

# SURVEY ON DEMOCRACY IN POST-WAR SRI LANKA

TOP LINE REPORT | JULY 2011

Friedrich Naumann  
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The Centre for Policy Alternatives (CPA) is an independent, non-partisan organisation that focuses primarily on issues of governance and conflict resolution. Formed in 1996 in the firm belief that the vital contribution of civil society to the public policy debate is in need of strengthening, CPA is committed to programmes of research and advocacy through which public policy is critiqued, alternatives identified and disseminated.

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Making Social Research Count

Social Indicator (SI) is the survey research unit of the Centre for Policy Alternatives (CPA) and was established in September 1999, filling a longstanding vacuum for a permanent, professional and independent polling facility in Sri Lanka on social and political issues. Driven by the strong belief that polling is an instrument that empowers democracy, SI has been conducting polls on a large range of socio-economic and political issues since its inception.

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# Key points

- 57.1% of Up country Tamil respondents believe that the general economic situation in the country has got a lot worse in the last two years.
- Most respondents from the Up country Tamil and Muslim communities said that the financial situation in their household has got a lot worse or a little worse when compared to two years ago. 58.3% of Up country Tamil respondents said it has a got a lot worse while 31.4% of Tamil and Muslim respondents stated the same.
- On the subject of the general security situation in the country, majority of Sri Lankans think that it has got better in the last two years. 68.2% said it has got a lot better while 23.1% said it has got a little better. When comparing the opinions of respondents across the four communities, it is mostly the Sinhala community (77.5%) and Up country Tamil community (57.8%) who said that the security situation has got a lot better. 13.2% of the Tamil community said that it has got a lot worse.
- An overwhelming majority from the Southern Province (98.1%) believe that the general security situation in the country has got better in the last two years, with 75.6% saying that it has got a lot better. Respondents from the Northern Province are not as positive about the general security situation as 63.9% said it has got better, with only 10.3% saying it has got a lot better.
- Majority of Sri Lankans are hopeful about the security situation in the future as 56.4% think that it will get a lot better while 23.3% think that it will get a little better.
- Respondents from the Southern Province are the most optimistic about the future of the general security situation in the country as around 95% said that it will get better. There are none who said that it will get worse in the future. The least optimistic are respondents from the Northern Province as 19.7% believe that it will get worse, with 14.3% saying that it will get a lot worse.
- 15.8% said that they read a newspaper for political news everyday while 38.7% said that they never read a newspaper for political news.
- 30% of respondents listen to the radio everyday for political news.
- When it comes to watching television for political news, 61.7% of respondents said that they watch television everyday for political news.

- 93.2% of respondents claim that they never read a newspaper on a news site on the internet.
- 61.3% of the respondents said that they obtain information about politics through discussions or talk shows on television.
- Most respondents (66.8%) said that they do not get information about politics through discussions and talk shows on radio.
- Only 38% of respondents seem to get information about politics through newspaper articles.
- Around 25% of respondents trust state radio to a great extent while 43% trust them to some extent. With regard to private radio stations, 20.8% trust them to a great extent while 52.4% trust them to some extent.
- Most urban respondents (53.1%) trust state newspapers to some extent while 16.8% trust them to a great extent.
- Respondents were asked for their views on negative reporting and whether the media should constantly report on issues like corruption and mistakes made by the government. 72.6% said that the news media should constantly investigate and report on corruption and the mistakes made by the government while only 5.6% said that too much reporting on negative events, like corruption, only harms the country.
- Majority from all four communities (Sinhala – 68.2%, Tamil – 70.3%, Up country Tamil – 70.8%, Muslim 87.8%) stated that democracy is preferable to any other kind of government.
- 52.7% of Sinhala respondents, 76.3% of Tamil respondents, 71.1% of Up country Tamil respondents and 70.1% of Muslim respondents strongly disagreed with the suggestion of having the army rule a country.
- A fixed quota for women candidates has been a much debated and discussed proposition. Support for the idea of allocating a fixed quota for women candidates per district at the elections was high among respondents from all four communities.
- On the topic of a political solution for Sri Lanka's ethnic problem, 29.7% of Sinhala, 59.1% of Tamil, 30.8% of Up country Tamil and 53.5% of Muslim communities agreed that the Constitution should be changed based on recommendations made by an all party committee to produce a political solution to the country's ethnic problem. However, 17.6% Sinhala, 4% Tamil, 11.1% Up country Tamil and 14.2% Muslim communities said

that there is no need for a political solution as the LTTE was completely defeated militarily.

- Most respondents from the Tamil (40.9%), Up country Tamil (32.5%) and Muslim (42.9%) communities agree that power needs to be devolved to the Provincial Councils while reducing the power of the central government. Only 15.3% of the Sinhala community concur.
- 42.4% of Sinhalese respondents said that there should be no constitutional limit on how many terms the President can serve – in order to allow strong Presidents to serve the country. 15.2% of Tamil, 21.4% of Up country Tamil and 26.6% of Muslim respondents agreed with the same.
- Most respondents from all four communities believe that Sri Lanka is now more democratic, with 31.2% of Sinhala, 20.8% of Tamil, 32.8% of Up country Tamil and 33.8% of Muslim respondents stating that Sri Lanka is much more democratic.
- 58.8% of Sri Lankans think that the country has been the most democratic under President Mahinda Rajapaksa's period. This view is shared by 69.9% of Sinhalese respondents. On the other hand, only 23.6% of Tamil respondents, 13.1% of Up country Tamil respondents and 21.9% of Muslim respondents concur.
- Most respondents in the Up Country Tamil community (41.2%) believe that they have no say in what the government does, while most in the Sinhala, Tamil and Muslim communities disagreed and believe that they do have a say in what the government does.
- It is noteworthy that most respondents from all four communities believe that their vote has an impact on the outcome of an election.
- Respondents were asked about which political party (specific party, not alliance) they felt that they are close to. 74% of Sinhalese respondents said the Sri Lanka Freedom Party while 19.8% said the United National Party. 53.9% of Tamil respondents said they felt close to the Illankai Tamil Arasu Kachchi party while 22.4% said the United National Party.
- Leaving aside the period of elections, most Sri Lankans do not have a lot of interest in politics and public affairs in general. 48% stated that they have no interest at all, 43% have some interest and only 9% have a great deal of interest.
- In order to find out how active people are when it comes to political participation, they were asked to state if they had participated in certain activities in the past 12 months to influence rules, laws or policies of the country. The activity that most people have done

once or more than once is attending a political meeting or rally, followed by working for a candidate or party during an election campaign. Contributing an article to mainstream media to express their opinion or influence rules, laws or policies appears to be the activity people have engaged in the least in the past 12 months.

- When asked if in Sri Lanka they are free to express their feelings about politics, irrespective of where they are and who they are with, most of those from the Sinhala community (50%) and Up country Tamil community (38.8%) believe that they are completely free to do so, while a much smaller percentage of the Tamil and Muslim communities believe the same.
- Looking at the assessment of the economy, most of the respondents from all four communities believe that the government is doing a good job. However, 26.2% of Sinhala, 24% of Tamil, 18.4% of Up country Tamil and 29.2% of the Muslim respondents said that the government has not been doing a good job in managing the economy
- 50.4% of Sinhala, 49.2% of Tamil, 54.4% of Up country Tamil and 60.6% of Muslim communities agree that the government is doing a good job in managing public services.
- 71.7% of Sinhala, 74.4% of Tamil, 55.9% of Up country Tamil and 64% of Tamil respondents who said that the Government is doing a good job in managing public services also stated that this favourable opinion increased since the end of war. 5.5% of Sinhala, 2.3 of Tamil, 20.3% of Up country Tamil and 7.9% of Muslim respondents said that it has decreased.
- On the topic of reconciliation, 32.3% of people from the Tamil community are of the opinion that the government has done nothing with regard to addressing the root causes of the conflict which resulted in thirty years of war. On the other hand, 41.1% of people from the Sinhala community believe that the government has done a lot.
- Among the people who said that they have heard of the LLRC, it is mostly those from the Tamil community (32.5%) who are aware of the commission. Most of the people from all four communities said that they have not heard of the LLRC, with around 90% of the Up country Tamil and Muslim communities stating that they have not heard of the LLRC.
- 19.3% of respondents (381 in number) who have heard of the LLRC were asked if they knew what the functions of the LLRC were. Majority of them did not know what the functions were.
- Since the end of war, the role of the forces has expanded to include civilian tasks, such as selling vegetables and other economic and recreation activities. More than 55% of the

Sinhala, Up country Tamil and Muslim communities approve of this, with 25.3% of the Sinhala community, 28.1% of the Up country Tamil community and 10% of the Muslim community stating their strong approval.

- With regard to the level of trust that they have in key institutions, most people from all four communities have some trust in the Central/ National government, their Provincial government, their Local government, civil service, police, parliament and political parties. Most Sinhalese people have a great deal of trust in the army while most of those from the other three communities have some trust. However, 32.8% of people from the Tamil community stated that they have no trust in the army.
- 65% of Sri Lankans, mostly from the Sinhala community, do not think that corruption can be ignored. When analysing the opinions based on respondents' geographic locations, it is interesting that among the urban respondents, 21.1% agree that one can ignore the corruption as long as the country is being developed while only 9.7% of the rural respondents agree with the same.
- Around 50% of Sinhala, Tamil and Muslim respondents and 41.2% of Up country Tamil respondents believe that corruption is prevalent to some extent among Government officials.
- Most respondents believe the police to be the most corrupt institution.
- According to a majority of the respondents, the most important area the Government needs to pay attention to is the cost of living. When it comes to the second most important area, respondents in the Tamil and Up country Tamil communities said it should be reducing poverty while the Sinhala community said agriculture and the Muslim community said unemployment.
- When asked about the main results that people would like to see from the current development process, once again cost of living ranks as the top priority for respondents in all four communities. For the Sinhala community, improved infrastructure is the second result they would like to see while for the other three communities it is addressing unemployment and the creation of more jobs.
- Most respondents from all four communities believe that priority should be given to rebuilding conflict affected areas, with the Tamil (73.6%) and Up country Tamil (65.2%) being the highest among the four communities who think so when compared to the 49.6% of Sinhala respondents and 46.1% of Muslim respondents who believe the same.



# Introduction

Sri Lanka faces significant challenges in the transition to peace after decades of war. Sri Lankans have experienced several significant changes since May 2009 – from changes in restrictions with regard to movement and access to areas in the North and East to changes in the framework of governance, such as the 18<sup>th</sup> Amendment to the Constitution in 2010.

This study sought to record public perspectives on democracy in post-war Sri Lanka - what democracy means to people, how they participate in it, their perceptions of and confidence in the governance framework and key institutions.

A rigorous methodology was utilised to design and conduct this survey, which was carried out in all 25 districts of the country – making the overall findings of this study comprehensive, with insights relevant to a broad spectrum of issues related to the perceptions and practices of democracy in Sri Lanka. The selection of respondents was random across the country except in certain areas where access was difficult. Sri Lankans from all four main ethnic groups were interviewed. The survey captures perceptions ranging from people's assessment of government performance, individual freedom to perceptions about development and political participation. It also highlights areas where there is a high level of disengagement or lack of interest.

This report presents the top line results of this study based on key demographic features – ethnicity, age, province and area of residence (urban – rural). The findings have been presented descriptively and graphically, thereby leaving them open for discussion and debate among readers. We hope that the findings will contribute to the discourse on democracy and inform the constructive critique of policies and practices of policy makers, civil society and academics in the areas of governance, reconciliation, peace building, development and accountability.

