

## CONSTITUTION OF THE UP COUNTRY PEOPLE'S FRONT.

- 1) The name of the political party shall be "UP COUNTRYPEOPLES' FRONT".(hereinafter called as "the Front") **Name**
  - 2) The flag of the Political Party shall be horizontal semi red and horizontal semi black respectively. **Flag**
  - 3) The symbol of the said Front is to be selected with consultation of the Commissioner of Elections. **Symbol**
  - 4) The registered head office of the said Front will be situated in the District of Nuwara-Eliya. **Registered Office**
  - 5) The said Front shall be an independent party. Any proposal by the party to amalgamate with any other political party shall be duly endorsed by two third majority of the membership of a delegate's conference. **Political affiliation**
  - 6:1. The said Front shall include and represent all Tamils, Sinhalese, Muslim an all other minorities living in the Up Country. **Objects**
  - 6:2. The said Front shall make every possible attempt for the upliftment of political, economical, social and cultural levels of the persons mentioned in rule 6:1 above.
- The definition of the phrase "every possible attempt" shall be as follows:-
- (a) As the said Front is a democratic and lawful body, it shall use all lawful methods in its struggles.
  - (b) It shall plan out and implement programme within the law. e.g. adult education, self employment opportunity etc.)
- 6:3. The said Front while fighting for the rights and interests of the category of person mentioned in rule 6:1 above shall give more attention to safe guard the interest and rights of the plantation workers.
  - 6:4. The said Front shall bring all the workers, peasants, youths, women and intellectuals in the Up Country under its umbrella.

- 6:5. The said Front recognizes the fact that Sri Lanka is a multinational and multi-religious state and therefore it shall work to achieve national harmony and national unity on the basis of parity.
- 6:6. The said Front shall nominate candidates to stand for the parliamentary, provincial and Local Government elections whenever held in the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka.
- 7:1. All persons born and/ or permanently residing in the Up Country and working for the rights and interest of the Up country people shall become member of the said Front. The age limit to such member shall be over Eighteen years of age.
- 7:2. The category of the persons mentioned in rule 7:1 shall make an application for membership to the Secretary General of the said Front through the District Secretary .The Secretary General shall submit such application to the Central Committee. The Central Committee .The Central Committee reserves the rights to accept or reject any application without any reason being assigned for such rejection.
- 7:3. The Central Committee shall take into consideration of the political and social engagement, honesty and integrity of the individual making an application as the criterion for the acceptance of membership in the said Front.
- 7:4. There shall be no permanent or honorary membership in the said Front.
- 7:5. All person holding membership in the said Front shall have the right to elect a suitable candidate, or to be elected to any one of the posts in the said Front.
- 7:6. All Central Committee members of the Organizations coming under the said Front shall be members of the said Front.

v

## **Membership**

7:7. No persons holding membership in other Organizations can become members of the said Front.

(a) Other Organization means, all political parties, and politically affiliated Trade Unions which do not come under the said Front. Non-political organizations, Sports Clubs. Youth Clubs and cultural associations are exempted from the above restrictions,

7:8. Members of the said Front shall abide by all objects and restrictions of the said Front.

7:9. Disciplinary action shall be taken by the Central Committee against any member who is proved to have been guilty of breaches of this constitution, and willfully or deliberately fails to execute any decision of the said Front.

7:10. The Central Committee shall have the right to forfeit the membership of persons mentioned in Rule 7:9 above.

**Fines  
and  
Forfeitures**

7:11. No fines shall be imposed on the members.

## **PART II**

### **8. LIST OF MEMBERS:**

The Secretary General shall be responsible for the maintenance of an up-to date with the assistance of the organizing Secretary who shall be elected by the Central Committee.

### **9. INSPECTION OF BOOKS**

The list of members and Account Books shall be made available for inspection by any member of the said Front, provided one month's notice is given in writing to the Secretary General.

### **10. MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTION**

10:1. The membership subscription shall be Rupees Five (Rs.5/=) per annum.

