



Ape Janabala Party Constitution



R.eg.No.:EC/RPP/1988/18

Ape Janabala Pakshaya

CONSTITUTION

1. Adopted at the General Convention held on 01st May 2008.
2. Constitutional amendment adopted at the National General Convention held on 30th January 2011.
3. Constitutional amendment adopted at the National General Convention held on 22nd December 2013.
4. Constitutional amendment adopted at the National General Convention held on 08th March 2015.
5. Constitutional amendment adopted at the Special General Convention held on 24th February 2019.
6. Constitutional amendment adopted at the National General Convention held on 01st May 2022.

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Ape Janabala Pakshaya

Objectives, Principles, and Vision

1. Objectives

At present, our beloved motherland is facing a tragedy unlike any it has experienced before. Sri Lanka, which during the reign of the great King Parakramabahu was known as the prosperous "Granary of the East", has today become bankrupt, burdened with billions of dollars in debt to the world.

All governments that have ruled Sri Lanka since independence must be held responsible for dragging the motherland into this tragic situation. Especially after the military victory in 2009, large-scale projects implemented through heavy borrowing, due to corruption, fraud, and other factors, have caused more harm to the country than benefits. Some projects have completely failed.

Unfortunately, the people of Sri Lanka have repeatedly handed over power, in turns, to two main political forces. However, history has proven again and again that both these forces have failed. Due to blind party loyalties, many people are unable to recognize this national disaster.

The main reason for Sri Lanka's decline is the political mafia and the third-rate political culture that prevails in the country. These destructive political forces focus only on power, desire, wealth, and personal gain. Defeating such forces immediately is the duty and responsibility of all virtuous sons and daughters born in this country.

This reality must be clearly understood. For that purpose, the people must step forward.

In addition to the economic crisis, the country is facing many other crises. Agriculture has fallen into a tragic condition. Environmental destruction has intensified. Crime has increased. On the other hand, narcotic drugs are engulfing the younger generation. It is no longer a secret that these national crimes receive the blessing of corrupt politicians.

Rescuing the country from all these crises is not an easy task.

The primary responsibility for rebuilding Sri Lanka lies with the people. In order to fulfill that responsibility, the people must take steps to elect educated, respectable, humble, and compassionate representatives of the people.

For this purpose, our party has created a political platform. We invite you to join us in this journey.

How should the country be rebuilt?

Through long and continuous evolution and progress, humanity has today reached the highest stage of knowledge. We are committed to using this new knowledge, science, and limitless achievements to advance the country and improve the well-being of the people. Countries such as South Korea and Japan developed by giving priority to scientific and technological advancement and innovation (New Inventions). We too must follow that path, and special attention must be given to the development of the information technology sector / software engineering technology.

A true national government must be established, and we must formulate a comprehensive plan (master plan) and implement it.

The rule of law must be safeguarded, and justice must be delivered through an independent judiciary in a fair and efficient manner. While protecting fundamental rights, we must create an environment in which all citizens of the country can live in peace and harmony.

We must take steps to reduce the widening gap between the rich and the poor created by capitalism and the pressure (depression) imposed on society as a result. For that purpose, a sound welfare system (Good Welfare System) must be implemented.

By attracting as much foreign investment as possible, establishing factories and industries, creating a production-based economy, improving exports, and generating wealth, we must rescue the country from the economic crisis into which it has fallen.

The tourism industry must be further developed, and the country must be transformed into a major tourist destination that attracts the wealthy of the world.

On page 12 of the book "State Administration and Development" by Mr. R.A. Jayawira, the following incident is described.

In a certain jungle village, an elephant standing by the roadside began catching people who passed along the road, throwing them onto their backs, placing one of its front legs on their faces, and after a short while, crushing their heads and killing them. As a result, the villagers abandoned the use of that road.

A man from another village, who was unaware of this, came along that road carrying a log and fell into the elephant's grip. Unlike the other men who were paralyzed by fear, this man was not afraid. He opened his eyes and looked at the elephant's leg. What he saw was that a large thorn had pierced the elephant's leg, causing it to fester and making it so painful that the elephant could not place its foot on the ground. Gathering courage, the man pulled out the thorn with his hand. The thorn came out. Pus flowing from the wound covered his face and ran down, so that he could not see anything.

The elephant then lifted the man and went to a nearby stream, allowed him to wash his face, and brought and returned the log that the man had carried. Until the man disappeared from sight, the elephant stood gratefully looking at him.

The above-mentioned folk story from the Mahiyanganaya region guides us in understanding the situation we are facing and what we must do. When applying this story to our context, the elephant represents the people. After independence, the governments that assumed power from time to time failed to properly understand the suffering endured by the people and failed to fully discharge their duties and responsibilities to free the people from that suffering (as they turned a blind eye and a deaf ear). As a result, the elephant (the people) removed them.

Therefore, even now, we must establish a system of governance that undertakes the heavy responsibility of properly fulfilling its duties and responsibilities towards the people.

