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PURAVASI PERAMUNA
CONSTITUTION
2000

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CHAPTER 1

THE PARTY

1. I - The Party will be non communal, non sectarian, pluralist and social democratic; it will be unswervingly committed to national independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity, democracy, equality, poverty eradication, law and order and discipline; and it shall be called:

- A) Puravasi Peramuna
- B) Prajaygal Munnani
- C) The Citizens Front

1.II - 'Omnibus' will be the symbol of the Party and Orange will be the colour of the Party.

CHAPTER 2

OBJECTIVES OF THE PARTY

- 2.I - Organise and maintain a Party in the Parliament and the country with the view to gaining power at Presidential, Parliamentary, Provincial Council, Local Government and all other elections.
- 2.II - Endeavour to safeguard the national independence, sovereignty and the territorial integrity of Sri Lanka and the country's democratic system based on regular multi-party elections; promote equality and human rights and humane values; respect pluralism and multiculturalism; and work towards comprehensive and qualitative development of the country, with particular emphasis on poverty eradication.
- 2.III - Preparing a Manifesto containing a National Development Plan for Sri Lanka on the basis of the 'Peoples Plan for National Development'.
- 2.IV - Implement the principles approved by the Party Convention and the policies and Programme contained in the manifesto.
- 2.V - Promote the political education of the people and their political, social and economic emancipation on the basis of social democratic principles and values; promote universal franchise, recognition of the fundamental political, economic and social rights of the people and acceptance of equal rights and opportunities of all citizens of the country without exception.

CHAPTER 3

MEMBERSHIP AND ORGANISATION

3.I - Membership:

A) All Sri Lankans over 15 years of age will be entitled to join the Party on the acceptance of the conditions set out in 3.V and will pay the membership fees prescribed by the Party. The membership will be valid for a period of twelve months from the day of enrolment and will have to be renewed annually.

B) Such members will be entitled to be elected to the governing bodies of the Party and to hold office in the Party. They will also be entitled to join the affiliated organisations of the Party so long as they comply with the rules of that Association.

3.II - Local Associations:

A) District Balamandalaya, Electoral Division Organisations, Grameeya Branches, Youth Branches and Women's Branches and other Affiliated Organisations of the Party shall be registered on payment of the prescribed fee to the General Treasurer of the Party. Such registration shall be subject to the approval of the Constitution of such organisation by the Party Working Committee.

B) a - Party members residing in each Grama Niladhari Division may join together to form a Grameeya Branch which shall consist of a minimum of 20 members.

b - Party members aged below 35 residing in a Grama Niladhari division may join together to form a Youth Branch which shall consist of a minimum of 15 members.

c - Women party members residing in a Grama Niladhari division may join together to form a Women's Branch consisting of a minimum of 15 members.

d - Notwithstanding the provisions contained in -b- and -c- of this sub section, the Party Working Committee will have the discretion to approve the registration of such Associations referred to in -a- -b- and -c- above covering areas other than Grama Niladhari division.

e - All Grameeya Branches within an electoral division in an electoral district shall form into an Electoral Division Organisation.

f - All the local associations mentioned above should each have the following office bearers: Chairperson, two vice chairpersons, secretary, asst secretary, treasurer, asst treasurer and patrons not exceeding 4 in number.

3.III - District Balamandalaya:

A) There shall be a District Balamandalaya in each electoral district which has to be duly registered. The District Balamandalaya will manage the affairs of the Party in the electoral district in terms of the Constitution approved by the Party Working Committee.

d

B) The Chairman, Deputy Chairmen, General Secretary or the National Organiser of the Party shall preside at the annual convention of the District Balamandalayas.

C) Notwithstanding any provision contained herein the Party Working Committee shall have the power to dissolve any District Balamandalaya, polling division organisation or main association.

3.IV - Affiliated Members:

A) Trade unions which have received the approval of the Party Working Committee for membership and have paid their annual Association Membership fee prescribed by the Party to the General Treasurer of the Party .

