

## **Laws for Justice**

None of the political leaders who have boasted about catching thieves took action or showed interest in passing the necessary laws to ensure justice.

We did not waste time bragging but discussed with the IMF and adopted modern anti-corruption laws, based on global best practices to prevent bribery and corruption.

We will be implementing the Anti-Corruption Agenda to make our country the least corrupt State in South Asia through the following action;

- 1.Full commitment to eradicating corruption
- 2.Strengthening institutions for a transparent future
- 3.Recovery of stolen assets
- 4.Collaboration with international partners

Further, under this process,

Anti-Corruption Act No. 09 of 2023 will be fully enforced

A National Anti-Corruption Plan will be formulated and implemented from 2025 to 2029

The National Audit Act will be revised to strengthen audit functions

Asset, liability, and interest disclosures will be made transparent and efficient

Financial crime and money laundering regulations will be tightened

Anti-Corruption laws and investigations will be strengthened

Company law will be amended and ownership benefits framework will be aligned with the standards of the Financial Action Task Force (FATF)

Public procurement will be made transparent

The list of organizations receiving tax relief will be published

The Right to Information Act will be further strengthened

## **Empowered Women**

The female population in Sri Lanka is 51.6%.

We are taking various actions to protect the rights of minorities. But what have we truly done to protect the rights of the majority of the population, which is women?

We are determined to create a society where women are respected and treated equally. A society which enables women to be independent and empowered will be the objective. The basic laws required for this purpose have already been formulated. Women Empowerment Act has already been passed.

A separate commission for women's rights will be established as per the Women Empowerment Act.

We will formulate new policies to support the women suffering from poverty.

The current process of liberating women from the burden of micro-finance loans and other debts will be further expanded.

We will provide concessional loans to female-headed families at a maximum of Rs. 1,000,000 at an interest rate of 3%, and more opportunities will be provided for self-employment.

We will take measures to prevent violence against women including harassment at home, on the streets and at work.

We will increase the number of female police officers to ensure the maintenance of regular and well-functioning Women and Children Affairs Units in every Police Station.

Around 51.6% of Sri Lanka's population are women. In order to ensure equality, we will implement a special programme to boost female representation in politics and business.

We have planned a programme to work together with other SAARC countries to enact legislation for women's rights. A regional conference on the rights of women will be organized in Sri Lanka.

The above-mentioned action will be completed during the period from 2025 to 2030.

## **A Better Tomorrow for the Children of the Nation**

Within the year 2025, we will formulate necessary laws that protect children's human rights and child rights while protecting them from abuse, delinquency and child sexual exploitation,

Laws are already being drafted in collaboration with the UNESCO, against the uploading of children's images to cyberspace by infringing their privacy. Necessary steps will be taken to create a more appropriate model for the protection of the child with respect to child victims.

We will introduce rules to protect children's safety, opportunities and rights by regulating children's homes, pre-schools, tuition classes, sports training institutes and daycare centres.

Counselling services will be made available to children who feel isolated in the present digitalized society. We will take all necessary action for the same under our government both inside and outside the school system.

The above tasks will be complete in 2029.

## **Blossoming Youth**

The future belongs to the youth, especially Generation Z, who are growing up in a fast-paced, digital world. Generation Z, grew up in a rapidly developing world of technology. Therefore, they are designed to be quick in action and decision making.

We have a series of plans in the works to equip the youth with the knowledge and experience required to lead the nation in the future.

They will be given opportunities and guidance to generate income by working from home. Training programmes will be implemented in the fields of Digital Marketing, Freelancing, E-Commerce, etc.

The necessary creativity skills and technical guidance will be provided to the young generation who would like to professionally engage in social media as content creators. We will form the necessary background to create employment opportunities in emerging areas such as modern agriculture and, the eco-friendly tourism industry. These opportunities will be efficiently expanded as the economy of the country gets strengthened.

We will expand National Youth Mental Health Promotion Services and implement a comprehensive programme to help individuals overcome harmful addictions and adopt effective socialization practices.

We will provide opportunities and support for cultural, aesthetic and creative activities as well as sports activities.