Principles

The Prime Minister Mr. Lee Kuan Yew, who developed Singapore from the level of a Third World country to that of a First World country, followed three main principles for that purpose. They are:

1. Placing the right person in the right position. (Meritocracy)
2. Acting practically with situational wisdom. (Pragmatism)
3. Integrity free from corruption. (Honesty)

It is the objective of our party to follow these principles in rebuilding Sri Lanka as well.

We must build an economically prosperous and strong country and restore the dignity of the motherland that has been destroyed.

For this purpose, a civilized, educated, courteous, disciplined, and harmonious Sri Lankan nation must be built.

Vision

We maintain the position that a new Constitution must be formulated by restructuring the nature of the state mechanism and the legal foundation in a manner that suits the people and the country, unlike the existing framework. It must contain a stronger framework of fundamental rights than what currently exists.

We will completely close all opportunities for Sri Lanka to be divided based on territorial or political interests. We firmly pledge that our party stands for an undivided, unitary state. From Dondra to Point Pedro, only the proud Lion Flag of the nation shall fly across the skies. Furthermore, at the earliest opportunity, all forms of personal laws based on ethnicity, region,

or religion will be abolished, and in their place, a single legal system applicable to the entire country will be introduced, thereby giving true meaning to the concept of "equality before the law."

We will immediately create the necessary environment to ensure the independence of the judiciary, the electoral process, and the media, while also establishing conditions that allow the public service to function free from interference by politicians.

The government should function only as a guide to economic development, a provider of facilities, and a remover of obstacles. When exercising governmental power, that "power" must be held temporarily as a public trust (Public Trust) on behalf of the people, and there must be no attempt to claim ownership of that power. Democracy must be further strengthened.

Within a mixed economy, state institutions must engage in economic activities by competing fairly and on equal terms with the private sector, and the benefits derived must be used to improve the lives of the people.

As one method of rescuing the country from the economic abyss into which it has fallen, we will conduct investigations through a special institution into politicians and officials who enriched themselves by misappropriating public funds, pursue legal action against them, impose maximum penalties, and take steps to confiscate money and property acquired through corruption.

We will impose a complete ban on displaying the names of politicians on commemorative plaques of any project constructed using public tax money.

We are committed to creating a nation that can stand proudly alongside other developed countries of the world, and to building a just society where everyone respects one another.

We possess in abundance the determination, self-confidence, integrity, and national spirit required for that purpose. Join us in creating a prosperous and fertile land free from corruption, fraud, and injustice. May our noble motherland prevail!

- ❖ We will eradicate waste, corruption, and bribery from this country.
- ❖ We will give strong priority to environmental protection.
- ❖ We will guide farmers towards scientific agriculture.
- ❖ We will provide maximum support and encouragement to local industrialists.
- ❖ Priority in the national budget will be given to national security, education, and the health sector.
- ❖ We will ban the import of all goods that can be produced profitably within the country and take steps to promote domestic production.

- ❖ We will introduce a systematic program to eradicate poverty from this country.
- ❖ We will put a permanent end to deceptive, promise-based politics.

Constitution

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Special Provisions

CONSTITUTION OF THE APE JANABALA PARTY

CHAPTER I

Basic Provisions

1. Name of the Party

(අ) අපගේ ජනබල පක්ෂය

(ආ) எங்கள் மக்கள்சக்தி கட்சி

(ඇ) Ape Janabala Pakshaya

i. The election symbol of the Party shall be the "Dajaya" (Flag).

ii. The official colour of the Party shall be light purple.

iii. The Head Office

390, Rathgalgoda Watta,

5 Km Kanua,

Galthuduwa,

Gonagalapura.

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2. Leadership of the Party

The Party shall have four (04) principal offices.

01. Chairman

The Chairman of the Party shall be the life leader of the Party.
The Chairman shall, by virtue of office, also be the Chairman of the Central Working Committee and the Political Bureau of the Party.

02. General Secretary

03. Deputy General Secretary

04. Treasurer

3. Party Membership

i. Any Sri Lankan citizen, male or female, who has completed sixteen (16) years of age, shall be eligible to apply for membership of the Party.

ii. For this purpose, an application form shall be duly completed and submitted, and the prescribed membership fee of the Party shall be paid.

iii. Every person joining the Party shall sign the following oath stated in the said application form:

"I agree with the common programme of the Party. I shall act to achieve its aims and objectives. I shall be loyal to the Party and shall carry out its decisions and regulations."

iv. A person who is a member of any other political party shall not be eligible to obtain membership of the Ape Janabala Party.

v. From the date of application for Party membership, until the lapse of a period of three (03) months, such person shall be considered as a provisional member.

If, within the said three (03) month period of observation, no reasonable objection is raised in respect of such membership applicant, the General Secretary of the Party shall confer full membership on him or her. From that date, such a person shall be recognized as a full member of the Party.