B) Professional Organisations which share the objectives of the Party as mentioned in Chapter 2 with a minimum membership of 25 and has the approval of the Party Working Committee and have paid their respective annual Association Membership fees prescribed by the Party to the General Treasurer of the Party.

C) Affiliated members shall enjoy the same rights and status as Registered Grameeya Branches of the Party.

D) The Party Working Committee will decide how many members an affiliated association may send to the Party Convention or Session according to the number of members in such Association. The total number of delegates from all Trade Unions shall not exceed 100 and from other affiliated organisations shall not exceed 10.

3.V Conditions of Membership:

A) A person who accepts the membership of the Party agrees to:

a - accept the principles, policies, programme and the Code of Conduct of the Party;

b - conform to the Constitution and the Standing Orders of the Party;

c - support the candidates nominated by the Party to the fullest extent possible and cease from supporting rival candidates; nor should they contest against any candidate nominated by the Party: if the Party has not nominated a candidate the Party Working Committee will have authority to decide the attitude to be adopted by the members who will be duty bound to follow such directions;

d - refrain from participating from any activity which are/might be in contradiction to the above undertakings and not to bring the Party into disrepute;

e - all affiliated organisations of the Party must accept and agree to conform to the above undertakings and submit their political rules to the Working Committee for approval.

CHAPTER 4

PARTY CONVENTION

4.I - A) The inaugural Party Convention shall be held within a period of one year from the 15th of February; this period from the 15th of February until the holding of the inaugural Convention will be deemed 'the interim period'. The provisions concerning this time period are contained in Chapter 15 of the Constitution.

B) After that the Party Convention shall be held once a year. The National Executive Committee and the National Working Committee shall have the right to call for an additional Party Convention if circumstances so warrant it.

C) The work of the party will be carried out under the direction and control of the Party Convention subject to the Constitution and Standing Orders of the Party and subject to clauses contained in Chapter 15.

D) The Party Convention shall have the power to amend the constitution, Standing Orders and Rules affecting the activities of the Party by way of addition, alteration or deletion.

4.II - **Delegates to the Party Convention:**

A) The Convention shall be constituted of the following:

a - A registered Electoral Division organisation in consultation with its Grameeya Branches, Women's Branches, Youth Branches may send in such number of delegates as is decided by the Party Working Committee. All such delegates should be bona fide members of the Branch by which s/he is appointed.

b - A District Balamandalya shall send a number of delegates as is decided by the Party working Committee.

c - Delegates from Affiliated Associations in terms of 3 IV - D.

d - Office Bearers and other members of the National Executive Committee.

e - Members of the Party in Parliament, Provincial Councils and all Local Government authorities.

f - All delegates shall be members of the Party and must have paid the annual membership fee prescribed by the Party; any one who has violated the conditions set out in 3.V should not be appointed as a delegate.

g - No person may act as delegate for two appointing bodies or Associations.

CHAPTER 5

OFFICE BEARERS

5.1 - Leadership Council

A) The Party shall be bound by the principle of collective leadership and have a Leadership Council consisting of the Chairman, the two Deputy Chairmen, the General Secretary and the National Organiser.

B) The Leadership Council shall be elected by the National Executive Committee from among its members by way of a secret ballot and approved by the Party Convention, subject to 15.II (i.e. during the 'interim period').

C) The President and the Prime Minister of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka if they happen to be members of the Party shall also become ex-officio members of the Leadership Council.

D) The Party members elected as Parliamentarians, Provincial Councillors or members of the Local Government Authorities singly and together shall be bound by the orders and directives issued by the Leadership Council.

E) The members of the Leadership Council shall have the right to attend, address, and vote at any meeting of the Party, including the Parliamentary Group of the Party.

F) If a vacancy occurs in the Leadership Council it shall be filled by the National Working Committee and be subject to the approval at the next Annual Convention, subject to 15.II (i.e. during the 'interim period').

5.II - The Leadership Council shall be the apex body of the Party with the following duties and responsibilities:

A) Implementing the powers and functions enshrined in the Party Constitution.

