## TRINCOMALEE PROCLAMATION OF THE TAMIL NATION

SRI LANKA PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION - 2019

TRINCOMALEE PROCLAMATION OF THE TAMIL NATION TO THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY, VIA

PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE M.K. SHIVAJILINGAM



Election manifesto of M.K. Shivajilingam the Tamil Common Candidate, contesting under the independent symbol and the Resurrection of the Tamil Nations Programme.

## SRI LANKA PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION 2019

Sufficiently Cheated by Sinhalese I We need to seek our own destiny II



IN THIS ELECTION
YOUR VOTE IS TO A TAMIL I
COMMON TAMIL CANDIDATE





#### INTENTION

Once again, the Tamil people are facing the presidential election of Sri Lanka that is scheduled for November 16, 2019. The history has proven repeatedly that voting for the Sinhalese political parties has never helped the Tamil people, and the Tamil people have been deceived every time with broken promises and missed opportunities. Giving promises to the Tamil people with the intent of deceiving them have been the pattern of the Sinhalese leaders.

At this juncture, only with the active involvement and participation of the International Community, can the Tamil people obtain the political solution and justice. Voting for a Tamil candidate who correctly represents the aspirations of the Tamil people will benefit them by sending the Tamils' message to the International community as well as to the Sinhalese people.

With that in mind, and in the absence of any Tamil common candidate, I, **M.K.Shivajilingam** have come forward to contest in this election to send the Tamils' message to the world. My intention to contest in this presidential election is not to become the president of Sri Lanka, or not for my personal gain, but to act as a mechanism of the Tamil people to inform the world about the plight and aspirations of the Tamil people with the hope of getting help from the International Community.

Let's make use of this election to benefit our Tamil people, rather than benefitting the Sinhalese politicians to oppress the Tamils even more. Following Proclamation is being put forward for endorsement by the Tamil people in this election

#### **PROCLAMATION**

#### Bearing in mind that:

- the Tamil people living in the island of Sri Lanka are a Nation
- the region comprising the present day Northern and Eastern Provinces, is the homeland of the Tamil people
- the Tamil people are entitled to self-determination as per the UN Charter;

**Recognizing** that there were separate Tamil and Sinhala sovereign kingdoms in the island until the invasion by Portuguese, Dutch and the British starting from the 16th century, and only in 1833, the whole island was united for the administrative convenience during the British rule;

**Recalling** that the Tamil people have been struggling for their political rights ever since Sri Lanka got its "independence" from the Great Britain in 1948, first by non-violence means, then by armed struggle and now by non-violence means again;

**Noting** that the international bilateral agreement between the countries of India and Sri Lanka via the Indo-Lanka Accord of 1987 stated: "recognising that the Northern and the Eastern Provinces have been areas of historical habitation of Sri Lankan Tamil speaking peoples";

**Knowing** that the Sri Lankan armed forces and some leaders committed war-crimes, crimes against humanity, and Genocide against the Tamil people;

**Emphasizing** that according to the November 2012 Report of the UN Secretary-General's Internal Review Panel on UN Action in Sri Lanka, over 70,000 people were unaccounted for during the final phase of the war in 2009;

**Recalling** that the Government of Sri Lanka was a cosponsor to the Resolution 30/1 titled "Promoting reconciliation, accountability and Human rights in Sri Lanka" at the UNHRC session in Geneva in September 2015 inter-alia proposing the establishment of a judicial mechanism inclusive of foreign judges to investigate the violations of international humanitarian law against the Tamil people;

**Noting** that the International Truth and Justice Project published details of Sri Lankan military run "Rape Camps" where Tamil women were held as sex slaves;

**Knowing** that the Government of Sri Lanka and its leaders have consistently gone back in their promises and commitments to the Tamil people and to the International community including the UN, and have offered neither the political solution nor justice for the Tamils; and

**Recognizing** that the Tamil people are determined to regain their political rights, and justice for all crimes against them with assistance from the International Community;

**Wherefore,** on behalf of the Tamil people, the following demands are hereby put forward by way of this Presidential election of 2019 for the world to know:

- 1. With International guarantee, the Government of Sri Lanka shall offer the Tamil people an equitable political solution which at the minimum shall consist of the merged Northern and Eastern Provinces with full federalism offering all rights to the Tamil people over their affairs that allow them to exercise their sovereignty and govern themselves.
- 2. The Tamil people call upon the International Community and the UN to assist Sri Lanka to grant autonomy to the Tamil people, and in case Sri Lanka fails to offer the Tamil people their legitimate rights within the first one year of the new term of the incoming President, the Tamil people call upon the International Community and the UN to help conduct a UN monitored referendum to determine the political preference of the Tamil people.
- 3. The Tamil people call upon the International Community and the UN to investigate the warcrimes, crimes against humanity, and Genocide against the Tamil people, thru the International Criminal Court or to a specially created international criminal tribunal set up by the UN.
- 4. The Muslim people and the Upcountry Tamil people are entitled to self-determination, and shall be given full autonomy to look after their own affairs in their regions.
- 5. Prevention of Terrorism Act and any similar Act that target the Tamil people shall be removed.
- 6. All Tamil political prisoners shall be released immediately.
- 7. All enforced disappearance as well as all those missing people shall be investigated by the UN and justice shall be served.
- 8. The Sri Lankan military shall hand over all private lands and the number of military personal occupied in the Northern and Eastern provinces shall be brought to the pre-war status.

