Profile Overview:

• Full Name: Siripala Amarasinghe

• Symbol: Tyre

• **Party**: Independent Candidate (Previously associated with the Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna - JVP)

• Political Background:

o Siripala Amarasinghe is a former Member of Parliament (MP) from the Gampaha District, where he represented the JVP, a leftist party in Sri Lanka. The JVP is known for its Marxist-Leninist roots and has traditionally focused on worker's rights, anti-corruption measures, and socialist policies. Amarasinghe's past affiliation with the JVP highlights his progressive political ideologies, although he is contesting the election as an independent this time around.

Key Contributions:

• Parliamentary Career:

As a JVP MP, Amarasinghe was involved in representing the Gampaha District, addressing issues related to the working class, and advocating for socialist reforms. His past legislative activities mainly focused on improving labor rights, opposing corporate exploitation, and pushing for economic policies that favor the lower and middle classes.

2024 Election Platform:

• Promises:

- o Though his current election manifesto has not been heavily publicized yet, it is expected to focus on themes traditionally associated with his former party:
 - **Economic Equality**: Policies geared toward reducing the wealth gap and providing support for workers, farmers, and the underprivileged.
 - **Anti-Corruption**: A commitment to eliminating corruption from the political and corporate sectors, reflecting his JVP background.
 - **Public Services Improvement**: Likely a focus on enhancing access to healthcare, education, and other public services.

Political Shift:

• Amarasinghe's decision to run as an independent candidate may suggest a shift away from the more rigid frameworks of the JVP. By positioning himself independently, he

may be aiming to attract a broader range of voters who are interested in socialist policies but prefer a more centrist, pragmatic approach.

Challenges:

Siripala Amarasinghe faces significant competition in the 2024 Presidential Election,
which includes established political figures like Ranil Wickremesinghe and Sajith
Premadasa. His independent status could either be an advantage, allowing him to stand
apart from the mainstream parties, or a disadvantage, due to limited resources and lack of
a strong organizational base.

Public Image:

• **Voter Appeal**: His alignment with the working class and the underprivileged may resonate with voters who are dissatisfied with traditional political parties. His history with the JVP also suggests he may have loyal support from leftist voters.