The necessary background will be created to increase the representation of youth in the political field. The new generation of politicians will be equipped with knowledge through the establishment of the Youth Parliamentary Consultation Office and a Faculty of Political Science.

Youth engagement in governance will be encouraged through the 'Gen Z Dialogue', a dialogue where youth could present their novel and creative ideas of governance to the state.

We will revive Provincial Youth Centres and provide modern facilities.

## **Sports**

Informal practices and external interferences in the past have led to current weaknesses in sports administration. As a result, our athletes are facing various difficulties.

New legislation will be introduced for sports to address this situation.

According to the recommendations of the committee appointed on cricket, Sri Lanka Cricket will be restructured. The draft presented by the committee has now been submitted to the International Cricket Council for approval.

The sports training institute will be modernized to be on par with present-day requirements.

A well-structured development programme will be implemented at both the village and school levels in order to recognize and improve the skills of rural athletes up to international standards.

We will develop the Diyagama Mahinda Rajapaksa Stadium to international standards.

All these tasks will commence in 2025.

## **Senior Citizens**

In the current fast-paced and complex society, it is increasingly challenging for senior citizens to rely on their children for necessary care.

Both adults and children often find themselves in difficult and helpless situations when it comes to providing care for elders.

Therefore, it is expected to establish care centres for senior citizens all over the country, that are armed with modern facilities.

We will amend the National Policy for Senior Citizens in 2025.

Various activities will be carried out by the Divisional Secretariats and Community Organizations to enhance the social and cultural lives of senior citizens.

## **The Requirements of the Community with Special Needs**

Abiding by Article 4 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, we will be introducing a new Bill in 2025, ensuring that all citizens, including those with disabilities, enjoy full human rights and freedom.

We will take steps to adopt the Sign Language Bill and develop a comprehensive national policy for people with special needs.

The building access policies will be revised to ensure that they meet the requirements of individuals with disabilities.

We will allocate a special employment quota for such communities.

## **Respect for All Communities**

Across the country, there are small community groups that often go unnoticed and are marginalized by society. Although these groups have faced different forms of suppression and difficulties, no attention has been given to their requirements so far.

We are committed to building a society where no citizen is discriminated against or disadvantaged based on religion, language, caste, gender, political opinion, or place of birth.

## **A New Hope for the Public Service**

Public servants will receive salary increments starting from a minimum of 24%. The lowest salary, inclusive of the Cost of Living Allowance, will be increased to Rs. 55,000.

Government employees below the age of 40 will be given one year's leave with scholarships to follow courses to improve service efficiency.

A University of Public Policy and Administration will be established.

A skills or merit-based promotion system will be introduced.

Our plan includes digitalizing the entire public service to make it more efficient and streamlined. To support this initiative, we are hoping to provide laptops, tablets, and smartphones at subsidized rates.

Government employees without access to housing will be given priority under a new housing scheme.

As the economy strengthens, we will increase the amount of distress loans and reissue property and housing loans.

The services that can be performed remotely will be given the option of working from home.

We will implement a formal and transparent transfer system within the Public Service.

We are committed to eliminating salary anomalies among pensioners.

The above tasks will be commenced in 2025.

## **One Hundred Thousand New Employment Opportunities in the Next Year!**

As a result of our economic policies, an increasing number of new enterprises will emerge through local and foreign investments, creating numerous employment opportunities in the future. While this may take a year or two to develop, in the meantime, one hundred thousand new employment opportunities will be provided in the year 2025 as follows;

Development projects supported by foreign countries, which were previously suspended, are now being resumed since we are presently emerging out of bankruptcy. Many of these projects are in the construction industry, and this will create numerous job opportunities.

In 2025, we will launch a new programme for youth who do not get through Ordinary Level and Advanced Level examinations. This programme, in collaboration with the private sector including tourism and manufacturing industries, will provide vocational training and a monthly allowance of Rs. 35,000 for a period of one year. Private companies could also contribute additional funds to this allowance. They will be provided with employment opportunities in those companies after the training.