4. Membership Fees

- i. Every member shall pay an annual fee of Rs. 100.00.
- ii. All members of the Central Working Committee of the Party and candidates for Local Government Authorities shall, in addition to the Party membership fee, contribute a sum of Rs. 1,000.00 annually to the Party Fund.
- iii. All Electoral Organizers of the Party shall, in addition to the Party membership fee, contribute a sum of Rs. 5,000.00 annually to the Party Fund.
- iv. Members of the Political Bureau of the Party shall, in addition to the Party membership fee, contribute a sum of Rs. 1,0000.00 annually to the Party Fund.
- v. Party representatives elected by popular vote to Local Government Authorities shall contribute five per cent (5%) of their monthly salary to the Party Fund.
- vi. Representatives of the Party elected to the positions of Chairman, Vice Chairman, Mayor, and Deputy Mayor of a Local Government Authority shall contribute ten percent (10%) of their monthly salary to the Party Fund.
- vii. A representative of the Party elected as a Member or a Minister of a Provincial Council shall contribute ten percent (10%) of his or her monthly salary to the Party Fund.
- viii. A representative of the Party elected as a Member of Parliament shall contribute ten percent (10%) of his or her monthly salary to the Party Fund.
- ix. A representative of the Party appointed as a Minister of Parliament, Deputy Minister, Speaker, or Deputy Speaker shall contribute ten percent (10%) of his or her monthly salary to the Party Fund.
- x. In addition to the above, members of the Party, officers of the Party, and public representatives of the Party shall be bound to provide such contributions or assistance to the Party as may be determined by the Central Working Committee of the Party.

5. Renewal of Membership

- i. Every member shall renew his or her membership for the relevant year by paying the membership fee within the first three (03) months of each year.
- ii. Failure to pay the membership fee within the said three-month period shall result in the cancellation of Party membership.

A person who is not a member of the Party shall, upon signing nomination papers on behalf of the Ape Janabala Party at an election, be deemed to have become a member of the Party.

6. Conditions Applicable to Party Members

- i. Party members shall act in full conformity with the policies of the Party, its political programme, and the discipline of the Party.
- ii. Party members shall act in accordance with the Constitution of the Party.
- iii. At all elections, maximum support shall be extended to the candidate or candidates nominated by the Party.
- iv. Party members shall conduct their personal lives in a moral manner that does not bring disrepute to the Party and shall act in society as exemplary, respectable, and law-abiding Sri Lankan citizens.

7. Rights and Duties of a Party Member

- i. A person who has obtained full membership of the Party shall have the full right to be appointed, in accordance with due procedure, to any office within the Party, from Party membership up to Party leadership.
- ii. Every Party member shall have the right to apply to contest as a candidate of the Party at any election contested by the Party.
- iii. Every member shall have both the right and the duty to act as a representative of the Party, whenever nominated by the Party, in any place and in the discharge of any responsibility.
- iv. Every member shall have the right to submit his or her views in writing to the Chairman of the Party regarding any decisions or actions taken by the higher governing bodies of the Party (the Central Working Committee, the Political Bureau, or the District Organization).
- v. Where the conduct or actions of any officer, official, leader, or leadership of the Party at any level is perceived to be detrimental to the reputation, progress, or common unity of the Party, every member shall have both the right and the duty to bring such matters in writing to the attention of the Party leadership and the Political Bureau of the Party.
- vi. If any member has a proposal which he or she believes to be suitable for the advancement of the Party, such proposal shall, after being submitted to and approved by the Branch Committee represented by him or her, be forwarded to the relevant Electoral Division bodies of the Party, and every member shall have the right to do so.

vii. Further, it shall be the duty of every member at all times to accept the opinion of the majority in a democratic manner and to act with collective responsibility.

viii. When Party members function as members of legislative bodies such as Local Government Authorities, Provincial Councils, and Parliament, it shall be the responsibility of each such representative to safeguard the unity of the Party, collective responsibility, and the good reputation of the Party. Furthermore, they shall act in accordance with the directives and guidance of the Political Bureau of the Party.

Chapter II

1. Structure of the Party

The structure of the Ape Janabala Party shall consist of the following bodies:

- i. Branch Committees
- ii. Youth Committees
- iii. Other Organizations
- iv. Electoral Division Organizations
- v. Electoral District Organizations
- vi. Disciplinary Committee
- vii. Political Bureau
- viii. Central Committee

The functioning of the above organizations shall be as follows:

i. Branch Committees

1. In every Grama Niladhari Division located within an Electoral Division (Electoral Area), at least one Branch Committee of the Party shall be established.
2. A minimum of fifteen (15) members shall be required to establish a Branch Committee. Each such member shall have completed sixteen (16) years of age.
3. Each Branch Committee shall elect an Executive Committee consisting of a Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary, Assistant Secretary, Treasurer, and ten (10) Committee Members.
4. At the time of establishing each Branch Committee, at least the District Leader of the Party or the Constituency Organizer shall participate in the relevant meeting.
5. A complete report of the inaugural meeting of each Branch Committee so established, together with the list of office bearers and two lists containing the names and signatures of members, shall be forwarded to the General Secretary of the Party through the Secretary of the District Organization.
6. The General Secretary of the Party shall, with the approval of the Political Bureau, take steps to register such Branch Committee at the Party Headquarters as a recognized Branch Committee of the Party.

ii. Youth Committees

(a). At least one Youth Committee shall be established in each Grama Seva Division, and a minimum of fifteen (15) members shall be required for such establishment.