10:2. All wing organizations functioning under the said Front shall pay One Third of their total subscriptions to the said Front.

- 10:3. Any member fails to attend three consecutive party meetings shall be deemed to have been ceased to be a member of the said Front.

### **PART III**

#### **11. DELEGATES' MEETINGS**

- 11.1. The Delegates Session of Delegate Conference shall be held once in three years before end of the month of March.
- 11.2. The rights of postponing a Delegate Session owing to inevitable Circumstances shall be vested in the Council of the said Front. In such a situation, the Central Committee shall be summoned within a month for the purpose of obtaining approval.
- 11.3. The President and Secretary General of the said Front shall inform all the regional Secretaries in writing of the reason for postponing the Delegates' sessions.
- 11.4. The delegates session so postponed, it shall be summoned before the end of June of the same year.
- 11.5. Only the expanded Central Committee of the said Front shall have the right of postponing the delegates' session to another date, if the session could not be summoned in the month of June.
- 11.6. The Secretary General shall give minimum one month's notice to the delegates conference under special circumstances, or during emergency notice for sessions could be given one week before the scheduled date.
- 11.7. The quorum for the delegates session shall be One Third of the total delegates elected.
- 11.8. The decision of the delegates' session in connection with policies, administration and discipline shall be final and conclusive. The delegates shall determine the political, organizational and administrative lines of the said Front.
- 11.9. Members for the delegates' sessions shall be elected as follows:-
- (a). One delegate for every Five Hundred (500) members
  - (b). All Presidents and Secretaries of the District Committees of the said Front.
  - ©. All Central Committee members of the organizations functioning under the said Front: and
  - (d) The Central Committee members of the said Front.

**Delegates  
Sessions**

**Postponement  
of delegates  
Sessions**

11:10. The President, Secretary General, Vice Presidents, Assistant Secretaries, Financial Secretary and other Central Committee members of the said Front shall be elected at the delegates' sessions.

11:11. Office bearers for the District and Regional Committees shall be elected before One and Half ( $1\frac{1}{2}$ ) months and One (1) month of the holding of the delegates sessions respectively

Election  
Officials

of

A special delegates conference shall be held on the written request of the President or on a written requisition signed by not less than half plus one ( $1/2+1$ ) delegates, or Central Committee members, giving 2 months notice to the Secretary General. The Secretary General shall convene a

## 12. SPECIAL SESSIONS (DELEGATES):

Special delegate's conference giving the objects for same within two months of such request. No other matters shall be discussed at this meeting. The quorum for any special general meeting shall be the same as for the annual delegates' conference.

## 13. EXPANDED CENTRAL COMMITTEE

13:1. The expanded Central Committee shall take decisions on all crucial matters during the period the delegates' sessions cannot be held, and between the period determined to hold the delegates' sessions.

13:2. The Central Committee members, district committee leaders, regional committee presidents and regional committee secretaries shall represent this committee.

13:3. The expanded Central Committee shall meet within 24 hours of notice in case of emergency.

13:4. The quorum for the expanded Central Committee shall be  $\frac{1}{2}+1$  (Half plus one) of the total members.

Expanded  
Central  
Committee

## 14. CENTRAL COMMITTEE

14:1. All decision of the delegates' sessions and expanded Central Committee shall be implemented by the Central Committee which shall have not more than Twenty Seven (27) members. (The members shall be determined at the delegates session.)

Central  
Committee

(Page-14:2. The Central Committee shall elect the candidates to contest any elections as mentioned in rule 6:6 and nominate to any government body and decide portfolio and positions to be accepted by such nominee.