New employment opportunities are emerging nationwide, owing to the concessional loans given to small and medium enterprises. It is also a great opportunity to offer a solution to unemployment.

Agricultural modernization will create a significant number of new employment opportunities from the year 2025 to 2027.

Additionally, vacancies created by retirements in government service will provide further employment opportunities.



## **Foreign Employment**

Foreign workers are a crucial source of our country's foreign exchange.

We are in the process of amending the Foreign Employment Bureau Act, which will introduce benefits such as housing schemes and daycare centres, to provide them with better facilities and working conditions.

We will also be taking necessary steps to enhance foreign employment opportunities. We will establish an Information Centre which will provide continuously updated data on the international job market.

Employment opportunities in the fields of elderly care and childcare are abundant in foreign countries. We will train the youth who wish to be employed in those areas and improve their language skills.

These tasks will be commenced in 2025.

## **Support for Informal Workers**

A large number of people work in the informal labour market, which includes three-wheeler drivers, private bus drivers and conductors, labourers and many others.

We will be introducing a contributory pension and social security system for all these workers in the year 2025.

Standardized training will be provided to enhance the professional dignity of these roles. NVQ Level 4 certification courses for female massage therapists have already been introduced.

Many three-wheeler drivers are currently suffering due to debt. We will be providing the defaulters with an opportunity through state banks to restructure their loans. Discussions will be done to make the necessary arrangements to extend this relief through private banks as well.

## **Country First**

The Security (Special Provisions) Act has now been drafted to enhance the status of our Tri Forces and stabilize the security of the nation.

The committee's report on modernizing security forces to meet the demands of 2030 has been received, and its recommendations will be implemented.

'One Rank - One Pension' system will be introduced for the Tri Forces.

This will eliminate the issues related to pensions of war heroes.

Opportunities will be expanded for our military personnel to serve in the UN Peacekeeping Missions.

Avenues will be created for retired military personnel to contribute to the security sector by encouraging the establishment of related manufacturing industries.

Sri Lanka Navy and Sri Lanka Air Force will be given opportunities to gain valuable experience and generate income through deployments in the Gulf region.

We will empower our armed forces with advanced knowledge and technology, ensuring that the nation's security remains safe from the threats that may come from land, sea, air, or cyberspace.

## **Renaissance of the Police Service**

The basic foundation of a strong criminal justice system is to create a Police Service consisting of safe, responsible, active, competent, brave and honest officials who ensure the safety of citizens.

A Police University will be established with the aim of improving the institutional and extracurricular knowledge and skills of police officers. Thereby police officers will be given the opportunity to obtain degrees and post-graduate degrees while in service.

In our effort to build a disciplined society, we will establish the foundation for the Sri Lanka Police to deliver service with maximum efficiency.

## **Prisoners are Human Beings Too**

At present, prisons are overcrowded, and this posing significant harm to the mental and physical health of inmates. It also impedes the effective rehabilitation of prisoners, hindering their reintegration into society as productive individuals.

We have planned to build a number of new prisons in accordance with international standards.

It is expected to equip these new prisons with facilities in the aspects of health, sanitation, food, and welfare services for both prisoners and prison officers. This will strengthen the process of rehabilitating prisoners and helping them reintegrate into society as law-abiding citizens.

The cases of long-term detainees and those serving lengthy sentences will be reviewed.

Necessary facilities and training will be provided to prison officers.

## **Combating Illegal Drugs**

Illicit drug use, drug trafficking, drug addiction and the inability to recover from addiction have created serious social problems. We are ready to take action to control all illegal drug-related activities.

In 2025, we will draft a bill to establish a comprehensive Anti-narcotics Command Headquarters covering all functions from drug control to rehabilitation of drug addicts, and ensure that it is passed in 2025 itself.

## A Win for the Motherland

A country will gleam brighter and brighter if her people are lovers of arts who can dive into the depths of literature, music, dance and history, and emerge sympathetic, creative, open-minded individuals who want the best for their motherland.

## **Cultural Citizens**

It is no secret that Sinhala Language, Literature and Fine Arts are nourished by Buddhist teachings. These teachings alone can shape people to be good and exemplary citizens.