(b). Members of a Youth Committee, whether male or female, shall be between the ages of sixteen (16) and thirty-five (35) years.

(c). Each Youth Committee shall elect an Executive Committee consisting of a Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary, Assistant Secretary, Treasurer, and nine (09) Committee Members.

(d). A complete report of the inaugural meeting of each Youth Committee so established, together with details of the Executive Committee and two reports containing the names and signatures of members, shall be forwarded to the General Secretary of the Party through the Secretary of the Party Youth Organization.

(e). Thereafter, the General Secretary of the Party shall register such Youth Committee at the Party Headquarters as a recognized Youth Committee of the Party. For this purpose, the General Secretary shall take steps to obtain the approval of the Political Bureau.

iii. Other Organizations

Introduction

Party Branch Committees, Youth Committees, Student Committees, and Women's Committees may be established within government or private institutions as well as within educational institutions such as universities. However, prior approval of the Political Bureau of the Party shall be obtained for such establishment.

If approval is granted, such committee may also be recognized as a registered committee of the Party by following the procedure applicable for the establishment and registration of any other Branch / Youth / Women's Committee.

Holding Membership in Multiple Branch Committees

1. No member of the Party, whether male or female, shall be entitled to hold membership simultaneously in two committees of the same category.
2. However, a Party member, whether male or female, may hold membership in two different categories of committees (from among Branch, Youth, and Women's Committees) within the same Grama Seva Division.
3. However, if any member holds an office in one Branch Committee, such member shall not be appointed to hold any office in another committee.

iv. Electoral Division Organization and Executive Committee

Introduction

(For the purposes of this Constitution, the term "Electoral Division" refers to the area of authority belonging to an existing Electoral Division.)

1. The Chairman and Secretary of every Branch / Youth / Women's Committee established within an Electoral Division shall, by virtue of their office, hold membership in the relevant Electoral Division Organization.
2. Members of the Party who have been elected as public representatives to local government institutions within the relevant Electoral Division, as well as members of the Party who have been elected to Provincial Councils and who are permanent residents within the Electoral Division, shall, by virtue of their office, hold membership in the Electoral Division Organization.
3. If there is a Member of Parliament of the Party who represents Parliament and is permanently resident within the relevant Electoral Division, such Member of Parliament shall, by virtue of office, represent the said organization and shall hold the position of Chairman of that organization. Such Member of Parliament shall also be the Organizer of the said Electoral Division.
4. In situations where there is no member of the Party representing Parliament within the relevant Electoral Division, the Chairman of the Party shall appoint an Organizer for that Electoral Division. In such circumstances, the appointed Organizer shall, by virtue of office, also be the Chairman of the Electoral Division Organization.

- 5. In addition, where the Political Bureau of the Party so decides, not more than ten (10) members may be appointed as representatives of the Electoral Division Organization. Such appointed persons shall be permanent residents within the relevant Electoral Division, and they shall not be eligible for appointment to the Executive Committee.
- 6. The Electoral Division Organization shall consist of the following Executive Committee.
- 7. The Executive Committee shall include a Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary, Assistant Secretary, Treasurer, and eleven (11) Committee Members.
- 8. This Executive Committee shall function as the Working Committee of the Party within the relevant Electoral Division.

Functions of the Electoral Division Organization

- 1. This organization shall be responsible for carrying out all activities of the Party within the relevant Electoral Division. The organization shall be obliged to fulfill any political requirements of the Party as assigned by the Political Bureau of the Party.
- 2. When the Party contests any election, each Electoral Division Organization shall take steps to provide the services of at least fifteen (15) full-time activists to the Party during the period of two (02) months prior to the election, for the purpose of the Party's election campaign.
- 3. Following the adoption of a resolution of this organization, it shall have the authority to establish a fund for Party activities.
- 4. The Electoral Division Organization shall meet at least once every four (04) months, and the Working Committee of that organization shall meet at least once every three (03) months. A copy of the report of each such meeting shall be forwarded to the Party Headquarters by the Secretary of the relevant organization.
- 5. The Chairman of the Working Committee shall ensure that all members of the Party belonging to the Branch / Youth / Women's Committees within the relevant Electoral Division are duly monitored, and where it is necessary to take action in respect of written complaints received regarding any disciplinary violations committed by such members, the relevant written information is forwarded to the General Secretary of the Party and to the Disciplinary Committee of the Party.
- 6. Where any disciplinary violation or any other act detrimental to the advancement of the Party is alleged against a member of the Working Committee of this organization, or where any other complaint exists, any member shall have the right to forward such complaint to the General Secretary of the Party and to the Disciplinary Committee of the Party.

7. All correspondence issued on behalf of this organization shall be issued by the Secretary of the organization with the approval of the Chairman of the organization (the Organizer of the Electoral Division).

Electoral Division Organizer and Chairman

Introduction

1. The Electoral Division Organizer shall, by virtue of office, also be the Chairman of the Party's Electoral Division Organization.