- 14:3. The President, Vice Presidents, Secretary General, Financial Secretary of the said Front, elected Representatives of the wing organizations (Which has minimum Two Thousand Five Hundred (2500) members shall elect one Representative ) functioning under the said Front, District Committee Secretaries and the members elected by the delegates' sessions shall constitute this body.
- 14:4. The Central Committee shall meet minimum once in three months in the last week of the third month or as often as occasion demands with one week written notice. In case of emergency it shall be summoned with twenty four hours notice.
- 14:5. The date for the Central Committee meeting shall be decided by the council of the Central Committee.
- 14:6. The Secretary General shall summon a Central Committee meeting when half plus One members of the Central Committee makes a written request to do so. If the Secretary General and the Council fail to summon such meeting the Central Committee has the power to elect a representative from the Central Committee to summon the meeting of the Central Committee.
- 14:7. The quorum of the Central Committee shall be Half plus on ( $1/2 + 1$ ) of the total members

## **15. COUNCIL**

**Council**

- 15.1. The council shall be constituted of the President, Secretary, General Financial Secretary and two vice presidents.
- 15.2. The council shall implement all decisions of the central Committee and it shall meet minimum once in a month with one week written notice. In emergency situation a notice of twenty four hours shall be sufficient.

- 15.3. The quorum for the council meeting shall be two third of the total members, It shall be the procedure that all members shall attend to the meeting.
- 15.4. In the event of failure a attend to the meeting referred to in article 15.3 owing to unavoidable circumstances, the members shall be entitled to transmit his opinion for consideration in writing to the Secretary General within twenty four (24) hours of the adjournment of proceeding of such meeting. In such circumstances any decision taken by the Council during his absence shall be reviewed immediately or at the next meeting, if the view of such absentee is inconsistent with that decision arrived at.

## **16. DISCIPLINARY COMMISSION**

## **Disciplinary Commission**

- 16.1. There shall be a three member's commission elected at the delegates' sessions from the list of names submitted by the Central Committee.
- 16.2. The commission shall strictly observe the implementation of the disciplinary code of conduct adopted by the delegates' session.
- 16.3. The Commission shall have the right to conduct inquiry into the complaint made against any member, and make recommendations to the Central Committee for suitable action or punishment, and also to grant any relief to the aggrieved party.
- 16.4. The commission shall have the right to appoint a subcommittee from the Central Committee members to inquire into complaints made.
- 16.5. Any person shall make his complaint to the disciplinary commission. similarly complaints against the members of the disciplinary commission shall be made to the central Committee.
- 16.6. The Central Committee shall take into consideration the recommendation made by the disciplinary commission on the subsequent meeting. If the disciplinary commission considers any matter is of a serious nature, it has the right to request the Central Committee to convene its meeting within 48 hours from such request.

- 16.7. If the Central Committee is unable to arrive at a decision of the recommendation made by the disciplinary commission, such matters shall be referred to the expanded Central Committee and the decision of the Expanded Central Committee is final in regard.
- 16.8. All allegations against the disciplinary commission shall be forwarded to the Central Committee through the Secretary General. The Central Committee may appoint a subcommittee to inquire such complaints.

## **17 DISTRICT COMMITTEE**

### **District Committee**

- 17.1. The administrative district limit shall be determined by the Central Committee with the consultation of the District Committee, and the delegates session shall have the right to settle disputes with regard to the limitation of the administrative district between the District Committee and the Central Committee.
- 17.2. The District Committee shall be comprised of a maximum of eleven(11) elected members, inclusive of the President, Vice President, Secretary Assistant Secretary and Treasurer. The District Committee Secretary shall automatically become a Central Committee member.
- 17.3. The District Committee shall meet in the third week of each month, and discuss all problems and new proposal shall be forwarded to the Central Committee through the council.
- 17.4. The District Committee shall forward its monthly report to the Secretary General within a week from the date of the meeting held.
- 17.5. Each District Committee shall be responsible for all planning, plan implementation, Financial Planning, socio-economic and political affairs of the area coming under its purview.
- 17.6. The District Committee shall take into consideration all recommendations and opinions made by the regional committee and shall function as a bridge between the regional committee and the Central Committee.
- 17.7. One of the Central Committee members shall represent the first meeting convened to elect the members to the District Committee and attest the election of the members to the District Committee.