This study was conducted by Social Indicator (SI), the survey research unit of the Centre for Policy Alternatives (CPA) with the generous assistance of the Friedrich-Naumann-Stiftung (FNST) in Sri Lanka.

# Methodology

The island wide opinion poll was conducted in all 25 districts of Sri Lanka. Using a structured questionnaire, face to face interviews were conducted with a sample of 2000 respondents, out of which 1993 interviews were considered to be complete interviews.

## Questionnaire

In order to develop the questionnaire, researchers at Social Indicator (SI) examined ongoing discussion and debate about democracy and governance in Sri Lanka in addition to looking at existing survey instruments on surveys done on democracy. The questionnaire was finalised together with the steering committee set up to design the study. The committee was made up of Senior Researchers of the Centre for Policy Alternatives (CPA).

The questionnaire was translated into Sinhala and Tamil and was piloted before fieldwork commenced. The pilot survey was conducted by senior field researchers who have worked at SI for years, and experienced in conducting surveys on this topic. The team that conducted the pilot survey consisted of both male and female field researchers from 3 districts.

## Sampling and fieldwork

In this survey, SI used a multi stage stratified random sampling technique. A sample of 2000 respondents spread across all districts using the Population Proportionate Sampling (PPS) method was polled. Ethnic proportions were accounted for.

Electorates were chosen as the strata to distribute the sample and polling booths within each electorate were chosen randomly. Within each polling booth, 10 respondents were selected for interviews using the 2008 Voter Registry of the Department of Elections.

Field Researchers were allocated their research locations and given a list of respondents to locate in that area. In the event they were unable to interview the selected respondent after three attempts, they replaced that respondent with another individual from that household. When allocating samples in the Northern Province, SI adhered to a slightly different method due to the difficulties in terms accessibility and obtaining current data for a sound sample frame. As with the rest of the country, the sample was stratified across electorates and within each electorate polling booths were selected randomly. Slightly different to the sampling

method in other areas, respondents in the Northern Province were chosen using the random walk method instead of using electoral lists. In the case of the Mullaitivu, Killinochchi, Mannar and Vavuniya districts, respondents were selected using the snowball method due to the current situation in those areas. However in the entire Northern Province up to the selection of polling booths, random sampling techniques were employed.

Fieldwork for the entire study was conducted from 23 March to mid June 2011.

### **Training of Field Researchers**

A total of 56 Field Researchers participated in this study. The Field Researchers consisted of both male and female enumerators from three ethnic communities – Sinhala, Tamil and Muslim. Prior to starting fieldwork, they were given extensive training on the study, the survey instrument and field techniques. In order to ensure the quality of field research, SI deployed a group of Supervisors to conduct quality control processes during and after fieldwork such as back-checks, spot-checks and accompanied visits to ensure the quality of the data collected. In the middle of fieldwork, a debrief session was conducted in order to further improve fieldwork.

### **Data Processing and analysis**

All the completed questionnaires were sent to a team who have been trained to scrutinise and check questionnaires before being keyed into the computers. After scrutiny they were keyed into a computer database using a data entry interface developed by the SI Data Processing team. The dataset was further cleaned by the Data Processing team before it was sent for data analysis. Before starting the analysis process, the dataset was weighted in order to reflect actual geographical and ethnic proportions in the survey data set. The data set was analysed using the Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) 13.0, a specialized statistical tool widely used by social researchers the world over.

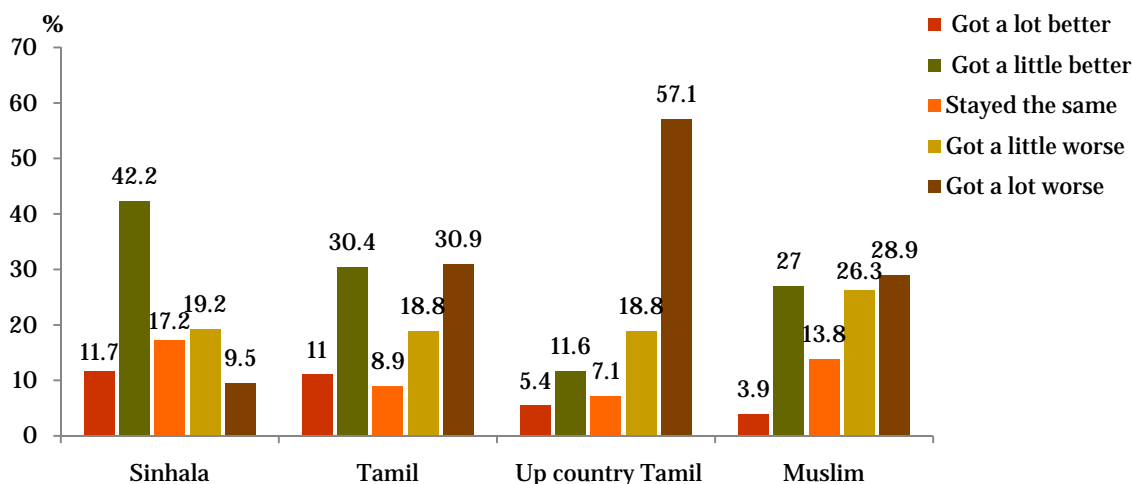
# 1

## Economy & Security

Since the end of the war two years ago, much change has taken place in the lives of Sri Lankans. In this opinion poll, we focused on two areas that affect all people – economic and security - in order to capture general perspectives of the respondents on how life has changed since the end of war.

10.7% of Sri Lankans said that the general economic situation in the country has got a lot better while 38% said that it has got a little better. 15.5% believe it has stayed the same. However, 19.7% said that it has got a little worse while 16% said it has got a lot worse. In terms of the ethnicity of the respondents, it is mostly the Sinhala and Tamil who believe it has got a lot or little better, with the Sinhalese respondents being the most optimistic, when compared to the Up country Tamil and Muslim respondents. 57.1% of Up country Tamil respondents believe that the general economic situation in the country has got a lot worse in the last two years. (Refer Graph 1.1)

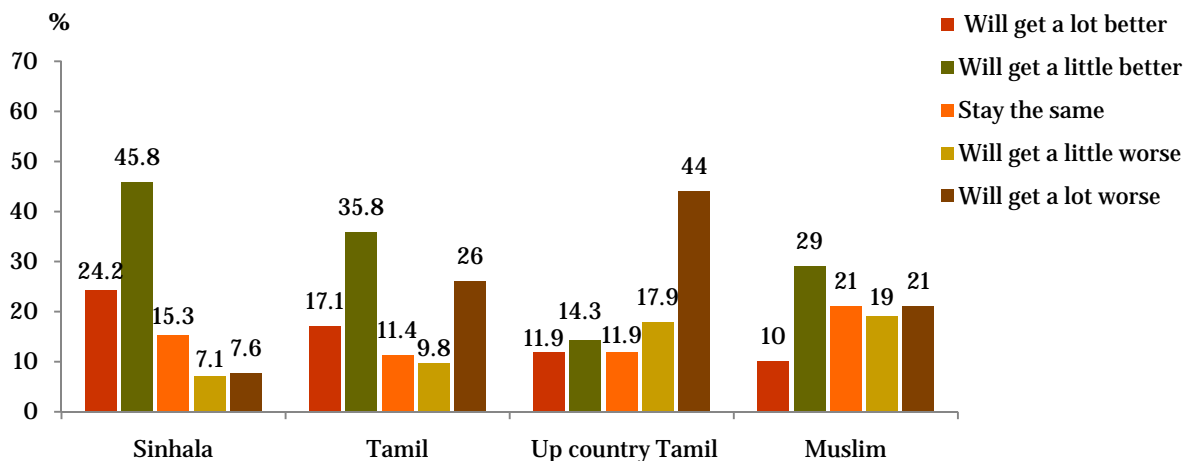
**Graph 1.1 – How do you think the general economic situation in this country has changed over the last two years?**



With regard to the future of the economic situation in the country, around 60% of Sri Lankans have a positive outlook about it as 21.6% said that it will get a lot better and 41.5% said that it will get a little better. 15.2% think that it will stay the same while 8.9% think it will get a little worse. 12.8% said it will get a lot worse. Again, it is the Sinhala and Tamil communities who appear to be more positive about the future of the country’s economic

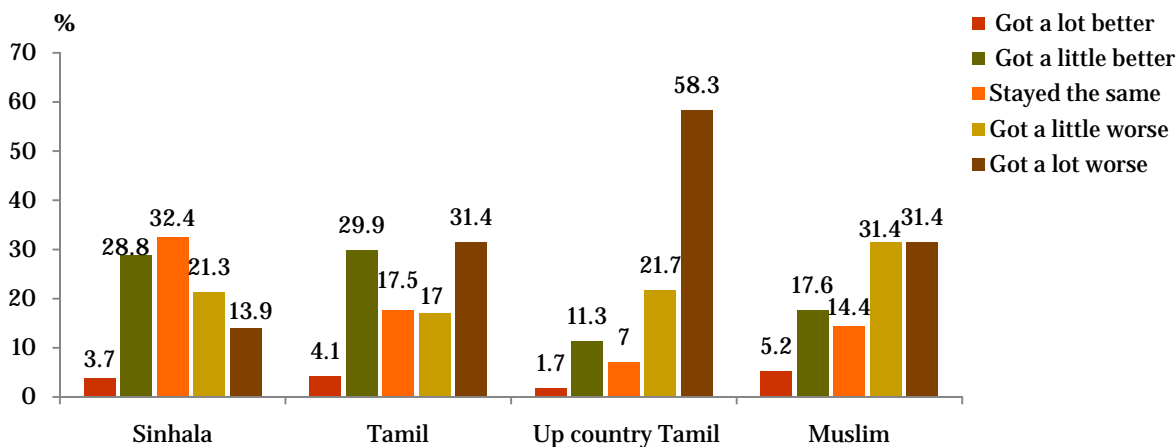
situation while most in the Up country Tamil community in fact believe it will get worse. (Refer Graph 1.2)

**Graph 1.2 – How do you think the general economic situation in this country will change over the next 2 years?**



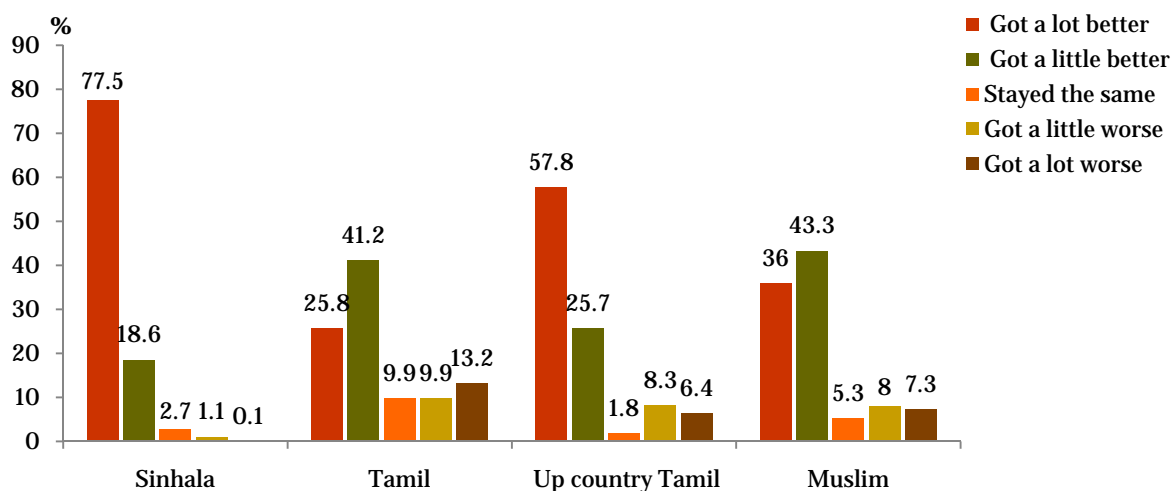
The general economic situation of the country aside, how does the financial situation in people’s households now compare with what it was two years ago? It appears that when it comes to the financial situation at the household level, most believe it has not got better. 19.6% said that it has got a lot worse while 21.7% said it has got a little worse. 3.7% of Sri Lankans believe it has got a lot better, while 27% said it has only got a little better. Most respondents from the Up country Tamil and Muslim communities said that the financial situation in their household has got a lot worse or a little worse when compared to two years ago. 58.3% of Up country Tamil respondents said it has a got a lot worse while 31.4% of Tamil and Muslim respondents stated the same. (Refer Graph 1.3)