B) Fulfilling the duties and responsibilities delegated to it by the Party Convention, National Executive Committee and the National Working Committee.

C) Nominating electoral organisers subject to the ratification of the National Working Committee.

D) Nominating National List members of the Parliament in accordance with the number eligible based on the results of the General Election.

5.III - The National Executive Committee in consultation with the Leadership Council shall appoint the General Treasurer, two Assistant Secretaries, Assistant Treasurer of the Party, subject to 15.IV (i.e. during the 'interim period').

5.IV - A Council of Eminent Persons consisting of Sri Lankan citizens of outstanding achievement and service to the country shall be formed to function in the capacity of an advisory body to the Leadership Council. This council shall be appointed by the Leadership Council subject to the ratification of the Party Working Committee, subject to 15.VI (i.e. during the 'interim period').

5.V - The General Secretary shall be the chief administrative officer of the Party as per the Constitution and under the general direction of the Leadership Council. He shall also be responsible for matters connected with the conduct of Party meetings including the Party Convention, National Executive Committee, National Working Committee and the Leadership Council.

CHAPTER 6

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (NEC)

6.I - The National Executive Committee (NEC) shall consist of members elected by the Party Convention from among the delegates, except for 15% of the total membership which shall be nominated by the Leadership Council to ensure greater representation for all communities and professionals. It shall consist of a minimum of 100 and a maximum of 250 members. It shall meet at least once in six months and will be subject to renewal annually.

6.II) Duties and responsibilities:

A) Enforcing the Constitution, Standing Orders and Rules and the Code of Conduct of the Party; taking suitable disciplinary action against any member or office bearer (including members of the Leadership Council, singly or collectively), Organisation or Association if he/they/it violate the above. Any such action will be reported to the next Annual Convention of the party.

B) Conferring with the Parliamentary party at the opening of each Parliamentary session or at any other time when it or the Parliamentary Party desires a Conference on a matter relevant to the Party.

C) Ensure that all its officers and members confirm to the Constitution and Standing Orders of the Party.

D) Convening the Party Convention and Special Sessions of the Convention when necessary; preparing the Agenda of the Convention and presenting the Progress Report of the Party during its year in office.

6.III All of the above powers and functions vested with the NEC can be delegated either by one resolution or several to the Working Committee which may, if necessary re-delegate all or some of these powers and functions to the Leadership Council.

6.IV - The NEC shall have the power to initiate disciplinary action against any member of the Party for inquiry in to the breach of the Party Constitution and other Rules of Conduct enacted. As a preliminary procedure it shall appoint a disciplinary committee from among the members of the National Working Committee to conduct such inquiries and to reach decisions based on such inquiries and such decisions shall be final and conclusive. If any member of the party requested to appear before such a disciplinary committee by registered letter fails to attend the meeting of the disciplinary committee on the designated date without assigning any reasons for such failure, s/he will be deemed to have accepted the allegations made against him/her. If a disciplinary committee decides after such an inquiry to expel a Party member who is a member of Parliament, Provincial Council or a Local Government body, its decision shall be communicated to the Commissioner of Elections as well as the Secretary General of Parliament and other relevant authorities, as the case may be, for the removal of such member from the relevant elected body.

CHAPTER 7

NATIONAL WORKING COMMITTEE (NWC)

7.I - National Working Committee (NWC) shall be appointed by the NEC from among its members, in such a way as to ensure representation by all districts, subject to 15.V (i.e. during the interim period).

7.II - Members of the Leadership Council and the General Treasurer of the Party shall be ex-officio members of the National Working Committee.

7.III - The NWC shall consist of a minimum of 30 and a maximum of 45 members and shall have the authority to exercise the powers and the functions vested in it by the NEC.

7.IV The Chairpersons of the National Youth League and the National Women’s League shall also be ex-officio members of the NWC.

7.V - The NWC shall have the power to fill up the vacancies in the respective Committees or offices. Members so selected shall hold office till the next annual convention.

