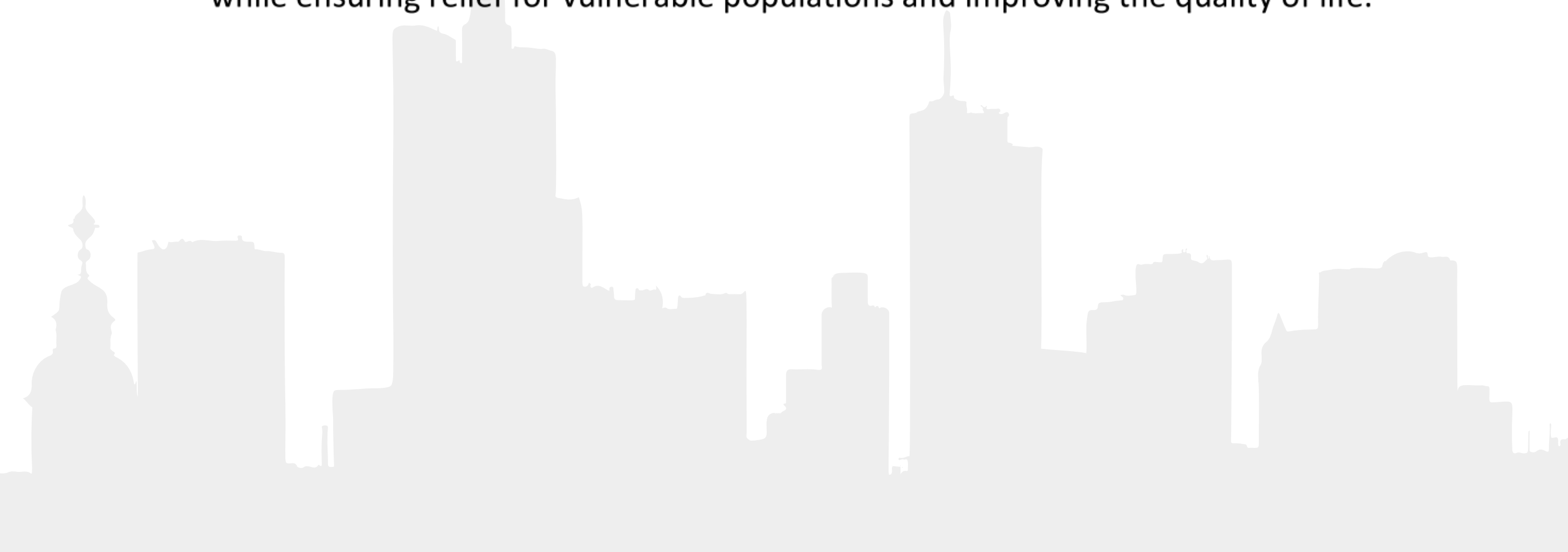
Housing and Utilities:

- Affordable Housing: Government-led housing schemes for low-income and middle-class families, supported by tax reforms and affordable housing loans.
- Public Utilities: Strengthening the Public Utilities Commission to regulate essential services, ensuring fair and competitive prices.

Economic Development

Resilient Economy:

- Social Market Economy Model: Aimed at fostering equitable and inclusive growth while promoting a green economy and environmental sustainability.
- Anti-Corruption Measures: Introduction of strong anti-corruption laws, independent public prosecutors, and digitized public finance management to enhance transparency and accountability.
- Debt Crisis Management: Commitment to fiscal discipline as per IMF agreements while ensuring relief for vulnerable populations and improving the quality of life.



Key Economic Sectors:

- **Agriculture:** Modernization of agriculture through smart technology, equitable water access, and support for value-added production. Introduction of the 'Shakthi' (ශක්ති) rice miller cooperative program and the 'Prabhashwara' (ප්‍රභාෂ්වර) network of climate-controlled warehouses to reduce post-harvest losses.
- **Industry and Services:** Integration of Sri Lanka into Global Manufacturing Value Chains, promotion of e-commerce, and transformation into a logistics hub. A focus on the service sector as a key driver of economic growth.
- **MSMEs:** Emphasis on rescuing and revitalizing MSMEs, recognizing their role in value addition and employment. Introduction of dedicated loan departments in banks to support MSMEs.

National Security and Foreign Policy

Security and Law Enforcement:

- **Strengthening National Security:** Establishment of a National Security Council with enhanced powers, and the creation of an integrated intelligence framework to ensure efficient cooperation between security agencies.
- **Judicial Reforms:** Enacting legal reforms to prevent executive interference in the judiciary and establishing the independence and efficiency of the justice system.

Foreign Policy:

- **Economic Diplomacy:** Focus on promoting trade, investment, and tourism through a rules-based order in the Indian Ocean and engaging with regional trading alliances.

Conclusion

Sajith Premadasa's manifesto is a comprehensive plan aimed at creating a resilient and inclusive economy, empowering youth, enhancing governance, and ensuring social equity and justice. His vision is to lead Sri Lanka towards prosperity, focusing on transparency, accountability, and the well-being of all citizens.



Event Agenda

	Time Duration	Task/Item	Responsible
01	12.30 pm - 1.00	Arrival of Guests	
	Start		
02	1.00 pm - 1.05 pm	Introduction to the Event	Compère
03	1.05 pm - 1.15 pm	Lighting the Oil Lamp	
04	1.15 pm - 1.20 pm	National Anthem	
05	1.20 pm - 1.25 pm	Welcome Speech	Tharaka Nanayakkara
06	1.25 pm - 1.30 pm	SJB Video + QR Intro	
07	1.30 pm - 2.00 pm	Key Note Speech	Sajith Premadasa
08	2.00 pm - 2.05 pm	Introduction to the Moderator, - Milinida Randeniya	Compère
09	2.05 pm - 3.05 pm	Panel Discussion, - Sajith Premadasa - Harsha De Silva - Eran Wickramarathne - Farman Caseem	Milinda Randeniya (Moderator)
10	3.05 pm - 3.30 pm	Refreshments	
	End		