**Graph 1.3 – How does the financial situation of your household now compare with what it was two years ago?**



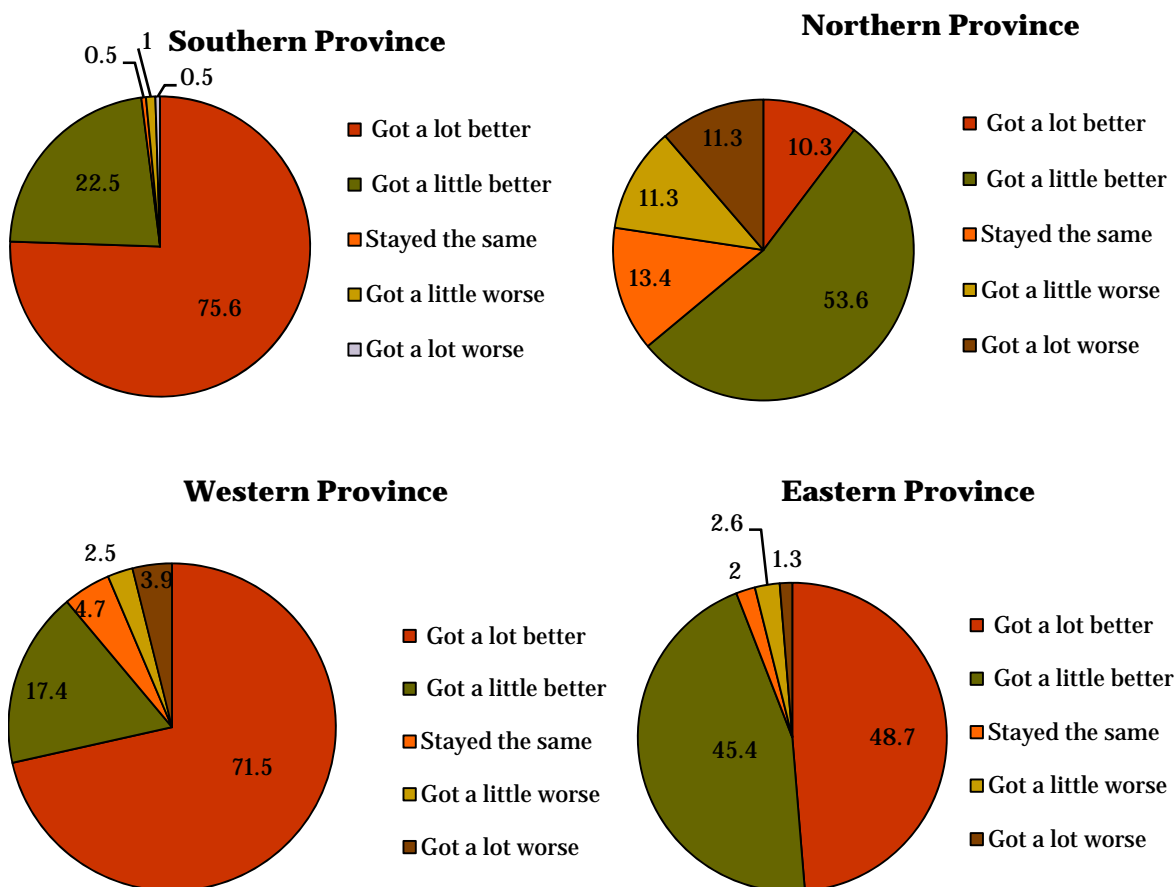
On the subject of the general security situation in the country, majority of Sri Lankans think that it has got better in the last two years. 68.2% said it has got a lot better while 23.1% said it has got a little better. When comparing the opinions of respondents across the four communities, it is mostly the Sinhala community (77.5%) and Up country Tamil community (57.8%) who said that the security situation has got a lot better. 13.2% of the Tamil community said that it has got a lot worse. (Refer Graph 1.4)

**Graph 1.4 – How do you think the general security situation in the country has changed over the last two years?**



An overwhelming majority from the Southern Province (98.1%) believe that the general security situation in the country has got better in the last two years, with 75.6% saying that it has got a lot better. Respondents from the Northern Province are not as positive about the general security situation as 63.9% said it has got better, with only 10.3% saying it has got a lot better. Outlook of those from the Western and Eastern Provinces are positive as well, with majority stating that the general security situation in the country has got better. (Refer Graph 1.5)

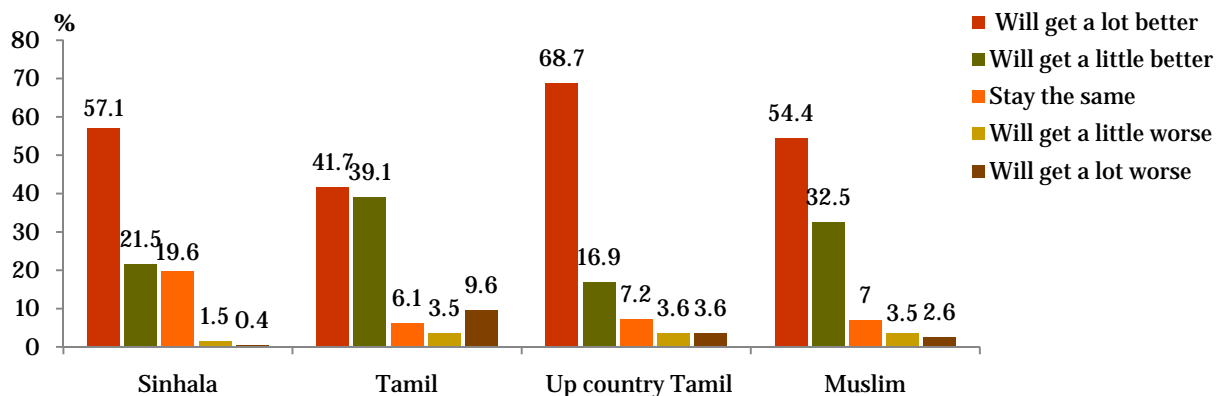
**Graph 1.5 – How do you think the general security situation in the country has changed over the last two years?**



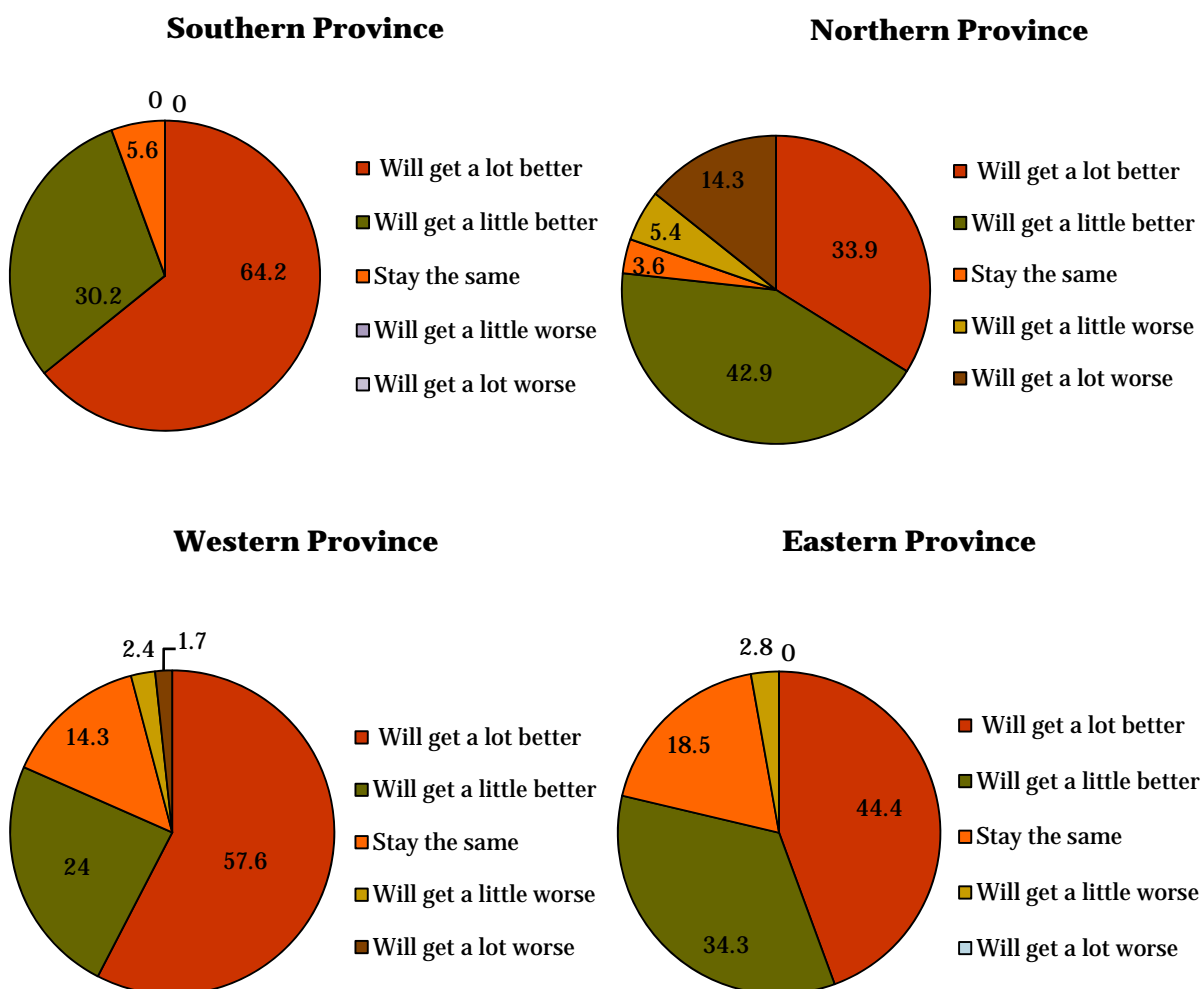
Majority of Sri Lankans are hopeful about the security situation in the future as 56.4% think that it will get a lot better while 23.3% think that it will get a little better. However, 17% believe it will stay the same while less than 5% said it will get worse. It is mostly respondents from the Up country Tamil community who believe it will get a lot better (68.7%), followed by those from the Sinhala (57.1%), Muslim (54.4%) and Tamil (41.7%) communities. (Refer Graph 1.6)

Respondents from the Southern Province are the most optimistic about the future of the general security situation in the country as around 95% said that it will get better. There are none who said that it will get worse in the future. The least optimistic are respondents from the Northern Province as 19.7% believe that it will get worse, with 14.3% saying that it will get a lot worse. However, around 78 – 80% of those in the Western, Eastern and Northern Province do say that the general security situation will get better. (Refer Graph 1.7)

**Graph 1.6 – How do you think the general security situation in the country will change over the next two years?**



**Graph 1.7 – How do you think the general security situation in the country will change over the next two years?**





## 2

### Consumption & Views on Sri Lankan media

In order to get an understanding of the media consumption habits of people, respondents were asked about how often they obtain political news by reading a newspaper, listening to the radio, watching television, reading a newspaper on the Internet and through short message services (SMS) on their mobile phones.