7.VI - The NWC shall have the power to nominate Party members to fill any vacancies in any elected body created by the demise, resignation, expulsion of a Party member who is elected/nominated to such a body, in compliance with the relevant Acts which govern such nominations.

7.VII - The NWC shall have the authority to delegate at its meetings all or individual powers vested in it, to the Leadership Council.

7.VIII - Duties and responsibilities:

- A) Proposing any amendment to the Party Constitution, Standing Orders or Rules and the Code of Conduct of the Party; subjecting these to the regular/special Party Convention; submitting all Resolutions, Declarations affecting policies and programmes of the Party.
- B) Organising and maintaining a Fund to finance Party activities including electoral work.
- C) Adjudicating in any dispute arising between various Party bodies and affiliated organisations with its decision being binding on all parties to the dispute.
- D) Appointing Nomination Board/s to select candidates for elections and issuing general/special directives to such Board/s with the aim of furthering the interests of the Party.
- E) Appointing a sub-committee to organise Party's electoral activities and to render all possible assistance to the Party candidates.
- F) Nominating the Party's candidate for the Presidential election and selecting Chief Ministerial and Mayoral candidates.
- I) Appointing an Auditor.
- J) Selecting the members of the Leadership Council (Party's Chairman, the two Deputy Chairmen, the General Secretary, the National Organiser) and all other office bearers, from among its members by way of a secret ballot, subject to 15.II and 15.IV (i.e. during the interim period).
- K) Taking all necessary steps to achieve the objectives of the Party including the appointment of special or emergency committees to the effect.

CHAPTER 8

ELECTIONS

8.I - The National Working Committee shall nominate the Party's candidate for the Presidential election, subject to ratification by a Special Party Convention.

8.II - The Nominations Board/s appointed by the NWC whenever necessary shall be in consultation with the Leadership Council. The NWC in consultation with the Leadership Council shall nominate candidates for Parliamentary, Provincial Council and Local Government elections.

8.III - All such selected candidates shall give a pledge to be faithful to the objectives of the Party and abide by the rule and regulations of the Party, if he is elected. The NWC will take necessary

disciplinary actions against all those who violate this pledge. Once a candidate takes this pledge he will be duly endorsed by the Party and all possible assistance will be rendered to him to fight the election.

8.IV - All the candidates of the Party will in their electoral activities give prominence to the policy of the Party and the issues for that particular election as defined by the NWC and the Party Manifesto.

CHAPTER 9

STANDING ORDERS

9.I The standing orders of the Party shall be considered for all purposes as if they form part of the Constitution and shall have effect accordingly.

9.II - New Standing Orders may be made and existing Standing Orders amended, rescinded or altered by resolution at a party convention by a majority.

9.III - The NEC shall convene the annual convention in April/May each year in accordance with the conditions laid down in the Constitution and these Standing Orders. A special session of the Party Convention may be summoned if deemed so necessary by the Leadership Council or the NEC or on a requisition signed by 150 members.

9.IV - A Special Session shall require at least 14 clear days notice and no other business shall be conducted other than that for which the Session was summoned.

9.V - Every delegate shall pay a delegate fee prescribed by the Party which will be paid to the General Treasurer before the Organising Committee appointed by the Leadership Council issues a permit or a badge to be present at the convention.

9.VI - The names and addresses of all the delegates must be sent to the Organising Committee by each Grameeya Branch, Youth Branch, Womens' Branch, Electoral Division Organisation and District Balamandalaya and Affiliated Associations at least 21 (twenty one) days before the opening of the Annual Convention and at least 3 (three) clear days before a Special Session.

9.VII - **The Agenda**

A) Notice of resolutions for the Annual Party Convention shall be sent in writing to the Organising Committee at the Party Office to reach the Committee at least one month before the opening of the Annual Convention for inclusion in the Agenda. The Leadership Council will have the authority to decide which of these resolutions shall be placed on the Agenda. The Agenda shall be issued at least 14 days before the opening of the Convention.