17.8. Each meeting of the District Committee shall be duly notified to the Secretary General minimum three days prior to the meeting. Any member of the Central Committee shall attend this meeting, but will not have the right of voting. It shall be the normal procedure of sending a Central Committee member to the District Committee meetings.

17.9. The Secretary of the District Committee shall notify the date of its meeting to the members of the District Committee minimum five days prior to such meeting and it shall be duly informed to the Secretary General.

17.10. The quorum of the District Committee meeting shall be one third of its members.

## **18. REGIONAL COMMITTEE**

## **Regional Committee**

18.1. In keeping with the recommendation made by the District Committee the Central Committee shall delimit the administrative area of the region.

18.2. The Regional Committee shall meet in the second or third week of each month and submit its findings and proposals to the Secretary of the District Committee minimum five days before the District Committee meeting.

18.3. Each Regional Committee shall be responsible for the social and political activities and financial planning affairs of its region.

18.4. The Regional Committee shall obtain necessary directions from the District Committee. The Regional Committee shall have its communications with the Central Committee through the District Committee.

18.5. The Regional Committee shall comprise of a President, a Vice President, Secretary, Assistant Secretary, Treasurer and 1 to 9 members of the Committee.

18.6. During the course of election to the Regional Committee the President or the Secretary of the District Committee or the President or Secretary of another District Committee shall be authorized by the Central Committee to be present at the meeting.

18.7. The Secretary of the Regional Committee shall notify the date of the meeting to the members of Regional Committee minimum five days before such meeting and it shall be duly informed to the Secretary of the District Committee.

18.8. The members of the Central Committee and District Committee shall have the right to attend to the Regional Committee meetings, but having no voting rights.

## 19. WING ORGANISATIONS

### Wing Organizations

19.1. The said Front shall have the following organizations as its wing organizations under its direct supervision.

(a).The workers' trade union called as UP COUNTRY WORKERS' FRONT".

(b).The teachers' trade union called as UP COUNTRY TEACHER' FRONT".

(c). "UP COUNTRY YOUTH FRONT" for the youths

(d). "UP COUNTRY WOMEN FRONT" for the women: and,

(e). "UP COUNTRY SOCIAL AND CULTURAL FRONT" for cultural activities etc.

19.2. These wing organization shall have their own constitution in compliance with the constitution of the said Front and shall function independently

19.3. These organizations have the right to form self administrative committees in compliance with the objects and directions of the Front.

19.4. These organizations shall elect their officials in accordance with their own constitutions. However, the General Secretaries of these organizations shall be selected from the list of names recommended by the Central Committee of the said Front.

### Minutes

20. The Secretary General shall be responsible for recording of the minutes of all meetings and to have them read and confirmed at the next such meeting.

### Voting

21. Voting at all meeting shall be show of hands except where secret balloting is demanded by a majority of the members present at the particular meeting.

**PART IV**

**(RESPONSIBILITIES OF OFFICERS)**

**PRESIDENT.**

- 22.1. The President shall be elected at the Delegates' Session and he shall be the President of the Central Committee and the Council, too.
- 22.2. The most important post of the said Front shall be the President.
- 22.3. The President shall be responsible for all activities of the said Front and the President shall supervise the works of all officials of the said Front, and if necessary he shall take suitable disciplinary action with the consent of the Council.

**23. SECRETARY GENERAL**

**Secretary  
General**

- 23.1. The Secretary General shall be next in command to the President
- 23.2. It shall be the duty of the Secretary General to summon meetings of the Central Committee, council and Delegates' conference and also to prepare agenda and reports.
- 23.3. The Secretary General shall be in charge of all activity of the said Front next to President and he shall be responsible for the discharge of all legal duties. He shall appoint sub committees with the permission of the Central Committee to fulfill the task.
- 23.4. The Secretary General shall be elected at the Delegates' Sessions.