- 15.8% said that they read a newspaper for political news everyday while 38.7% said that they never read a newspaper for political news. 16.1% read a few times a week while 19.6% read once a week. Among the people from urban areas, 27.3% said that they read a newspaper everyday for political news while 29% said that they never read. Only 11.9% of rural respondents read a newspaper everyday for political news while 42% never read do.
- 30% of respondents listen to the radio everyday for political news, while 20% listen a few times a week, 8.9% listen once a week, 34.2% never listen and 6.9% rarely listen. 35% of urban respondents said that they listen to the radio everyday for political news while 28.5% of rural respondents said the same. Around 34% of both urban and rural respondents said that they never listen to the radio for political news.
- When it comes to watching television for political news, 61.7% of respondents said that they watch television everyday for political news while 14.7% watch a few times a week. 16% stated that they never watch television for political news. When looking at urban and rural respondents responses, 67.2% of urban respondents said that they watch television everyday while 59.9% of rural respondents stated the same.
- Today almost every mainstream newspaper in Sri Lanka, be it in Sinhala, Tamil or English, can be read online on the Internet. However, 93.2% of respondents claim that they never read a newspaper on a news site on the Internet. 1.8% said they read everyday, 1.9% read a few times a week and 2.2% once a week. Looking at the urban respondents - 5.6% of them said that they read a newspaper online everyday, 4% read a few times a week and 85.6% never do. Among the rural respondents, only 0.5% said that they read everyday while 95.7% stated that they never read.

- Respondents' answers for how often they receive/ read news of a SMS news service on their mobile phone (receive directly from news service or from a friend who has subscribed) are similar to the answers given with regard to reading a newspaper online. 93.2% said that they never receive news of a SMS news service and only 3.4% said that they receive everyday. Looking at urban – rural breakdown, 6.4% of urban and 2.5% rural respondents said that they receive everyday while 89.5% of urban and 94.4% of rural said that they never receive.

People have various ways and means of obtaining information about politics. These range from discussions and talk shows on television and radio to newspaper articles to websites. Respondents were given a list of different media and were asked if they use each of them to get information about politics. (*Refer Graph 2.2*)

***Discussions/ talk shows on television*** – 61.3% of the respondents said that they obtain information about politics through discussions or talk shows on television. More urban respondents (72.3%) said that they get their information through discussions and talk shows on television when compared to the 57.7% of rural respondents who said the same.

***Discussions/ talk shows on radio*** – Most respondents (66.8%) said that they do not get information about politics through discussions and talk shows on radio. 41.5% of urban respondents and 30.4% of rural respondents stated that they obtain information about politics through this mode.

***Newspaper articles*** – Only 38% of respondents seem to get information about politics through newspaper articles. It appears that most of the urban respondents (52.7%) appear get information about politics through newspaper articles while 66.8% of the rural respondents stated the opposite.

***Party/ Candidate websites*** – People do not seem to obtain information about politics from these websites as 98% of respondents said that that they do not get information through party or candidate websites. Among the respondents from urban areas, 5.5% said that they do use these websites to get information about politics while only 1% of rural respondents stated the same.

***Websites that discuss politics*** – Again, this is not a way in which respondents get information about politics. Almost 99% answered negatively, with only 2.7% of urban

respondents and 0.9% of rural respondents stating that they do browse websites that discuss politics to obtain information about politics.

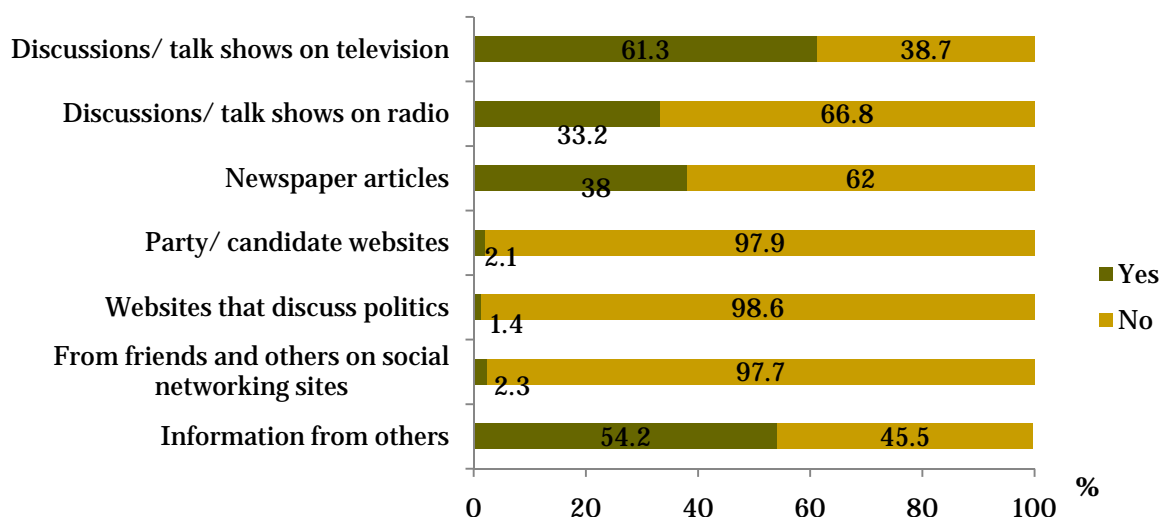
***From friends and others on social networking sites (such as Facebook) –***

Almost 98% do not obtain information about politics from friends and others on social networking sites, with only 2.3% who said that they do. Among the urban respondents, 4.2% said that they do while 1.6% of rural respondents answered the same.

***Information from others –***

54.5% of respondents said that they do obtain information about politics from others. Interestingly, almost 60% of the urban respondents stated that they do not get information about politics from others while almost 60% of rural respondents said that they do.

**Graph 2.2 – From which of the following media do you get information about politics?**

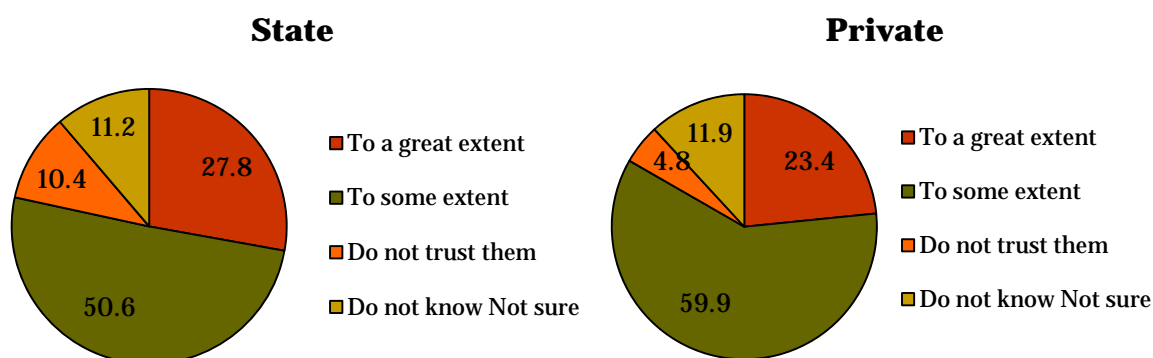


People have a choice of television, radio, newspapers and websites to acquire news and information from. These options can be broadly divided into two categories – state media and private media. In order to find out to what extent people trust the two sectors that they get their news and information from, respondents were asked to state their level of trust on state and private television, radio, newspapers and news websites.

When it comes to news and information from **television channels**, 50.6% of respondents trust the information from state television to some extent while 10.4% do not. 4.8% of respondents said that they do not trust private television channels while 23.4% stated that they trust them to a great extent. (Refer Graph2.3)

Looking at trust placed in a television channels from a rural – urban perspective, only 19.2% of urban respondents said that they trust state television while 30.6% of rural respondents expressed the same. 17.3% of urban and 8.1% of rural respondents do not trust news and information from state television. Trust placed by both urban and rural respondents on private television channels are fairly similar on all levels, with 21.2% of urban and 24.1% of rural respondents saying that they trust the news and information to a great extent and 6.3% of urban and 4.4% of rural respondents saying that they do not trust them.

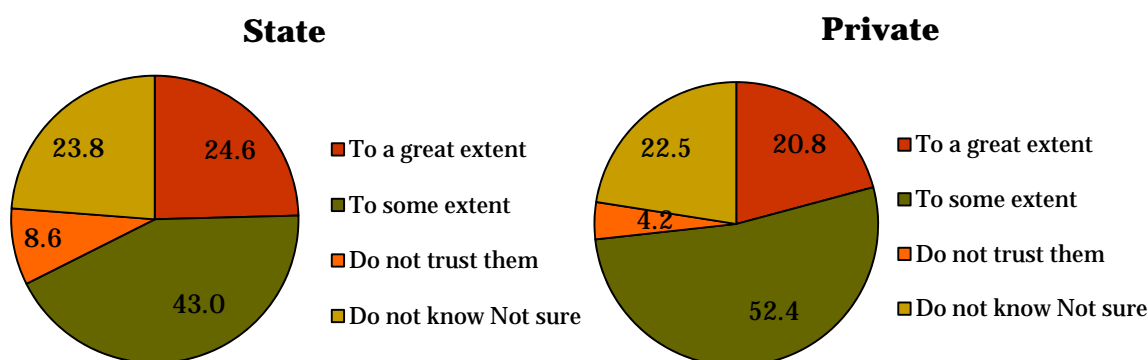
**Graph 2.3 – To what extent do you trust the news and information from television?**



Around 25% of respondents trust state **radio** to a great extent while 43% trust them to some extent. With regard to private radio stations, 20.8% trust them to a great extent while 52.4% trust them to some extent. (Refer Graph 2.4)

With regard to an urban – rural opinion, 15.5% of urban respondents trust state radio to a great extent while a higher percentage of rural respondents (27.3%) place the same level of trust on state radio. 13.1% of urban respondents and 7.3% of rural respondents do not trust state radio. With respect to their level of trust on private radio, 18.1% of urban and 21.7% of rural respondents said that they have a great deal of trust while around 5% of both urban and rural respondents stated that they do not have trust in private radio.