B) Notice of amendments to the resolutions shall be sent in at least fifteen days before the opening of the Convention. In the case of a Special Session 24 hour notice will suffice.

C) Nominations for the NEC and other offices shall be forwarded in writing to the Organising Committee at least one month before the opening of the Annual Convention.

9.VIII - Voting at the Annual Convention or Special Convention shall be by ballot. Each delegate shall have one vote.

9.IX - Election of the National Executive Committee

A) The NEC shall have 150-250 members and they shall be selected by the Party Convention from among the delegates, with 15% of the total being nominated by the Leadership Council to ensure greater representation for all communities and professionals. The various Party Organisations at Grama Niladhari, Electoral Division and District levels as well as the Affiliated Organisations shall have the right to nominate candidates and the nomination papers of such candidates should be forwarded to the General Secretary at least 20 (twenty) days before the opening of the Party Convention.

B) No person can be nominated by more than one Organisation/Association.

C) All such candidates shall be bona fide members of the party.

D) Only those persons appointed as delegates to the Party Convention shall be eligible for nomination for a seat in the NEC. Nominees who do not attend the Party Convention shall be deemed to have withdrawn their consent to the nomination unless they send an explanation in writing to the General Secretary before the day of the opening of the Convention.

E) The consent of every nominee to the NEC in writing and signed by him or her must be attached to the nomination paper; otherwise the nomination will be rendered null and void.

9.VII - Procedure at Party Convention : The Procedure at Party Convention relating to debates, resolutions, amendments, voting order in debates etc. as far as possible be similar to the procedure adopted in Parliament and in keeping with the Constitution and the Standing Orders of the Party.

CHAPTER 10

YOUTH LEAGUE

10.I - The Youth League shall be composed of the registered Youth Branches and will be the political organisation of the youth of the Party. It shall abide by the Constitution, Policy and Programme of the Party.

10.II - The membership is open to all Sri Lankan citizens aged 15-35 who accept the conditions of membership set out in 3.V

10.III - The Youth League shall hold a Youth Convention once a year. The District Balamandalayas, Electoral Division Organisations Youth Branches and Affiliated Student Organisations shall have the right to send delegates. A person can be nominated as a delegate by only one such organisation. The number of delegates from each organisation shall be decided by the NWC.

10.IV - The Executive Committee of the Youth League will be selected by the delegates to the Annual Youth Convention from among the delegates. The District Balamandalayas, Electoral Division Organisations, Youth Branches and Affiliated Student Organisations shall have the right to nominate candidates from among their members. Members should be selected in such a way as to represent all electoral districts. The Youth Executive Committee (YEC) shall meet at least twice a year and will be subject to renewal annually.

10.V - The Youth League shall conduct its activities under the direction and control of the National Working Committee in conformity with 10.I.

10.VI - The Working Committee of the Youth League shall be appointed by the YEC from among its members. All members of the YEC shall be eligible to be so selected. Members should be selected in such a way as to represent all electoral districts. The Youth Working Committee (YWC) shall be the administrative authority of the Youth League and will report periodically to the Party's Working Committee on its activities.

10.VII - Members who do not attend three consecutive YWC meetings without a valid reason shall be removed from the Committee without notice.

10.VIII - The power to fill all vacancies in the YWC will be vested in the YEC who shall do so from among its members.

10.IX - A) The office bearers of the Youth League will be appointed by the Youth Executive Committee from among its members.

B) The office bearers of the Youth League will be :

i) Chairperson

ii) 3 Vice- Chairpersons

iii) Secretary

iv) 2 Asst. Secretaries

v) Treasurer

vi) Asst. Treasurer.

C) The office bearers of the Youth League shall be form those elected to the Youth Working Committee in accordance with 10.VI. Office bearers shall be selected within 14 (fourteen) days of the annual Youth Convention.

D) No office bearer shall hold the same office more than 2 consecutive years.