2. If, within an Electoral Division, there is a Member of Parliament of the Party who is under thirty-five (35) years of age, such Member of Parliament shall, by virtue of office, be elected to the position of Chairman of the Electoral Division Youth Organization in addition to holding the position of Chairman of the Electoral Division Organization. In such circumstances, the Chairman of the Party shall have the authority to make a decision in this regard at his or her discretion.

3. Where more than one Member of Parliament of the Party is permanently resident within an Electoral Division, the Organizer shall be appointed by the Chairman of the Party.

4. The responsibility for conducting, promoting, and managing all activities of the Party within the Electoral Division shall vest in the Organizer.

5. The Organizer of the Electoral Division shall submit a detailed report on the Party activities carried out within the Electoral Division under his or her responsibility to the General Secretary of the Party once every three (03) months.

6. It shall be the responsibility of the Organizer to supervise the activities of the other Party organizations functioning within the Electoral Division (Youth / Women's / Student Organizations) as well as other organizations affiliated to the Party, and to ensure that such activities are conducted in coordination with the overall activities of the Party.

7. In the event that the Electoral Division Organizer is not given the opportunity to contest an election as a candidate, the Organizer shall be obliged to extend full support to the election candidate nominated by the Party.

8. Where an Electoral Division Organizer violates the policies or discipline of the Party, or where it is reasonably believed that his or her conduct is detrimental to the unity of the Party, the ideological cohesion of the Party, or the reputation of the Party, the Chairman of the Party shall have the authority to remove such Organizer. Upon such removal, his or her position as Chairman shall also be terminated.

v. Electoral District Organization

Introduction

1. For the purposes of this Constitution, the term "Electoral District" refers to the electoral area designated under the existing electoral system.
2. Within an Electoral District, the Chairman, Secretary, and Treasurer of the Working Committee of each Electoral Division Organization shall, by virtue of their office, be appointed as members of the Electoral District Organization.
3. Where a Chairman of a Pradeshia Sabha, a Mayor or Deputy Mayor of a Municipal or Urban Council, or a Member of a Provincial Council or a Member of Parliament who is a member of the Party resides within the relevant Electoral District, such person shall, by virtue of office, be a member of the Electoral District Organization.
4. The Chairman of the Party shall appoint a District Organizer for each Electoral District, and such Organizer shall, by virtue of office, also be the Chairman of the Electoral District Organization. The District Organizer so appointed shall be a permanent resident of the relevant Electoral District.
5. For this District Organization, its members shall appoint the following Executive Committee: Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary, Assistant Secretary, Treasurer, and ten (10) Committee Members.
6. This Executive Committee shall be designated as the District Working Committee, and it shall be the principal working body of the Party within the relevant Electoral District.
7. The Secretary of this organization shall be designated as the District Secretary of the Party.

Functions of the Electoral District Organization

1. This organization shall be responsible for directing and carrying out all activities of the Party within the relevant Electoral District. The District Organization shall be obliged to delegate all political requirements assigned by the Political Bureau of the Party to the other subordinate Party organizations functioning within the District, and to ensure proper supervision thereof.
2. Upon the adoption of a resolution by this organization, it shall have the authority to establish a District Fund for Party activities.

3. A complete budget report relating to the funds so established shall be approved annually at a General Meeting of the District Organization, and a copy thereof shall be forwarded to the General Secretary of the Party.

4. Funds belonging to other Electoral Division Organizations functioning within the District may be obtained by the District Organization for common Party requirements. For this purpose, a resolution of the District Organization shall first be adopted, and thereafter such approved resolution shall be forwarded to the Political Bureau of the Party. Upon obtaining the approval of the Political Bureau, the District Secretary shall communicate such approval in writing to every Electoral Division Organization.

5. An Electoral Division Organization shall be bound to act in accordance with such decision, and the District Working Committee shall be obliged to explain to the Electoral Division Organizers the reasons for which such decision was taken.

6. In elections held for Local Government Authorities and elections held for Provincial Councils, the District Working Committee shall have the authority to call for nominations for the selection of Party candidates from the Electoral Division Organizations within the District and from the Party Branch Committees functioning within the District.

7. The District Working Committee shall have the authority to examine such nominations, include the recommendations of its organization, and forward the same to the Party Nomination Committee. In determining the candidates to be presented for such elections, the higher bodies of the Party shall act in a manner that gives due priority to the recommendations of the District Working Committee.

vi. Disciplinary Committee

1. The Disciplinary Committee shall consist of five (05) members, including the Chairman of the Party.

2. In respect of any written complaint made by a Party member or an organization against any Party member, organization, or officer, this Committee shall conduct an inquiry and submit the relevant facts to the Chairman of the Party.

3. The Chairman of the Party shall take a decision in respect of such Party member, officer, or Party organization based on the recommendations so submitted.