Sri Lanka is a multi-religious and multi-cultural nation. Hinduism, Christianity and Islam have been practiced in Sri Lanka from the past. I pledge to protecting and respecting all religions, places of worship, and cultural identities in our multi-cultural society.

The invaluable heritage found at the historical sites of Anuradhapura and Polonnaruwa should be further studied and utilized for the benefit of the country. We aim to give priority to peace and eliminate disputes, that are found in the values of governance in the Eastern world. While promoting non-violence, kindness and compassion, we would also seek to be nourished by the lessons from the Western world.

We are looking forward to establishing a digital museum dedicated to Buddhist civilization of the historic city of Kandy.

Measures will be taken to utilize AI and new technologies to study the Thripitakaya. Establishing Mahavihara University is another important objective we have.

A fund will be established to provide necessary facilities to the forest-dwelling monks. We have already started work to develop the Pirivena education. We will also develop infrastructure facilities for the spiritual development of the Buddhist nuns.

Hinduism began spreading across the country during the Anuradhapura - Polonnaruwa periods. Steps will be taken to develop Hindu temples as well.

We will introduce Dakshina Kailasa based on Thiruketheeshwaram in Mannar, Naguleshwaram in Jaffna, and Munneshwaram in Chillaw. Koneshwarama temple will be upgraded as the main Hindu temple of this pilgrimage.

The establish an education center to obtain formal education on Hinduism has been planned after having discussions with the Hindu religious leaders.

We will provide facilities to teach Christian and Catholic children in Christian/Catholic settings. The government will provide funds and support for seminaries and other centres that provide Christian and Catholic education. We will develop infrastructure facilities around important shrines such as the Madu Shrine and improve facilities available for devotees.

We will be taking steps to develop Madrasa education to facilitate Islamic education. Recently there have been unscientific and anti-religious incidents such as the forced cremation of the dead despite them being Muslims. Necessary measures will be taken to compensate all families who had to undergo this tragedy. Taking further steps, new laws will be enacted in 2025 to prevent such incidents in the future. We will establish a society that does not interrupt any religious practice or belief, or disregard cultural identities.

We will continue the programme where solar power systems are given to religious places.

## **Improving Fine Arts**

The spiritual and intellectual lives of people in any country are nourished by arts and culture.

Our country has been gifted with dance styles from upcountry to low country to Sabaragamuwa, a rich folk culture and various forms of arts and crafts including paintings, sculpting etc. Today, Sri Lanka is blessed with artists representing all forms of arts including musicians, dancers, writers, painters, sculptors who have brought international honours to the country.

We will launch programmes to artists to developing their skills to meet international standards so that they will take our cultural identity to the world.

Sri Lanka now has world famous writers and it is our responsibility to facilitate and encourage their writing.

We will establish an International Fine Arts and Cultural Center near Ananda Coomaraswamy Mawatha by combining the Nelum Pokuna Theatre, John De Silva Theatre, the Science Museum, Mahaweli Centre, and the New Town Hall Premises. This center shall provide the facilities to improve the skills of the local artists, and produce art of international standard. This center will be named the Ananda Coomaraswamy Arts and Cultural Centre.

A South Asian Cultural Centre and a Museum for Modern and Contemporary Art will be established in the same premises. This task will be commenced in 2025.

The old military hospital located in Galle Face, Colombo has been allocated for a modern art museum and will commence its construction in 2025.

The centre will provide facilities for the sectors such as traditional and modern dancing, music, painting, crafts, cooking, decorations and designs, fashion and will take measures to generate employment opportunities. This will be a key site of tourist attraction.

Today, book publication has faced competition with the e-book technology. We will be taking measures to strengthen the economic power of both the writers and publishers by widening the facilities for printing books.

Further, we will create the support required to uplift stage drama, ballet, and opera in Sri Lanka.



We will reawaken the SAARC Cultural Centre, and lay a strong foundation for art and cultural activities of the region.

We will commence a pop music and dancing academy for the youth who love the popular culture.