10.X - The Youth Working Committee shall have the power subject to the approval of the Party Leadership Council to appoint a Co-ordinating Committee to facilitate work on a district basis.

10.XI - Student organisations may be formed in approved educational institutions which will function under the auspices of the Youth League. Such organisations shall be registered with the out league on payment of an annual membership fee prescribed by the Party. Every member of a student organisation shall be a member the Party.

CHAPTER 11

WOMENS LEAGUE

11.I - The Women's League will be composed of the registered Women's Branches and will be the political organisation of the women of the Party. It shall abide by the objectives, Constitution, policy and programme of the Party and work to further these.

11.II - All female citizens of Sri Lanka above the age of 15 years who accept the conditions of membership set out in 3.V shall be entitled to join.

11.III - The Womens League shall hold a Women's Convention at least once a year. The District Balamandalayas, Electoral Division Organisation, Women's Branches and Affiliated Student Organisations shall have the right to send delegates. No person shall be nominated by more than one such organisation. The number of delegates from each organisation shall be decided by the NWC.

11.IV - The Executive Committee of the Womens League will be selected by the delegates to the Annual Women's Convention from among the delegates by way of a secret ballot. The District Balamandalayas, Electoral Division Organisations, Women's Branches and Affiliated Student Organisations shall have the right to nominate candidates from among their members. Members should be selected in such a way as to represent all electoral districts.

11.V - The Women's League shall conduct its activities under the direction and control of the Women's Executive Committee (WEC) in conformity with 11.I.

11.VI - The Women's Working Committee (WWC) of the Womens League shall be selected by Women's Executive Committee (WEC) from among its members. All members of the Women's Executive Committee shall be eligible to be so selected. Members should be selected in such a way as to represent all electoral districts. The Women's Working Committee shall be the administrative authority of the Women's League and will report periodically to the National Working Committee on its activities.

11.VII - Members who do not attend three consecutive Women's Working Committee meeting without a valid reason shall be removed from the Committee without notice.

11.VIII - The power to fill all vacancies in the WWC will be vested in the Women's Executive Committee who shall do so from among its members.

11.IX - A) The office bearers will be appointed by the Executive Committee from among its members.

B) The office bearers of the Women's League will be :

i) Chairperson

ii) 3 Vice-Chairpersons

iii) Secretary

iv) 2 Asst. Secretaries

v) Treasurer

vi) Asst. Treasurer.

C) The office bearers of the Women's League shall be form those elected to the Women's Working Committee in accordance with 11.VI. Office bearers shall be selected within 14 (fourteen) days of the annual Women's Convention.

D) No office bearer shall hold the same office more than 2 consecutive years.

11.X - The Women's Working Committee shall have the power subject to the approval of the Party Leadership Council to appoint a Co-ordinating Committee to facilitate work on a district basis.

CHAPTER 12

PARLIAMENTARY PARTY

12.1 - Standing Orders of the Parliamentary Party

- A) Every member of the Parliamentary Party shall subscribe to a pledge of loyalty to the Party.
- B) All members shall always vote in the parliament according to the mandate of the Parliamentary Party decided at the group meetings and conveyed through the Whip of the Party. All Members of the Parliament are required to comply with the Code of Conduct.
- C) If any member has any conscientious scruples on any matter of party policy he may be free to abstain from voting subject to the written approval of the leader of the Parliamentary Party.
- D) Members shall be given a free hand concerning Private Members Bills or Motions if they are not in contradiction to the Party's objectives, policies, programmes, Manifesto and rules and regulations.
- E) The Party Whip in consultation of the Leader of the Parliamentary Party shall arrange the order of speaking in debates once the members have indicated their willingness to speak.
- F) Members will have the right and the duty to raise questions at Party meetings concerning any Party policy/activity they have a doubt about,.
- G) Divisions should not be called except with the approval of the Party Whip.
- I) In certain cases not affecting Party policy it may be decided to give members a free hand ; any member participating in such debates should clearly state that he is expressing his personal opinion only. Members should refrain from attacking other members of the Party when speaking during debates.
- J) The Prime Minister, if he is a member of the Party shall be the leader of the Parliamentary Group of the Party. Otherwise the leader shall be selected by the Parliamentary Group.
- K) The Party Whip shall be selected by the Party Parliamentary Group.
- L) The Leadership Council of the Party and the leader of the Parliamentary Party shall have the right to call a meeting of the Parliamentary Party as and when they deem necessary.
- M) A meeting may also be called by a requisition signed by 10% of the members.