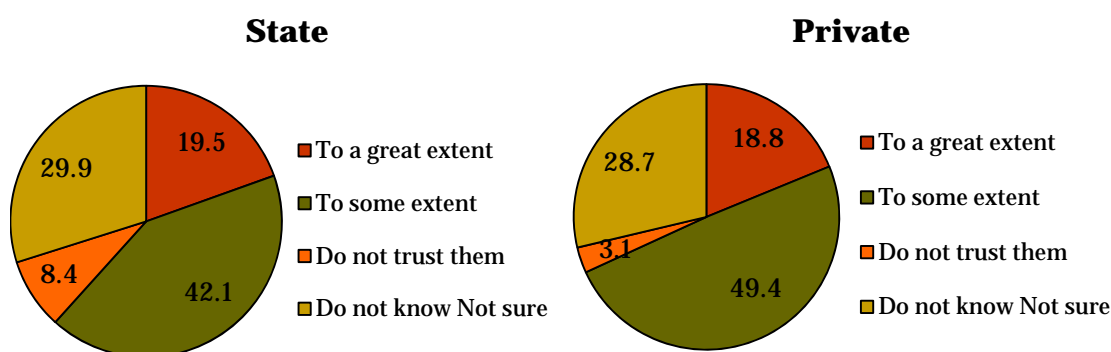
**Graph 2.4 – To what extent do you trust the news and information from radio?**



42% of respondents trust the news and information from state **newspapers** to some extent while almost 20% said that they trust state newspapers to a great extent. Looking at trust placed on newspapers owned by private organisations, 18.8% said that they trust them to a great extent while 49.4% said that they trust them to some extent. (Refer Graph 2.5)

Most urban respondents (53.1%) trust state newspapers to some extent while 16.8% trust them to a great extent. 20.5% of rural respondents stated that they trust them to a great extent and 38.4% said to some extent. Urban – rural respondents’ level of trust on private newspapers do not vary too much from the trust they place on state newspapers, with 16.2% of urban respondents and 19.7% of rural respondents placing their trust to a great extent on information and news from private media.

**Graph 2.5– To what extent do you trust the news and information from newspapers?**



People were asked about the level of trust they place on **news websites** that are state run and on other news websites which are websites run by private media and also citizen journalism sites. With regard to both state and other news websites, majority of the respondents (83.9% - state and 88.1% - other) who answered this section said that they did not know or were unsure as to how much trust they place on news and information from both. This is to be expected, given the low percentage of respondents who answered previously about obtaining information from internet sources.

Looking at urban – rural respondents’ trust placed on state websites, 15.2% of urban and 7.1% of rural respondents said that they trust state websites to some extent while 3.7% of urban and 1.9% of rural said that they trust them to a great extent. 71.7% of urban and 88.6% of rural respondents said that they did not know or were unsure about how much trust they place on state websites. With regard to other news websites, 11.2% of urban and 5.2% of rural respondents said that they trust them to some extent while 4% and 2.8% of urban and rural

respondents respectively said that they trust them to a great extent. 81% of urban and 91% of rural respondents do not know or are unsure as to how much they trust news websites of private media and citizen journalism sites.

When examining people's opinions about the media in Sri Lanka, some areas that were examined were how free people think the media is and whether there is a bias in coverage by state and private media with regard to political reporting.

Around 42% of respondents expressed their agreement with the statement that the media in Sri Lanka is completely free to criticise the government as they wish, with 16% strongly agreeing. Almost 20% think that the media in Sri Lanka is not completely free to criticise the government, with around 10% strongly disagreeing. However, 30.3% of respondents stated that they did not know or were unsure as to whether they agreed or disagreed with the statement. 17% of urban and 16% rural respondents strongly agree that the media in Sri Lanka is completely free while 12.6% of urban and 7.7% of rural respondents strongly disagree.

With regard to state media giving fair coverage to the views of opposition political parties, 35.3% of respondents said that they do not think the state media gives fair coverage while 23.6% said they do. 41.2% said that they did not know or were unsure. Around 24% of both urban and rural respondents said that they believe state media gives fair coverage to the news of opposition political parties while 41% of urban and 33.4% of rural respondents believe the opposite, that the state media does not give fair coverage.

40.7% of respondents said that private media gives fair coverage to the views of opposition political parties and 16.9% said that private media does not. Again, around 42% did not know or were unsure as to what their opinion was about this subject. 41.7% of urban respondents and 40.4% of rural respondents said yes, that they feel private media gives fair coverage while 19.7% of urban respondents and 16% of rural respondents stated the opposite.

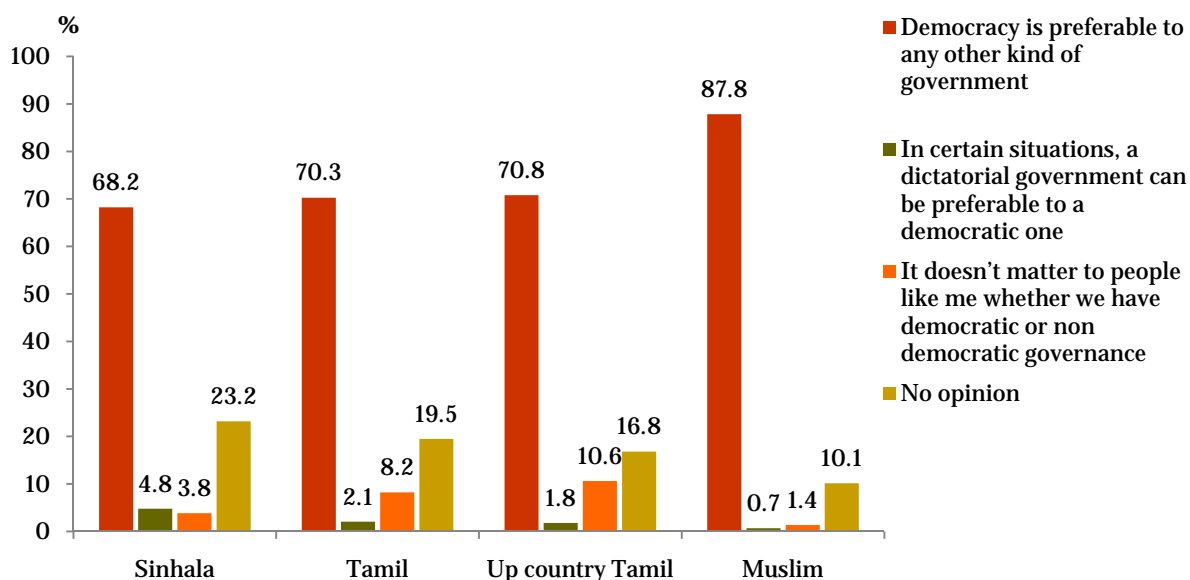
Respondents were asked for their views on negative reporting and whether the media should constantly report on issues like corruption and mistakes made by the government. 72.6% said that the news media should constantly investigate and report on corruption and the mistakes made by the government while only 5.6% said that too much reporting on negative events, like corruption, only harms the country.

### 3

## Form of Governance Preferred

Three statements were given to respondents about one’s support for democracy and they were asked to select the statement most agreeable to them. The statements were – ‘democracy is preferable to any other kind of government’, ‘in certain situations a dictatorial government can be preferable to a democratic one’ and ‘it doesn’t matter to people like me whether we have democratic or non democratic governance’. Majority from all four communities (Sinhala – 68.2%, Tamil – 70.3%, Up country Tamil – 70.8%, Muslim 87.8%) stated that democracy is preferable to any other kind of government. (Refer Graph 3.1)

**Graph 3.1 - Which of the following statements about one’s support for democracy do you agree with the most?**



As there are different ways in which a country may be governed, respondents were presented with 5 possible ways in which a country could be governed and were asked to what extent they agree with the suggestions.

**Having a strong leader who does not have to bother with parliament and elections** – Respondents from all four communities mostly disagreed with this statement with 50.7% of the Sinhala community, 44.2% of the Tamil community, 41.7% of Up country Tamil community and 40.3% of the Muslim community strongly disagreeing. Looking at

opinion from an urban – rural perspective, 53.4% of the urban respondents and 47.1% of rural respondents strongly disagreed with a country being governed in this way.

***Having experts, not government, make decisions according to what they think is best for the country*** – Agreement was high for this form of governance, with more than 62% of respondents from all four communities agreeing with this statement. 42% of urban respondents and 31% of rural respondents strongly agree with this form of governance.

***Having the army rule*** – 52.7% of Sinhala respondents, 76.3% of Tamil respondents, 71.1% of Up country Tamil respondents and 70.1% of Muslim respondents strongly disagreed with the suggestion of having the army rule a country. Agreement with this suggestion was less than 10% in the Tamil, Up country Tamil and Muslim communities. 15.9% of the Sinhalese respondents were agreeable with this form of governance, with 8.1% of them strongly agreeing. From an urban – rural perspective - 53.2% of urban respondents and 58.8% of rural respondents strongly disagreed while around 20% of the urban respondents agreed (10% - strongly agree, 10% - agree).

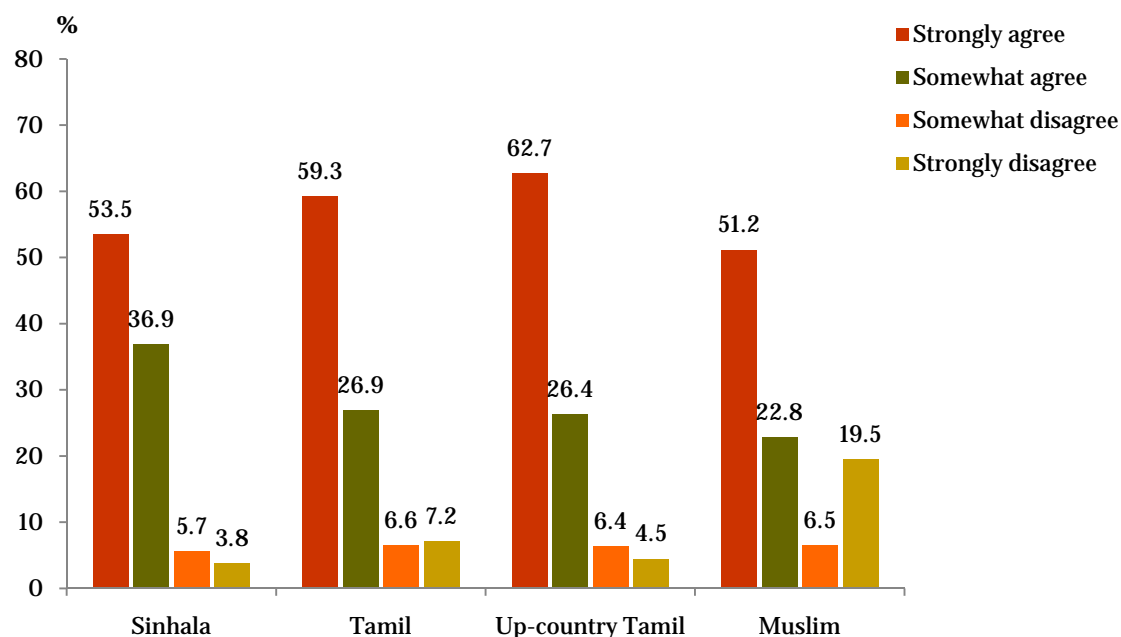
***Having a democratically elected political leader*** – Around 80% of those from Sinhala and Tamil communities and around 85% from the Up country Tamil and Muslim communities agreed with this type of leader governing a country. 72.7% of urban respondents and 70.5% of rural respondents said that they strongly agreed with having a democratically elected political leader.

***Having religious leaders rather than politicians make all major decisions about the country*** – Around 55% - 60% of respondents from the Sinhala, Tamil and Up Country Tamil communities disagreed with this while disagreement for having religious leaders making all major decisions about the country was lowest among the Muslim respondents with around 40% agreeing (out of which includes 10% who strongly agreed) that they should. Around 54% of urban and rural respondents disagreed with the suggestion of having religious leaders rather than politicians make all the decisions about the country.

A fixed quota for women candidates has been a much debated and discussed proposition. Support for the idea of allocating a fixed quota for women candidates per district at the elections was high among respondents from all four communities. Strong agreement was highest among respondents from the Up country Tamil community while 19.5% of the Muslim community strongly disagreed. (Refer Graph 3.2)



**Graph 3.2 – What do you think of the idea of allocating a fixed quota for women candidates for each district at the elections?**



Respondents were given opposing statements about particular issues in respect to governance and were asked to choose one of the two statements most agreeable to them.