We will setup a fully equipped theatre in every district and organize annual events with the cultural centres, that are currently functioning.

All the government-owned theaters in Colombo including the Tower Hall and Elphinstone Theatre will be established under one umbrella institute and developed to utilise them in a better manner.

The National Film Corporation will be established as Film Development Commission to keep up with the current international trends and will be renamed "Film Sri Lanka". It will be a gateway to raise our cinema industry up to international level on digital platforms. The relevant Bill that gives the authority to implement a number of tasks focusing on the development of cinema is now at its final stage of drafting. After the approval, the government will not intervene with any of the businesses in the field of cinema since it will be established as an independent entity. Only regulation would be done by the government. This Bill will be presented to the Parliament in 2025.

The draft Bill for establishing the Public Performance Classification Board cancelling the present Censor Board is now completed. No accusation shall thus be made against a work of art under criminal law if the work holds a classification certificate. The draft bill will be passed in the Parliament in 2025.

### **A Better Environment for Media**

Both multi-community media and modern media are needed to create a sensitive society.

We will be drafting a national journalism policy and building a strong foundation to create a society that values humanity, discipline, loyalty and integrity.

We will empower and strengthen journalists and freelance writers.

A higher education institute on journalism will be established in 2025.

We will work towards solving the issues faced by the regional journalists.

An Electronic Media Regulatory Commission will be established to generate a transparent media environment which holds values.

## **A United Sri Lanka**

A country where children smile from all directions, North, South, East and West walking hand in hand,

finding strength in the beauty of their diversity...

## **One Nation**

Sri Lanka is home to people from different ethnicities, all of whom are citizens of the country and thus have the right to live decent lives. We will ensure happy and free living for all in a unified Sri Lanka.

Two years ago, the economic crisis shattered the people's hopes in all aspects. People lost the hope of moving forward.

But now, the time has come for everyone to be united and come together to create a beautiful future for the country. The future which we will be creating will benefit all citizens equally, irrespective of ethnicity.

No citizen who speaks in Tamil should be neglected by the Sinhala community, and similarly, no citizen who speaks in Sinhala should be neglected by the Tamil and Muslim communities. We will make sure that an atmosphere where people from different ethnicities and religions could live harmoniously like relatives and friends, will be created.

We will give prominence to reconciliation and creating prosperous lives for all citizens. Viable solutions will be provided for the social, economic, political, cultural and educational issues of the Northern and Eastern provinces.

The lands people have lost during the time of war is a complex issue. A National Land Commission will be established to provide viable solutions for these land issues.

Tamil and Muslim communities in the Northern and Eastern provinces who have started lives anew after the war are facing a number of issues. The following action will be taken to address their issues;

Enacting the Truth and Reconciliation Act

Implementing the Nawaz Commission Report on missing persons

Provide financial assistance to the rehabilitated LTTE members to engage in self-employment

## **A Great Power**

A single government will not be able to accomplish all these work over the next five years on its own. Therefore, both the central government and the local government system need to collaboratively share the responsibility.

Based on the proposals we have made about implementing the 13th Amendment to the Constitution;

1. We will devolve power to the Provincial Councils as per the Constitution. The powers of the Provincial Councils that come under Schedule 1, which are now vested under the Central Government will be devolved back to the Provincial Councils.
2. The decision of vesting police powers to Provincial Councils will be decided by the new Parliament.
3. The powers given under Schedule 3 that are approved by the party leaders will be given to the Provincial Councils.

Provincial Councils will be given the power over the following areas;

- School education
- Vocational training
- Degree awarding institutions
- (with the ability to upgrade to university level later, if necessary)
- Provincial tourism promotion
- Agriculture modernization

Required laws will be passed regarding the above.

We will be taking measures to establish District Development Committees. Every community irrespective of the fact they are Sinhalese, Tamil, Muslim, Burgher, Malay, Indigenous or other, will have the right to act independently with a sense of justice as members of one nation despite different views. New laws will be formulated to devolve powers from the Central Government to Provincial Councils and Local Government Authorities.