- 9. The Northern and Eastern Provinces shall be merged immediately by a simple majority vote in the Parliament as per the 13th Amendment to the Constitution which was brought about by the Indo-Lanka Accord of 1987.
- 10.All acts of Sinhalization and Budhistization in the North and East including building of Sinhalese settlements and Buddhist temples shall be permanently stopped.
- 11. Mahaweli Authority shall not perform any work in the Northern and Eastern Provinces, instead its projects and funds shall be allocated to the Provincial governments, in addition, the newly introduced Moragaskande Irrigation Scheme which is engaged is setting up Sinhalese colonization in the Vanni region shall forthwith be stopped.
- 12. Expropriation of lands, temples or any place of significance to the Tamil people by the Archeological Department, Wild Life Department, Forest Department or Tourism Department in the Northern and Easter provinces shall be terminated permanently, and all related activities shall be allocated to the Provincial governments.
- 13. All government employments in the North and Eastern provinces shall be given to those people living in the region.
- 14. All development and employment related activities, as well as programs to develop and resolve the educational needs of the people, and to develop programs to improve the livelihood of the widows in Northern and Eastern provinces shall be handled by the Provincial governments which shall also be empowered to deal with the international assistance including funds.
- 15. The government shall implement projects to uplift the economic conditions of the Upcountry Tamil people.



#### **ANNEXURE**

### FIVE TAMIL PARTIES 13 - POINTS DEMANDS

Having realised that the final solution to the longstanding Tamil Ethnic issue, which has remained in the Island of Sri Lanka as an unresolved National Question for several decades and been the cause for the war which extended for over three decades, would be the

- 1. Acceptance of the political aspirations of the Tamil Nation;
- 2. Recognition of the merged Northern and Eastern Provinces as the historical habitat and the traditional homelands of the Tamil Nation;
- 3. Acknowledgement of the sovereignty of the Tamil Nation and
- 4. Realisation of the fact that the Tamil People under the provisions of International Law are entitled to the right of self determination

accordingly the creation of federal rule in the merged Northern and Eastern Provinces would be our considered Political standpoint.

With the hope and expectation that a final solution to the continuing problems faced by the Tamils consequent to the effects of the concluded war and yet continuing effects of such war, could be found, we the members of Political Parties that represent the Tamil People do hereby submit hereunder to the Presidential Candidates representing major Political Parties and to their respective Party Leadership the following requests:

- 1. A solution to the Sri Lankan Tamil issue must be found by setting up a new federal constitution rejecting the heretofore unitary constitution accepting the nationhood of the Sri Lankan Tamils and recognizing its sovereignty and also accepting that Tamils under the provisions of International Law are entitled to the right of self determination.
- 2. Full fledged independent impartial International mechanisms through the International Criminal Court /International Arbitration Tribunal must be set up to inquire into the War Crimes and Crimes against Humanity and Genocide committed during the final stages of the war.
- 3. The Prevention of Terrorism Act must be withdrawn.
- 4. (Consequently) All Tamil Political Prisoners must be freed unconditionally.
- 5. Justice must be found for those affected by the enforced disappearance of persons through appropriate International mechanisms.
- 6. The Governmental Forces occupying private and state lands / buildings in the Northern and Eastern Province which were occupied by Tamils before the war must be withdrawn, the lands released and resettlement process must be immediately set in motion.
- 7. Sinhalization, Buddhistization and Sinhala Colonization taking place in the Northern and Eastern Provinces presently with State assistance must be stopped immediately.

- 8. Since the Mahaweli Development Authority is engaged in planned Sinhala Colonization in the Northern Province under the pretext of redirecting the Mahaweli River to the North, the jurisdiction of the said Authority in the Northern Province must forthwith be terminated. Also the planned Sinhala Colonization taking place in the Eastern Province under the Mahaweli Development Scheme must also be terminated.
- 9. The Moragaskande Irrigation Scheme recently introduced is indulging in planned Sinhala Colonization in the Vanni Region. All such Sinhala Colonisation must forthwith be terminated.
- 10. The expropriation of lands and areas of religious worship by Government Departments including Archaeology Department, Wild Life Department, Forests' Department must forthwith be stopped. Those lands and places of worship already expropriated through these Departments must be freed from the effect of the Gazette Notifications which so expropriated them.
- 11. Those affected in the Northern and Eastern Provinces by the War, wanting to economically improve themselves or youth wanting to enhance their job opportunities receiving direct investments from our Diaspora and elsewhere must have all legal obstacles faced removed so that handling lands and finances here would be easy and quick.
- 12. Priority must be given to those belonging to the Northern and Eastern Provinces in Governmental and Private Sector job opportunities in the said two Provinces.
- 13. An independent mechanism must be set up under the supervision of Elected Representatives of the people of the Northern and Eastern Provinces to handle all finances for Development in the said two Provinces, after proclaiming the Northern and Eastern Provinces as areas affected by the War.

Out of the above requests those that should be immediately solved must be found solutions within three months of the New President taking office.

Facilitated by the students of both jaffna and Eastern universities with the assistance of the religious dignitaries And members of civil societies are independent members of the Tamil People's Council six Tamil national political parties assembled together and And the 13 point formula was signed jointly by representative of five political parties Namely, Illangai Tamil Arasu Katchi (ITAK), Tamil Makkal Koottani (TMK), Tamil Eelam Liberation Organization (TELO), Eelam People's Revolutionary Liberation Front (EPRLF), and Democretic People's Liberation Front (PLOTE), Tamil National People's Front (TNPF), refrained from signing the agreement.

I fully agree with above said 13 point demands.

# To the Sinhalese Oppressors? Is it for Tamil Nationalism? Your Votel

MON TAMIL CANDIDATE