On the topic of a political solution for Sri Lanka's ethnic problem, almost 60% of Tamil respondents agreed that the Constitution should be changed based on recommendations made by an all party committee to produce a political solution to the country's ethnic problem. 29.7% of Sinhala, 30.8% of Up country Tamil and 53.5% of Muslim communities agreed with the same. However, 17.6% Sinhala, 4% Tamil, 11.1% Up country Tamil and 14.2% Muslim communities said that there is no need for a political solution as the LTTE was completely defeated militarily. 37% of Sinhalese and around 20% of Tamil, Up country Tamil and Muslim respondents said that they have no opinion about either of these statements regarding this issue. Around 30% of those who live in the North Central and Uva Provinces and around 25% who live in the Sabaragamuwa and Southern Provinces said that there is no need for a political solution as the LTTE was completely defeated militarily. Interestingly, 20% of respondents in the Eastern Province stated the same.

Most respondents from the Tamil (40.9%), Up country Tamil (32.5%) and Muslim (42.9%) communities agree that power needs to be devolved to the Provincial Councils while reducing the power of the central government. Only 15.3% of the Sinhala community concur. On the other hand, 31.3% of Sinhala and around 20% of Tamil, Up country Tamil and Muslim communities stated that it is alright to decentralise certain powers but powers of the

central government should not be reduced. Once again, 37% of Sinhala and around 20% of Tamil, Up country Tamil and Muslim respondents said that they have no opinion regarding this.

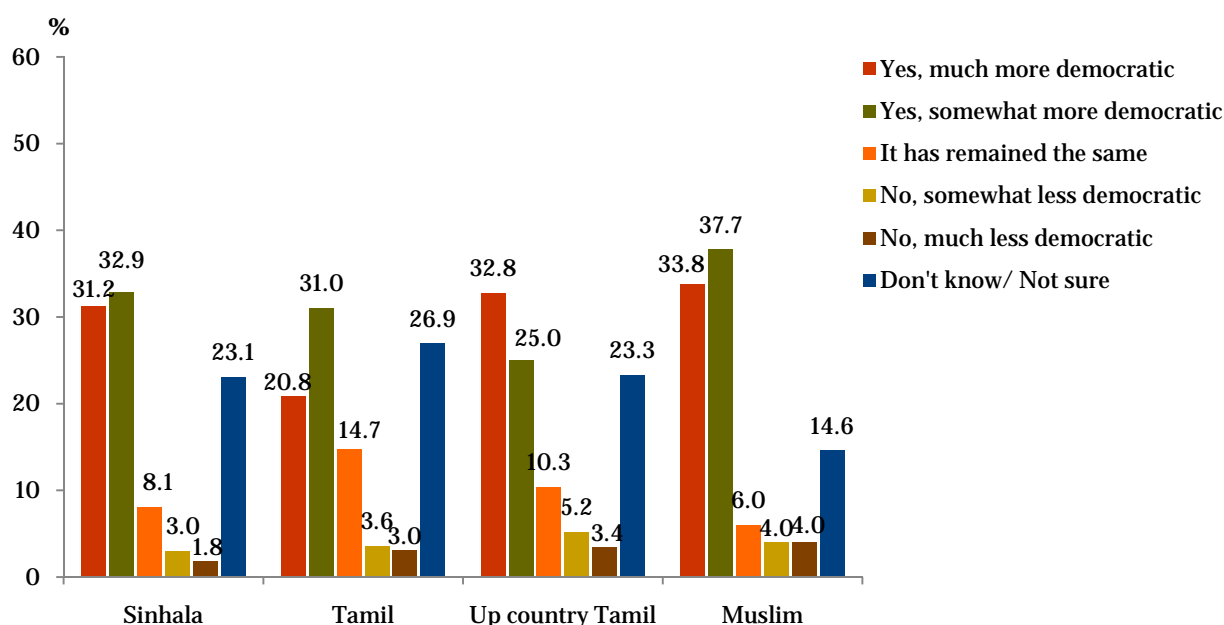
The 18<sup>th</sup> Amendment to the Constitution, which was passed on the 8<sup>th</sup> of September 2010, introduced several key changes to Sri Lanka's governance system, one of which included the removal of the term limit that restricted any Sri Lankan President from serving more than two terms. It is mostly the Tamil (64%), Up country Tamil (48.7%) and Muslim (50%) respondents that agree that the Constitution should limit the President to serving a maximum of two terms in office irrespective of how popular he or she is. 33.6% of Sinhalese respondents agreed with this statement as well. Nevertheless, 42.4% of Sinhalese respondents said that there should be no constitutional limit on how many terms the President can serve – in order to allow strong Presidents to serve the country. 15.2% of Tamil, 21.4% of Up country Tamil and 26.6% of Muslim respondents agreed with the same.

## 4

# Perceptions about Politics in Sri Lanka

Do people feel that the level of democracy in Sri Lanka has increased or do they feel that we are now a less democratic country since the end of war in May 2009? Most respondents from all four communities believe that Sri Lanka is now more democratic, with 31.2% of Sinhala, 20.8% of Tamil, 32.8% of Up country Tamil and 33.8% of Muslim respondents believing that Sri Lanka is much more democratic. (Refer Graph 4.1)

**Graph 4.1 – Some people said that after the end of war, the level of democracy in Sri Lanka has increased. How strongly do you agree or disagree with this statement?**



Sri Lanka has had many leaders since Independence. From among all these leaders, 58.8% of Sri Lankans think that the country has been the most democratic under President Mahinda Rajapaksa's period. This view is shared by 69.9% of Sinhalese respondents, while 23.6% of Tamil respondents, 13.1% of Up country Tamil respondents and 21.9% of Muslim respondents concur. Comparing responses based on age, the age category that has the highest percentage of respondents who consider the current President the most democratic is the 18 – 30 category. 62.2% of respondents in the 18 – 30 age category consider the country most democratic under President Mahinda Rajapaksa. From a Provincial breakdown, the highest percentage is from the Southern Province where 82.6% said that it is

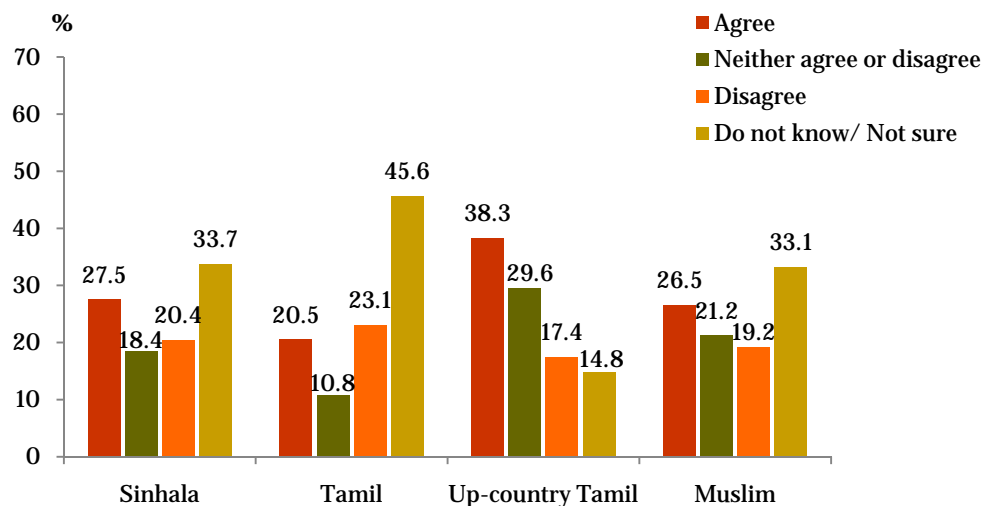
the President Rajapaksa while the lowest approval is from the Northern Province where only 15.9% of respondents share the same view.

From among the Tamil respondents, 14.3% said that it was under President Chandrika Bandaranaike’s period while 28% said that they do not know under which leader’s period it was most democratic. Most Up country Tamil respondents (48.6%) said it was President Ranasinghe Premadasa while 21.2% of Muslim respondents stated the same.

Politics and the government are discussed a great deal amongst Sri Lankans. The survey attempted to ascertain if this interest extended to participation in politics, conveying views about certain government policies, how effective respondents thought their vote is and how much influence they felt they had over government.

27.5% of Sinhala, 20.5% of Tamil, 38.3% of Up country Tamil and 26.5% of Muslim respondents agree that people like them can have a real influence on politics if they are prepared to get involved. (Refer Graph 4.2) Looking at it from an urban – rural perspective, level of agreement are similar among urban and rural respondents with 24.5% of urban and 28.2% respondents agreeing with the statement and 24.3% of urban and 19.3% of rural disagreeing.

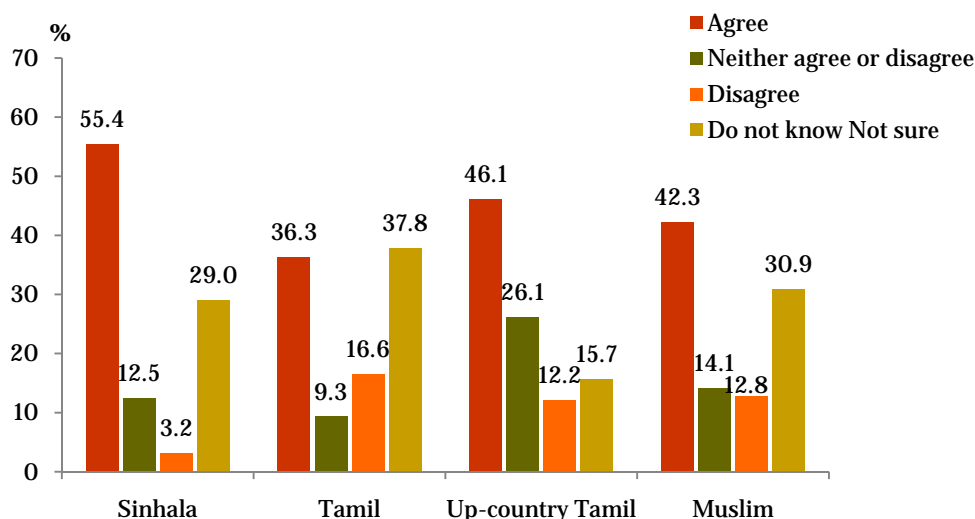
**Graph 4.2 – People like me can have a real influence on politics if they are prepared to get involved**



If a person is dissatisfied with the policies of the government, does he or she have a duty to do something about it? Most people from the Sinhala, Up country Tamil and Muslim communities, 55.4%, 46.1% and 42.3% respectively, agreed that a person has a duty to do something about it. While 36.3% of respondents from the Tamil community agreed as well, another 37.8% stated that they do not know or are unsure as to whether they agree or

disagree. Interestingly, only 3.2% of Sinhala respondents disagreed that if a person is dissatisfied with government policies they should do something about it, while a higher percentage of respondents from the other three communities also disagreed. (Refer Graph 4.3) 46.4% of urban respondents and 53.8% of rural respondents agreed with this statement while 8.6% of urban and 4.7% of rural disagreed.