**24. FINANCIAL SECRETARY**

**Financial  
Secretary**

- 24.1. The Financial Secretary shall be elected at the Delegates Sessions. He shall be responsible for all financial affairs. He shall maintain an up-to-date account for the inspection of the members at any time.
- 24.2. He shall be responsible for the operation of the Financial Administrative of the said Front together with the President and Secretary General.
- 24.3. He shall be responsible for the financial administrative of the wing organization.

**President**

## **25 VICE PRESIDENTS.**

- 25.1. The Vice President shall be elected at the Delegates Sessions of the said Front.
- 25.2. It shall be the duty of the Vice Presidents to complete the task or responsibilities assigned by the President, and to be of assistances to the General Secretaries of the wing organizations.
- 27.8. All cheques shall be signed by the President or General Secretary and Financial Secretary.

**Vice  
Presidents**

## **26 GENERAL SECRETARIES.**

- 26.1. General Secretary of the wing organization and the Vice President of the said Front shall be responsible for each wing organization on behalf of the Central Committee of the said Front.
- 26.2. It shall be the duty of the General Secretaries of the wing organizations to direct all functions of their organizations in accordance with the constitution of the said Front efficiently and effectively.
- 27.1. The general funds of the said Front shall be utilized only in furtherance of the objects set out in rule 6.
- 27.2. There shall be a Financial Administrative committee appointed by the Central Committee headed by the Financial Secretary. An Accountant appointed by the Central Committee shall be a member of this Committee.
- 27.3. The Financial Administrative Committee shall have the power to call for special contributions as and when necessary with the approval of the Central Committee.
- 27.4. The Financial Secretary shall submit the audited financial report of the financial year on or before the end of December to the Central Committee. The auditor shall be appointed by the Central Committee annually and the reports shall be submitted at the Delegates' Sessions.

**General  
Secretaries**

**Funds &  
Financial  
Administration**

- 27.5. All funds and money received by the members of the said Front shall be accounted by the Financial Secretary and duly audited. No funds shall be raised for the activities of the said Front without the prior approval of the Central Committee with a list signed by the President, Secretary General and the Financial Secretary.
- 27.6. Any violation of the above mentioned clause 27.5 by any member of the said Front or any person shall be dealt with accordance with the existing law of the Country.
- 27.7. Receipts shall be issued by the Financial Secretary for all payments made to the said Front.
- 27.9. The Financial Administrative Committee shall deal with the Financial Administrative of the said Front and the wing organization.
- 27.10. The account of the said Front shall be operated with the reputed Bank in Sri Lanka.
- 27.11. The Financial Secretary shall have in his possession a sum of Rupees Two Thousand (Rs.2000/=) at the time as petty cash and all other money shall be deposited with the Bank duly authorized by the Central Committee.
- 28.1. Minimum three Trustees from among the members of the Central Committee shall be elected by the Central Committee. All properties whether movable or immovable shall be vested in the Trustees and they shall deal with it in the manner directed by the Central Committee.
- 28.2. The seal of the Front shall not be affixed to any instrument whatsoever except in the presences of two members of the Trustee who shall sign their names in taken of their presence and such signing shall be independent of the signing of any person as a witness.
- 28.3. The said Front shall take and hold any property, movable or immovable which may be vested in it by virtue of any purchase, grant gift testamentary disposition or otherwise and all such property shall be held by the said Front. The said Front subject to the rules in force shall have full power to sell, mortgage, lease, exchange or otherwise dispose of same with the written consent of the Central Committee.

**Trustees**

## **29 REMOVALS OR RESIGNATION.**

### **Removal/ Resignation of members**

- 29.1. No council members shall be removed from office except on a resolution passed by the Delegates' Session attended by minimum two third of the total delegates. However, the Central Committee shall have the power to suspend any council member or to bring his case for further action or ratification to a Delegates Sessions.
- 29.2. A vacancy created due to death, removal of a member or resignation duly accepted by the Central Committee, such post shall be filled temporarily by the Central Committee.