4. For the purpose of taking decisions, the presence of the Chairman of the Disciplinary Committee together with at least two (02) members of the Disciplinary Committee shall be required.

vii. Political Bureau

Composition of the Political Bureau

1. The Political Bureau shall consist of seven (07) members.
2. The Chairman of the Party, the General Secretary, the Deputy General Secretary, and the Treasurer shall, by virtue of their office, be members of the Political Bureau.
3. The authority to appoint the remaining three (03) members shall vest in the Chairman of the Party.

Powers and Functions of the Political Bureau

1. Matters relating to the policies of the Party and the political decisions of the Party shall be discussed and decided by this Bureau.
2. At any time when the Political Bureau is of the opinion that the conduct or activities of any officer or member of any organization affiliated to the Party, or of any Branch Committee of the Party, are detrimental to the policies of the Party, Party discipline, the unity of the Party, or the progress of the Party, the Political Bureau shall have the authority to summon such officer or member before the Disciplinary Committee. Upon the Disciplinary Committee submitting its recommendations following its inquiry, the authority to take the final decision in respect of such matter shall vest in the Central Committee.
3. Accordingly, where the activities of any member, officer, or organization are suspended, the Political Bureau of the Party shall propose the necessary decisions required to maintain the continuity of the Party mechanism, and such proposals shall be subject to the approval of the Central Committee.
4. Where the Political Bureau considers that the funds maintained by the lower-level organizations of the Party are required for the common purposes of the Party, it shall have the authority to obtain such funds and utilize them for such common purposes. However, in such instances, the Political Bureau shall be obliged to clearly explain to the relevant lower-level organization the reasons for which such decision was taken.
5. The political direction of the Party, the political philosophy of the Party, and the political decisions of the Party shall be discussed at the Political Bureau.
6. The authority to take decisions regarding all statements, press releases, and participation in radio or television programmes issued on behalf of the Party shall vest in the Political Bureau.

7. When Party members function as representatives in legislative bodies such as Local Government Authorities, Provincial Councils, and Parliament, every such representative shall be responsible for safeguarding the unity of the Party, collective responsibility, and the reputation of the Party without causing any harm. They shall also be responsible for acting in accordance with the guidance and directives of the Political Bureau of the Party.

8. The Political Bureau shall have the authority to refer any public representative who fails to act accordingly or who does not comply with the decisions of the Political Bureau to the Disciplinary Committee.

9. The authority to decide on the raising of funds on behalf of the Party shall vest in the Political Bureau.

Meetings of the Political Bureau

1. The Political Bureau of the Party shall meet at least once every four (04) months.
2. The Chairman of the Party shall preside over such meetings.
3. The Chairman of the Party may convene a meeting of the Political Bureau whenever he or she deems it necessary.

viii. Central Committee

Introduction

The Central Committee shall consist of eight (08) party members in addition to the Party General Secretary.

The following shall be members of the Central Committee by virtue of office:

1. The Party Chairman
2. The Party General Secretary
3. The Deputy General Secretary
4. The Treasurer

The authority to appoint the remaining five (05) members shall vest in the Party Chairman.

Termination of Membership of a Central Committee Member

Where a member acts contrary to the policies of the party, violates party discipline, or conducts himself or herself in a manner detrimental to the progress of the party, the unity of the party, or the reputation of the party, the Party Chairman shall have the authority to remove such member from the Central Committee. Such removal shall be based on the recommendations arising from a formal inquiry conducted by the Disciplinary Committee, following a written complaint submitted to the Disciplinary Committee with the written approval of the Party Chairman.

Powers and Responsibilities of the Central Committee

1. In accordance with the powers vested in the internal organizations of the Jana Bala Party, the Central Committee shall be the supreme body of the party.
2. The Central Committee shall have the final authority to ensure the effective enforcement of the Party Constitution, Standing Orders, rules and regulations, and the disciplinary system applicable to members, and to take necessary actions such as removal from office, suspension, expulsion from the party, and termination of affiliated status, as deemed appropriate.

3. The Central Committee shall have the authority to appoint various boards and committees, including the Nominations Board, as required.
4. Where the conduct or activities of any organization subordinate to the District Political Bodies of the party, or of any member, officer, or representative thereof, are deemed to be contrary to party policies, courses of action, or decisions, or are considered harmful to the party, the Central Committee shall have the authority to temporarily suspend the activities of such organization, member, or representative, and, where the relevant party member is found guilty following a disciplinary inquiry conducted by the Disciplinary Committee, to expel such member.
5. Where the activities of any member or organization are temporarily suspended as aforesaid, the Central Committee shall have the authority to make the necessary arrangements to ensure the continuity of such activities.
6. The Central Committee shall be responsible for appointing an Advisory Council comprising persons with specialized knowledge in various fields, and the duties and functions of such Council shall be determined by the Central Committee.
7. The Central Committee shall have the authority to take the final decision in respect of any proposal submitted by the Political Bureau or any other party body.
8. The Central Committee shall have the authority to amend the name, symbol, colour, address of the party, and other provisions of the Constitution. The approval of a majority of the nine (09) members entitled to vote shall be sufficient, and such decision shall be certified by the signatures of the Party Chairman and the General Secretary.