**Graph 4.3 – If a person is dissatisfied with the policies of the government, he/she has a duty to do something about it**

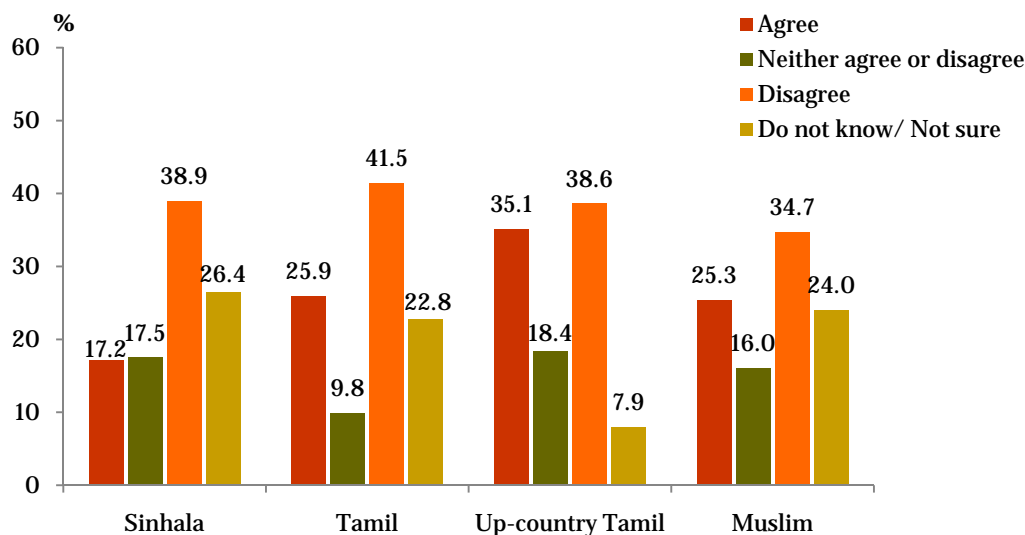


When asked whether they feel that sometimes politics and functions of the government seem so complicated that they cannot really understand what is going on, it is mostly the Up country Tamil community (54.8%) who agree, while 37.2% of Sinhala community, 40% of Tamil community and Muslim community also answered in the affirmative. However, 19.1% of Sinhala, 15.9% of Tamil, 13% of Up country Tamil and 22.1% of Muslim respondents disagreed with this statement and believe that politics and functions of the government do not seem so complicated and they are able to understand what is going on. When comparing opinions of urban respondents and rural respondents, more urban respondents (43.4%) agreed that sometimes politics and functions of the government seem so complicated that they cannot really understand what is going on compared to the 35.6% of rural respondents who agreed with the same. 15% of urban and 20% rural respondents however, disagreed with this statement.

Most respondents from all four communities disagreed with the statement *‘It doesn’t really matter which party is in power because it will not affect our lives’*. However, 17.2% of Sinhala, 25.9% of Tamil, 35.1% of Up country Tamil and 25.3% of Muslim respondents agreed that it doesn’t matter which party is in power as it would not affect their lives. (Refer Graph 4.4) Disagreement was higher among rural respondents (40.6%) when compared to

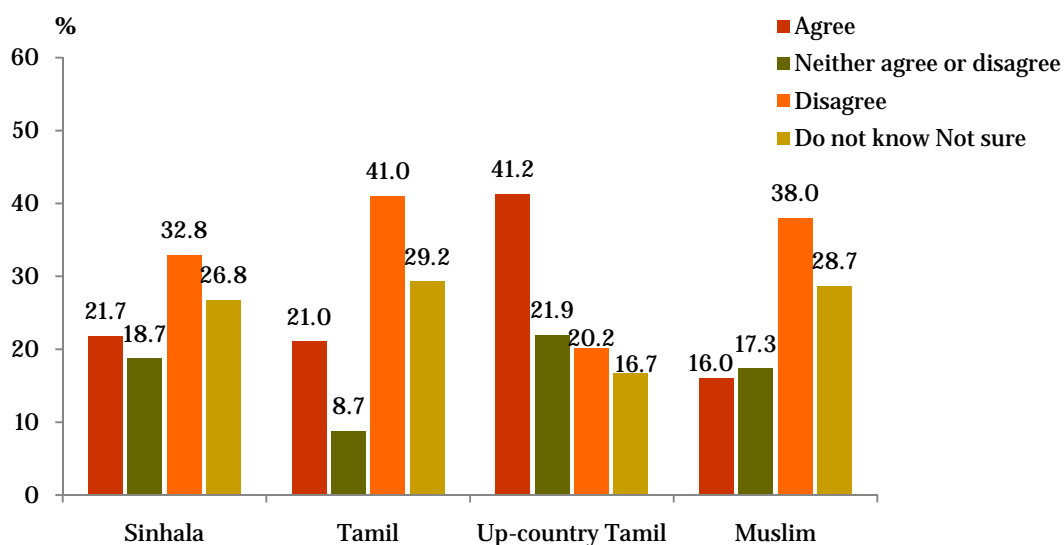
urban respondents (33.3%). 22.5% of urban and 18.7% of rural respondents agreed with this statement.

**Graph 4.4– It doesn't really matter which party is in power because it will not affect our lives**



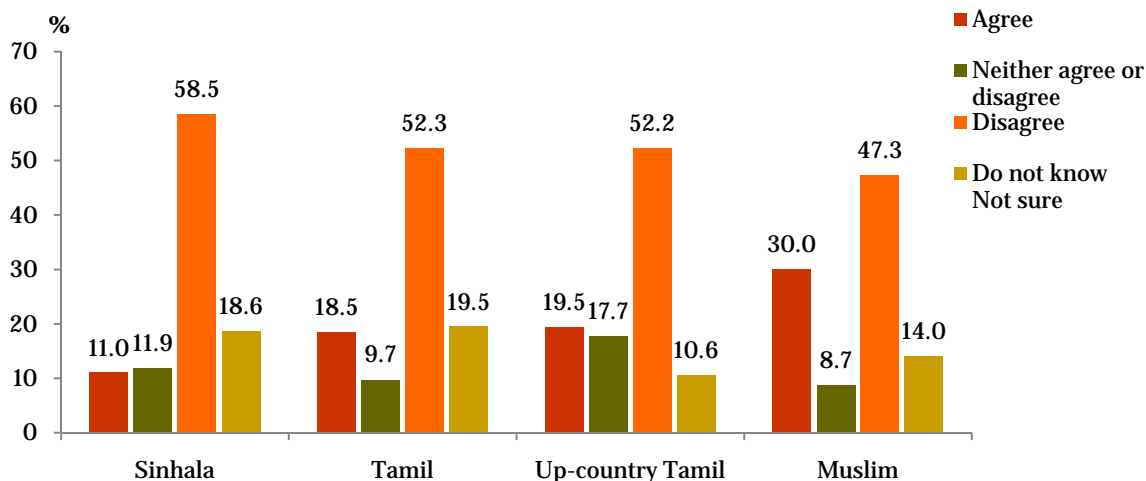
Most respondents in the Up Country Tamil community (41.2%) believe that they have no say in what the government does, while most in the Sinhala, Tamil and Muslim communities disagreed and believe that they do have a say in what the government does. Disagreement is highest among people from the Tamil community when compared to the other three communities, with 41% disagreeing with the statement that they have no say. (Refer Graph 4.5) It is worth mentioning that a higher percentage of rural respondents (35.6%) stated that they feel that they do have a say when compared to the 25.8% of urban respondents who stated the same.

**Graph 4.5 – People like me have no say in what the government does**



It is noteworthy that most respondents from all four communities believe that their vote has an impact on the outcome of an election. However, 30% of the Muslim community feel that their vote has no impact while almost 20% of Tamil and Up Country Tamil community stated the same. (Refer Graph 4.6) From an urban – rural perspective, 57.5% of urban respondents and 56.2% of rural respondents believe that their vote has an impact on the outcome of an election while 19.2% of urban and 12% of rural respondents stated the opposite.

**Graph 4.6 – My vote has no impact on the outcome of an election**



## 5

# Political Participation

Six elections have been held in Sri Lanka since the war ended in May 2009 - one Presidential election, one General election, two Provincial Council elections and two Local Authority elections. In general, during an election campaign, do people feel that they learn enough about the candidates and the issues to make an informed decision? 20.4% of Sri Lankans said that they do, very much while 54.1% said that they do, but only somewhat. 11% said that they do not learn enough about the candidate at all while 14.5% said that they do not know or are unsure.

Respondents were asked about which political party (specific party, not alliance) they felt that they are close to. 74% of Sinhalese respondents said the Sri Lanka Freedom Party while 19.8% said the United National Party. 53.9% of Tamil respondents said they felt close to the Illankai Tamil Arasu Kachchi party while 22.4% said the United National Party. 42.7% of Up country Tamil respondents also said the UNP while 29.2% said the Ceylon Workers Congress. 31.8% of Muslim respondents said the UNP and 19.7% said Sri Lanka Muslim Congress.

When voting for a candidate at elections, what are the important attributes or reasons that matter to people? People were asked to state five reasons in the order of importance. Commitment to public service ranks number one for Sinhala and Tamil voters while Education level is the most important for Up country Tamil and Muslim voters. Honesty and experience in politics are reasons stated by people from all four communities. (*Refer Table 5.1*)

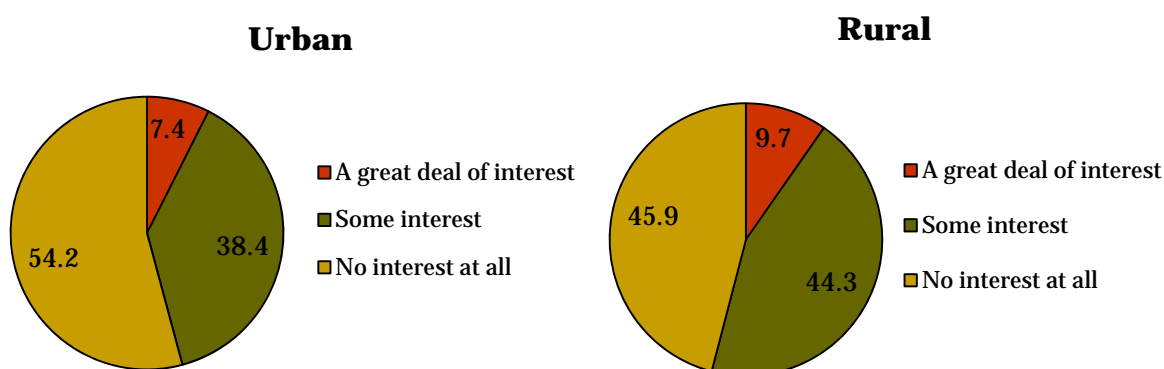


**Table 5.1 – Please rank the 5 most important attributes/ reasons that matter to you when voting for a candidate at elections, in the order of importance.**

	Sinhala	Tamil	Up country Tamil	Muslim
1	Commitment to public service	Commitment to public service	Education level	Education level
2	Honesty	Education level	Commitment to public service	Commitment to public service
3	Leadership ability	Honesty	Honesty	Honesty
4	Experience in politics	Leadership ability	Experience in politics	Leadership ability
5	Public image	Experience in politics	Public image	Experience in politics

Leaving aside the period of elections, it appears that most Sri Lankans do not have a lot of interest in politics and public affairs in general. 48% stated that they have no interest at all, 43% have some interest and only 9% have a great deal of interest. Looking at these opinions from an urban – rural perspective, 54.2% of respondents from urban areas and 45.9% of respondents from rural areas said that leaving aside the period of elections, they have no interest at all in politics and public affairs. (Refer Graph 5.1)