It is expected to change the local government system in the year 2025. We will restructure the present Urban Councils and upgrade them to Municipal Councils. A system where power is executed through Pradeshiya Sabhas and Municipal Councils shall be introduced.

## **A Win for the Motherland**

Several key reforms need to be made in order to rebuild the country to make the future stronger.

I will give the Parliament the responsibility of drafting a new Constitution within a year after the forthcoming Parliamentary Election following the Presidential Election.

The new Parliament will need to decide whether or not to abolish the Executive Presidency.

## **A New Election System**

The new Parliament will introduce a new election procedure based on the recommendations presented by the Commission headed by the retired Chief Justice Priyasath Dep in making the election reforms.

The political parties in Europe are following systems of high standards in maintaining transparency. We will introduce new rules and regulations regarding election expenditure and other activities of political parties.

## **Parliamentary Standards Act**

Parliamentary Standards Act will come into force and it will contain sections enabling the removal of Parliamentary Members who strongly violate the standards given in the Act.

It will enact the laws that prevent the elected representatives from doing business with the government.

## **Second State Council**

The Second State Council consists of representatives from the Provincial Council and the Civil Society as per the Constitutional Council Report.

This Council is responsible for supervising the execution of powers given to the Provincial Councils by the Constitution and other laws.

## **Empowering the Citizen**

Powerful citizens are assets to a country. But, currently, we have very few rules and regulations that empower citizens. Action will be taken to introduce new laws and agencies that are targeting empowering citizens.

## **Social Justice Commission**

We will establish the Social Justice Commission to prevent discrimination and marginalization of citizens, with the main aim of making people's voices heard.

## **Peoples' Initiative Act**

One of the main methods where people's sovereignty is exercised, is through voting, which takes place at the Presidential, Parliamentary and Provincial Council election levels.

Peoples' Initiative Act will further enable citizens to submit proposals to the Parliament. In this manner, citizens could be directly involved in the law and policy-making process of the country. This Act will further strengthen democracy practised in the country.

## **Jana Sabha**

The aim of Jana Sabha is to have the active participation of provincial and rural communities in the decision-making process. Currently, several pilot projects are being implemented in this regard. We will establish Jana Sabhas with representatives from the 50,000 villages in the country dispersed throughout 14,002 Grama Niladhari Divisions.

**Let Us Build a New Country!**

This plan of action is to make Sri Lanka victorious, not to uphold a party or a single person.

For, Ranil represents neither a party, nor a person, but the whole nation.

A Sri Lanka, without racial, religious, linguistic or any other differences.

This is our future.

Come, join him in this mission of making the motherland win.

Together, we can build our nation...our future.

Yes, we can!

Ranil will win this election. There is absolutely no doubt.

Two years ago, we witnessed sadness everywhere. We saw people languishing in queues for essential needs. Homes were in darkness. There was no electricity. People couldn't even engage in their jobs. Everyone had economic difficulties.

But today, we see a country that smiles. A country illuminated with light and hope. A country where people can earn a living and live freely.

Who brought this change? Ranil. Yes, Ranil.

Ranil is a leader who knows how to face challenges. He finishes what he starts. He does not give up mid-way. He has always been like that. He talks less, and he acts with precision.

It was twenty-three years ago when he envisioned giving freehold deeds to people and did the groundwork. He strove to make it a reality all these years. The Presidents before him never permitted the proposal, but Ranil never gave up. Today, people not only have the rights of ownership to the lands but also the houses.

Therefore, it is crystal clear that it is only Ranil who can elevate our country to a higher standard. It is only him who can make our lives better. Ranil, and Ranil alone.

When other candidates fight over the Presidency, Ranil is far removed from the battle. For, he has no fight against individuals. His fight is against poverty, unemployment and malnourishment.

He is not fighting for a position. He is in the midst of a struggle to make the lives of the youth better.

Ranil is fighting to bring victory to our motherland. His battle is to make Sri Lanka a developed nation, that is a pleasure to live in.

That is why Ranil will win this election. That is why Ranil will remain unbeatable.

He believes we can.

Yes, we can!