Meetings and Chairmanship of the Central Committee

1. The Central Committee shall meet at least once every three (03) months.
2. Meetings of the Central Committee shall be convened by the Party General Secretary.
3. At meetings of the Central Committee, the Chair shall be held by the Party Chairman. The General Secretary shall act as the coordinator between the Central Committee of the party and the Political Bureau of the party.
4. Whenever the Party Chairman considers it necessary, he may instruct the General Secretary to convene a meeting of the Central Committee.
5. If a situation arises within the Central Committee where a decision on any matter becomes contentious, a vote shall be taken. At such voting, all members of the Central Committee shall participate.

6. Every decision taken by the Central Committee shall be recorded in writing by the General Secretary, and such decision shall become valid upon being signed by the Party Chairman.

7. The Central Committee shall have no authority to take any decision in the absence of the Party Chairman.

8. However, in an emergency situation, the Party Chairman shall have the authority to take any decision relating to the party together with three (03) members of the Central Committee who possess voting rights.

Chapter III

Other Provisions Relating to Members of the Central Committee and the Political Bureau

Termination of Office

(i) Where any member of the Central Committee or the Political Bureau is deemed to have violated party policies or party discipline, or is found to have acted in a manner detrimental to the progress of the party, the unity of the party, or the reputation of the party, and where such member is found guilty following a disciplinary inquiry conducted by the Disciplinary Committee, the Party Chairman shall have the authority to remove such member from office after the adoption of a resolution submitted to and approved by the Central Committee.

(ii) Where any person, while serving as a member of the Central Committee or the Political Bureau, is convicted by a court of law in respect of a serious criminal offence not relating to a motor vehicle, the Party Chairman shall take action to remove such person from office until such time as he or she is acquitted and discharged on appeal.

Term of Office of Members of the Political Bureau or the Central Committee

(i) Except for the Party Chairman, the term of office of all members of the Central Committee or the Political Bureau shall be seven (07) years.

(ii) At the Party General Convention held within a period of six (06) months prior to the expiry of such term, or thereafter, the names of members who have completed a full term of six (06) years may be re-proposed and approved for reappointment for a further term of seven (07) years.

(iii) If such proposals are not approved by the Party General Convention, the Party Chairman shall, in accordance with the prescribed procedure, take steps to select new members to the Political Bureau or the Central Committee.

Filling of Vacancies

(i) Where a vacancy arises in the Central Committee or the Political Bureau for any reason, the Party Chairman shall, within three (03) days, temporarily appoint a party member to fill such vacancy.

(ii) Thereafter, such person may be appointed as a permanent member upon the adoption of a resolution by the Central Committee.

Chapter IV

Chairman and Principal Office-Bearers of the Ape Janabala Party

1. Party Chairman

(i) Certain powers that may be exercised by the Party Chairman are specified in the chapters of this Constitution. In respect of matters not expressly provided for in this Constitution, the authority to take decisions shall vest in the Party Chairman.

(ii) In the event of the death of the Party Chairman, or if he resigns from office, the Party General Secretary shall convene the Central Committee of the party within one month, and an Acting Chairman shall be appointed by the Central Committee. Such person shall function as the Acting Chairman of the party.

(iii) Thereafter, within a period of six (06) months, the Party General Secretary shall take steps to convene a General Convention of the party, at which a new Party Chairman shall be elected, or the person appointed as Acting Chairman shall be elected as Chairman. Such person shall become the new Party Chairman of the party, and the lifelong leadership privileges enjoyed by the former Party Chairman shall also vest in him.

2. Party General Secretary

(i) The holder of this office shall be appointed by the Party Chairman.

(ii) The Party General Secretary shall have the authority to appoint the Chief Organizer or National Organizer of the party.

(iii) The term of office of the Party General Secretary shall be eight (08) years. Where the General Secretary continues to act continuously in the interests of the progress of the party, the Party Chairman shall have the authority to extend his term of office.

(iv) Where the Party General Secretary resigns, is removed from office, or dies, the Party Chairman shall appoint a General Secretary within seven (07) days.

(v) The Party General Secretary shall convene meetings of the Central Committee of the party and shall preside over such meetings.

- (vi) At every Party General Convention, the General Secretary shall present to the Convention a comprehensive report on the activities of the party up to that time.
- (vii) The responsibility for maintaining proper coordination between the Central Committee of the party and the Political Bureau of the party shall vest in the Party General Secretary.
- (viii) The Party General Secretary shall communicate, in writing and with the signature of the Party Chairman, the decisions of the Political Bureau and the Central Committee to the subordinate bodies of the party.
- (ix) The responsibility for maintaining written reports on the activities of the subordinate bodies of the party shall vest in the Party General Secretary.
- (x) Where it is established that the Party General Secretary acts against the progress of the party, contrary to the Party Constitution, against collective responsibility or unity, or in a fraudulent manner, the Party Chairman shall have the authority to remove such General Secretary and appoint another person to the office of General Secretary.