## **30. UNAVOIDABLE ABSENCE.**

- 30.1. If any member holding a office in the said Front is unable to discharge his duties for over three months owing to unavoidable circumstances beyond his control, he may be granted leave with pay on the decision of the Central Committee, if it deems necessary to do so.
- 30.2. Any vacancy shall be filled temporarily by the Council until such time the officer concerned could resume duties physically, and the substitute officer appointed by the council shall act on behalf of him during his absence.
- 30.3. If the President, Secretary General or the Financial Secretary is unable to perform his duties due to unavoidable circumstances beyond his duties due to unavoidable circumstances beyond his control he shall have the right to nominate a Central Committee member to substitute his place until he resume duties.
- 30.4. In a situation where the official recommendation could not be obtained from the absentee, an acting officer may be appointed from the members of the Central Committee by the Central Committee to hold office until his recommendation is obtained.
- 30.5. If the council is unable to function over three months owing to unavoidable circumstance, the Central Committee shall appoint an action committee temporarily to hold office until the council resumes duties.

### **31. DISSOLUTION OF THE FRONT.**

- 31.1. The said Front shall be dissolved once the entire members of the Central Committee tender their resignation and a decision of dissolution is signed by all of them and such decision has to be notified to the District Committees.
- 31.2. It shall be considered as the said Front being dissolved on a two third majority of votes polled for such proposal at the Delegates Sessions.
- 31.3. After the dissolution of the said Front, all documents and relevant papers shall be made available for the inspection of the members.
- 31.4. All assets of the said Front shall be handed over to the five member committee, mentioned above appointed by the Central Committee or Delegates' Sessions have to be preserved and donated to a social services organization after settling the liabilities of the said Front. The Central Committee or Delegates' Sessions shall decide the social organization to which the assets of the Front should be donated after dissolution.

**Dissolution**

### **31 RESTRICTIONS**

**Restriction**

The said Front shall have no patron.

32. The singular shall include the plural and vice versa and any gender shall include all other genders.

Dated: On this Fourth day of March, One Thousand Nine Hundred and Eighty Nine.  
(Date of adoption of the Rules).

**SECRETARY GENERAL**

## **Amendments to the constitution of the Up-Country People's Front**

The following amendments to the constitution of the Up-Country People's Front resolved and adopted at the central committee of Up-Country People's Front on the 19<sup>th</sup> October 2010.

### **Delegates Meetings**

**Rule no 11.10- shall be amended to read**

The President, Political Leader, Secretary General, Financial Secretary, National Organizer, Vice Presidents, Assistant Secretaries, and other central committee members of the said front shall be elected at the delegates' session.

### **Central Committee.**

**Rule no 14.3 - shall be amended to read.**

The president, Political Leader, Secretary General, Financial Secretary, National Organizer, Vice Presidents, Assistant Secretaries, of the said front, elected representatives of the wing organizations (which has Two thousand five hundred members (2500/=) shall elect one representative) functioning under the said front, District committee Secretaries and the members elected by the delegates sessions, shall constitute this body.

### **Council**

**Rule-15. 1- Shall be amended to read.**

The council shall be constituted of the President, Political Leader, Secretary General, Financial Secretary, National Organizer, Vice Presidents and Assistant Secretaries.

### **Responsibilities of officers**


#### **President**

**Rule 22.1 - shall be amended to read.**

The President shall be elected at the delegates' session; he shall be the president of the central Committee and the council. If necessity arises the central committee will elect a "Political Leader" too. These two posts shall be considered parallel and important.

**Rule no .22.2. Will be deleted Rule no 22.3 become 22.2. and shall read as follows:**

Both President and political leader shall be responsible, for all activities of the said front and both shall supervise the work of all the officials of the front, with mutual understating and in crucial matters, they shall discuss the council and take decision with concurrence of the council.

  
**Prof. S. Viji Sandiran**  
Secretary General  
Up-Country People's Front  
No.88/2, Dunbar Road,  
Hatton.