CHAPTER 13

PROPERTY MOVABLE AND IMMOVABLE

13.I - It shall be lawful for the party to acquire property immovable and immovable and for the acquisition of such property utilise Party Funds based on a resolution of the Party Working Committee.

13.II - Deeds of transfer and other documents conveying such property to the Party shall be executed in favour of the following office bearers for the time being of the Party:

- i) the Chairman
- ii) the General Secretary
- iii) the Treasurer

on behalf of the Party and no individual members shall have the right or title to such property.

13.III - On the execution of such Deed or Deeds or other documents as aforesaid in favour of such office bearers the title to such property shall vest in the said office bearers in trust for the Party and the said office bearers shall hold such property in trust for the Party.

13.IV - The title to such property shall devolve from time to time upon the person or persons for the time being holding or acting in any such capacity discharging such duty without any conveyance, vesting order or other assurance otherwise necessary for vesting the property in such person or persons (Vide Section 113) of the Trust Ordinance.

13.V - Such office bearers shall be entitled to deal with such property by way of sale, sale or lease or any other manner on a resolution of the Party Working Committee adopted for such purpose and authorising such office bearers to deal with such property in such manner.

CHAPTER 14

GENERAL PROVISIONS

14.I - In the case of any omission to these Rules or if there is any doubt as to the correct interpretation of any section or Rule the decision of the NWC will be final. In the case of an emergency the Leadership Council shall make an interim decision subject to the final ratification by the NWC, within a period of no more than one month.

14.II - All acts done at any meeting of Party decision making bodies at all levels, notwithstanding any vacancy in any such body, shall be valid as if there was no such vacancy.

14.III - The Party Working Committee shall have the power to correct any mistakes or omissions found in this Constitution and to give necessary directions in the interpretation and implementation of this constitution.

CHAPTER 15

INTERIM PERIOD

15.I - The inaugural Party Convention shall be held within a period of one year ~~months~~ from 15th of February 2000. This period will be deemed as the 'interim period'.

15.II - The Constitution of the Party hereby appoints Mr. B Sirisena Cooray as the National Organiser of the Party for duration of the Interim period and vests with him the power to nominate/appoint the Leadership Council consisting of the Chairman, two Deputy Chairmen and the General Secretary for the duration of the interim period.

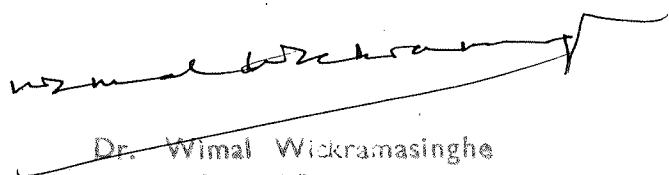
15.III - This Leadership Council of the Party shall function as the administrative and organisational authority of the party during the interim period.

15.IV - This Leadership Council shall be vested with the power by the Constitution to appoint the General Treasurer, two Assistant Secretaries, Assistant Treasurer of the Party, for the duration of the interim period.

15.V - The Leadership Council shall enjoy all the powers and functions enacted by the Constitution during the 'Interim Period'.

15.VI This Leadership Council shall be vested with the power by the Constitution to appoint a provisional National Working Committee, for the duration of the interim period.

15.VII - This Leadership Council shall be vested with power by the Constitution to appoint a Council of Eminent Persons consisting of Sri Lankan citizens of outstanding achievement and service to the country, for the duration of the interim period.



Dr. Wimal Wickramasinghe
General Secretary
PURAVASI PERAMUNA