3. Party Treasurer

- (i) The holder of this office shall be appointed by the Party Chairman. Such appointment shall be approved by a majority vote at the Party General Convention.
- (ii) The Treasurer shall maintain accounts in respect of all party funds and shall present a complete report on party finances to the Party General Convention.
- (iii) Reports relating to all affiliated funds of every subordinate organization of the party shall be submitted to the Political Bureau of the party once every six (06) months.
- (iv) It shall be the responsibility of the Party Treasurer to identify measures to strengthen the party's funds and to submit such proposals to the Political Bureau of the party.
- (v) In order to withdraw monies from the party's current accounts or fixed deposit accounts, the signatures of both the Treasurer and the Chairman shall be required.
- (vi) The approval of the Chairman and the Treasurer shall be sufficient to open a bank account in the name of the party.

Chapter V

General Convention of the Jana Bala Party

1. Party General Convention – Convening / Chair / Time

- (i) The Party General Convention shall be convened once every year.
- (ii) The date on which the Party General Convention is to be held shall be determined by the Central Committee of the party.
- (iii) The Central Committee of the party shall have the authority to convene a Special Party General Convention.
- (iv) The Chair of the Party General Convention shall be held by the Party Chairman.
- (v) The Party General Convention shall be convened by the Party General Secretary in accordance with the decision taken by the Central Committee of the party.
- (vi) Where, at the time of convening the Party General Convention, it is possible to establish the necessary organizational structures within any electoral division or electoral district, the Party Chairman shall have the authority to appoint District Organizers for such districts. After the prescribed organizational network has been established, all such appointments shall be either ratified or new appointments shall be made at the subsequent Party General Convention.

2. Delegates Participating in the Party General Convention

- (i) Members of the Central Committee of the party.
- (ii) Members of the Political Bureau of the party.
- (iii) Five (05) office-bearers from each Electoral District Organization, including the Secretary, Chairman, and Treasurer.

(iv) The Chairman and Secretary of the District Youth Organizations.

(v) The Chairman, Secretary, and Treasurer of the District Women's Organizations.

(vi) Five (05) office-bearers from each affiliated organization of the party, including the Chairman, Secretary, and Treasurer.

(vii) Officers of the Media Committee of the Youth Organization and officers of the Central Committee of the Women's Organization.

(viii) All Electoral Division Organizers and District Organizers.

(ix) Three (03) persons from each Electoral Division Organization, including the Secretary, in addition to the Chairman.

(x) Members of Parliament, Members of Provincial Councils, and Members of Local Government Authorities who are party members.

(xi) Party members.

3. Functions of the Party General Convention

(i) As this Convention is the only forum at which representatives of all sectors of the party assemble, it shall function as the principal platform for wide-ranging discussions on the growth of the party, its direction, its organizations, and its membership, and for fostering ideological unity across all sectors of the party.

(ii) At the Convention, delegates shall take action, where necessary, to appoint the Party Chairman, General Secretary, Deputy General Secretary, and Party Treasurer.

iii. In addition, the delegates of the Convention shall have the authority to adopt any decisions deemed necessary for the growth and development of the party.

iv. The Chairman of the Party shall take steps to explain and clarify to the Party General Convention the decisions taken by the Political Bureau of the Party. In respect of such decisions, every delegate shall have the right to openly express his or her views at the Party General Convention. The Political Bureau of the Party shall be obliged to give due consideration to the views so expressed by the delegates.

Chapter VI

Special Provisions

1. If, in the course of the functioning of party organizations, any problematic situations arise for which the necessary provisions are not included in this Constitution, such situations shall be notified in writing to the Chairman of the Party.

2. The authority to make such notification is vested in the General Secretary of the relevant organization. Within a period of two (02) weeks from the receipt of such written notification, the Chairman of the Party together with the Political Bureau of the Party shall take steps to include the necessary new provisions. In respect of the new constitutional provisions so determined by the Political Bureau of the Party, the General Secretary of the Party shall immediately issue a notification to the Central Committee of the Party and to the other party organizations, and the General Secretary of the Party shall be obliged to provide a full explanation thereof to the Central Committee of the Party.

3. Thereafter, at the ensuing Party General Convention, matters relating to the proposed new provisions shall be presented to the Party General Convention, and the Chairman of the Party shall take steps to obtain the approval of the Party Convention for such provisions. Upon such approval, the new provisions shall be incorporated into the Party Constitution.

4. Where, in the application of any provision stated in this Constitution, a conflicting nature is shown with another provision contained within this same Constitution, the authority to discuss such matter and arrive at conclusions shall vest in the Central Committee of the Party, and the final decision shall be given by the Chairman of the Party.

5. Where any difficulty arises in the interpretation of any clause stated in this Constitution, the authority to interpret and explain the same shall vest in the Central Committee of the Party.

6. Until this constitutional amendment is accepted by the Election Commission, in respect of any election held during such period, the Chairman of the Party shall have the authority to take decisions in accordance with the previous Constitution, in relation to the progress of the Party.

7. This Constitution shall be translated into the English and Tamil languages, and in the event of any inconsistency between such translations and this Constitution, the Sinhala version of this Constitution shall prevail.