

Profile of Wijeyadasa Rajapakse

Personal Information

- **Full Name:** Wijeyadasa Rajapakse
- **Date of Birth:** March 16, 1959
- **Age:** 65
- **Nationality:** Sri Lankan
- **Education:** Royal College, Colombo; University of Colombo (Bachelor of Laws); Ceylon Law College
- **Profession:** Lawyer, Politician
- **Spouse:** Information not publicly available
- **Political Status:** Candidate in the 2024 Presidential Election
- **Residency:** Colombo, Sri Lanka

Political Background and Career

Current Position: Minister of Justice, Constitutional Affairs, and Prisons Management (since 2022)

Ministerial Roles:

Minister of Education (2002–2004)

Minister of Higher Education and Cultural Affairs (2015–2018)

Minister of Justice (several terms, including 2015–2018 and since 2022)

Parliamentary Service:

Member of Parliament for Colombo District (since 2001)

Other Notable Roles:

Chairman of the Sri Lanka Bar Association (2000–2001)

Chairman of the Committee on Public Enterprises (COPE) (2007–2010)

2024 Presidential Election

Election Status: Running for President in the 2024 election.

Campaign Focus: Economic recovery, judicial reform, anti corruption measures, and national reconciliation.

Election Symbol: Car

Support: Reported to have the backing of the majority of the Sri Lanka Freedom Party (SLFP).

Election Promises and Policies

Economic Reforms:

Emphasizes economic stability through sustainable reforms, improving state efficiency, and supporting entrepreneurship.

Good Governance:

Strong advocate for transparency and institutional reform.

Promised to strengthen anti corruption laws and improve the independence of the judiciary.

National Unity:

Focuses on reconciliation efforts, especially between ethnic and religious communities, following decades of conflict.

Social Welfare:

Committed to improving healthcare, education, and welfare services to uplift the living standards of all citizens.

Political Achievements

Judicial and Legal Reforms:

Instrumental in introducing laws to enhance the judiciary and the bribery commission.

AntiCorruption Initiatives:

Has been vocal against corruption and has promoted reforms to hold politicians and officials accountable.

Controversies and Criticisms

Controversial Legal Decisions:

Faced criticism during his tenure as Minister of Justice for some controversial legal reforms, though he defended them as necessary for modernization.

Economic Management:

Some of his policies have been criticized for not addressing underlying systemic issues quickly enough.

Personal and Family Life

Family:

His personal life remains largely private, with little information available about his family.

Reputation:

Known for his commitment to judicial independence and governance reforms, though he is seen as more of a technocrat than a populist politician.

Visual Representation

Appearance:

Often seen in formal attire, typically in suits, reflecting his professional background as a lawyer and politician.

Election Symbol:

Expected to use a distinct branding symbol, as he shifts from traditional party affiliations.

Color and Branding

Traditional Association:

Historically aligned with the blue of the Sri Lanka Freedom Party (SLFP), but his 2024 campaign may adopt a unique visual identity.

Additional Context on Wijeyadasa Rajapakse

Independent Judiciary:

Advocates for a strong, independent judicial system, with reforms focused on accountability and transparency.

Ethical Standards:

His 2024 campaign calls for stricter regulations to prevent candidates from engaging in unethical electioneering, including offering bribes disguised as promises.

Focus on AntiCorruption:

A central theme of his campaign has been eliminating corruption at all levels, promising stringent investigations into the wealth accumulation of politicians.

This profile gives a detailed look at Wijeyadasa Rajapakse's career, his policy focus, and his approach to the 2024 presidential election.