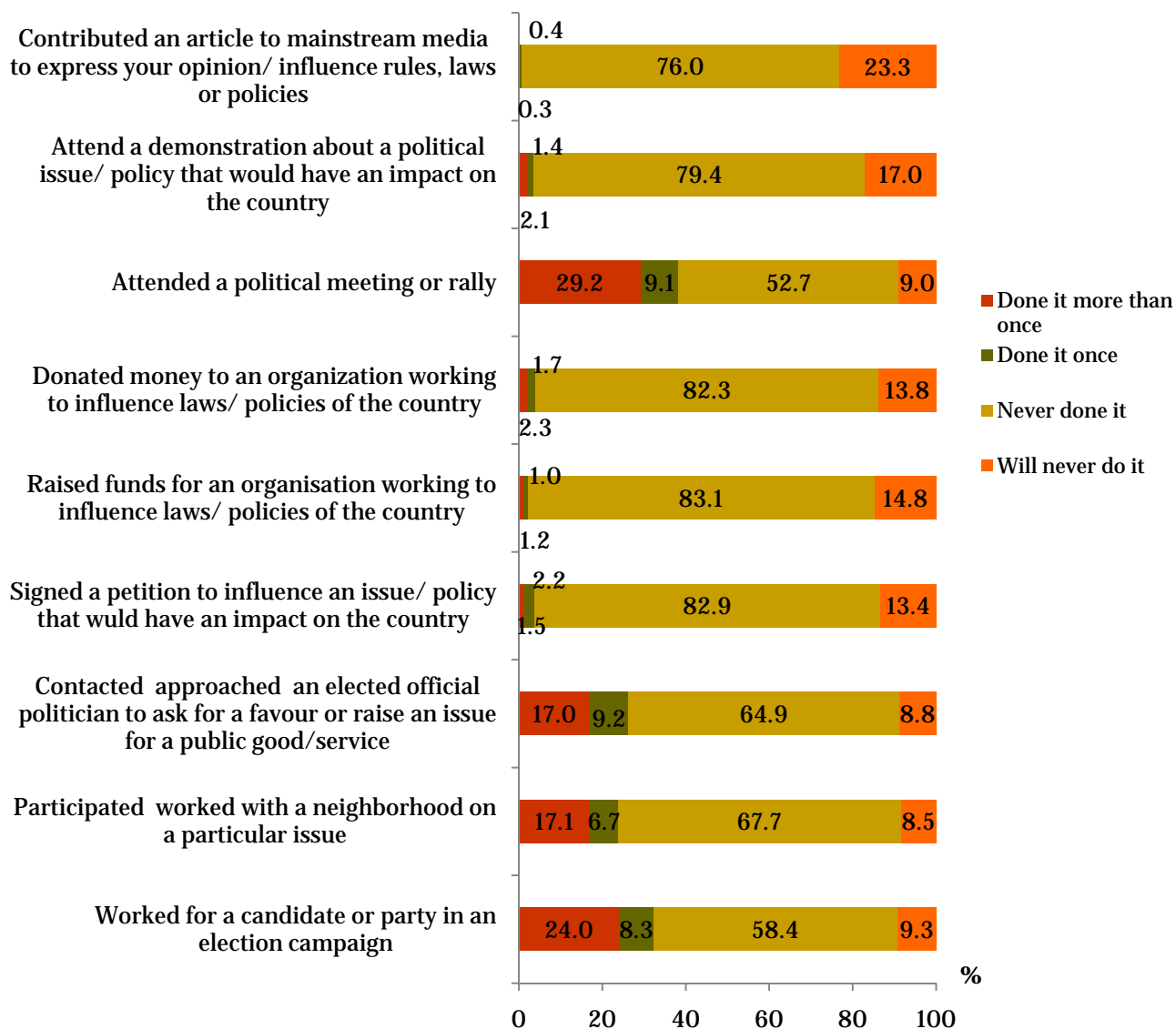
**Graph 5.1 – Leaving aside the period of elections, how much interest do you have in politics and public affairs in general?**



In order to find out how active people are when it comes to political participation, they were asked to state if they had participated in certain activities in the past 12 months to influence rules, laws or policies of the country. The activity that most people have done once or more than once is attending a political meeting or rally, followed by working for a candidate or

party during an election campaign. Contributing an article to mainstream media to express their opinion or influence rules, laws or policies appears to be the activity people have engaged in the least in the past 12 months. (Refer Graph 5.2)

**Graph 5.2 – During the last 12 months, how often have you done any of the following to influence rules, laws or policies?**



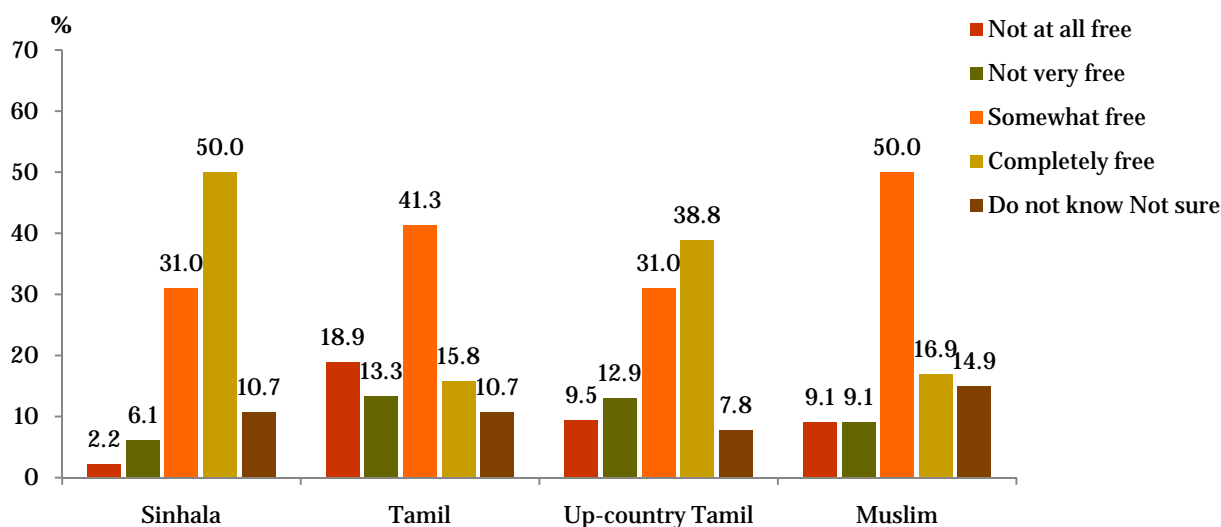
## 6

## Assessment of Freedom

In post-war Sri Lanka, it is frequently expressed that people are now free to live without fear. How far does this statement extend to people believing that they can exercise their democratic right to express themselves on any topic, to vote for whomever they want, participate as activists or demonstrators or even openly practice any religion?

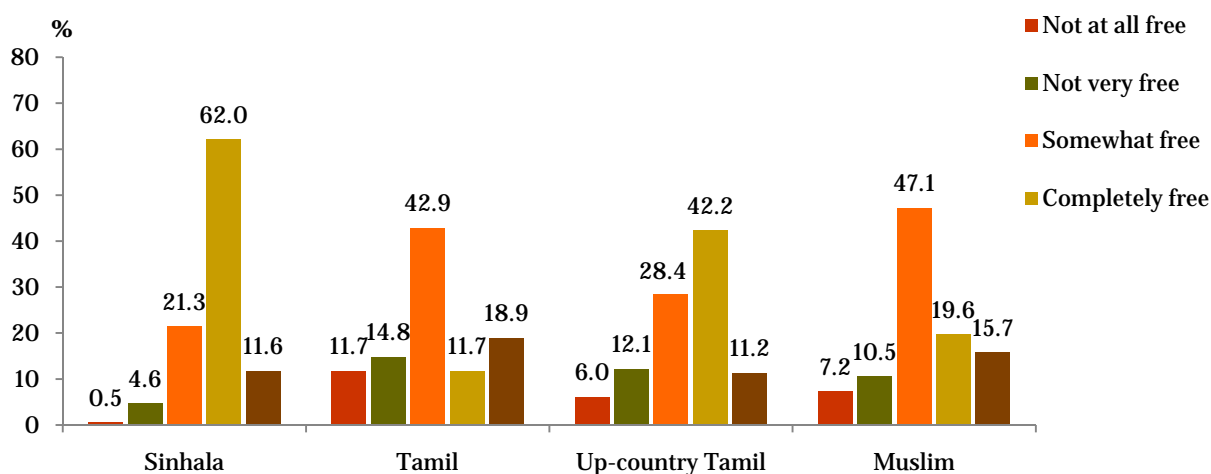
When asked if in Sri Lanka they are free to express their feelings about politics, irrespective of where they are and who they are with, most of those from the Sinhala community (50%) and Up country Tamil community (38.8%) believe that they are completely free to do so, while a much smaller percentage of the Tamil and Muslim communities believe the same. 50% of the Muslim community and 41.3% of the Tamil community believe that they are somewhat free. 18.9% of the Tamil community stated that they are not free at all to express their feelings about politics. (Refer Graph 6.1) Analysing opinions based on people's geographic location, it is interesting to note that 49.1% of the rural respondents said that they are completely free to express their feelings about politics, while only 29.5% of the urban respondents stated the same. 45.1% of the urban respondents believe that they are only somewhat free to express their feelings about politics, irrespective of where they are and who they are with.

**Graph 6.1 – In Sri Lanka, how free do you think you are to express your feelings about politics, irrespective of where you are and who you're with?**

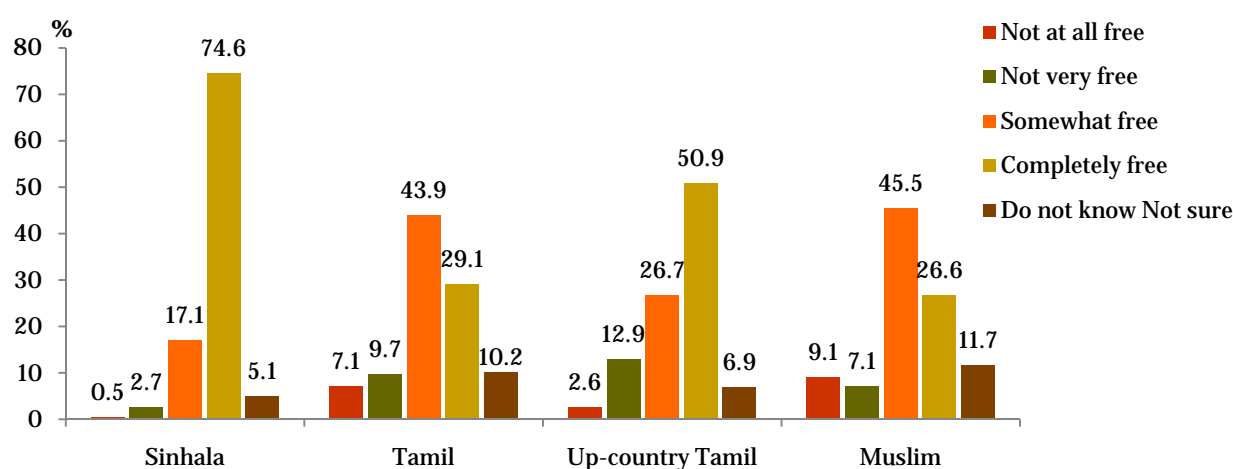


People held similar opinions when asked about whether they are free to join any political organisation they want (Refer Graph 6.2) and to choose who to vote for without feeling pressured. (Refer Graph 6.3) Most of the Sinhala and Up country Tamil communities believe they are completely free to join any political organisation they want and are also completely free to choose who to vote for without feeling pressured, whereas those from the Tamil community and Muslim community mainly believe they are only somewhat free. 55.7% of the rural respondents and 43% of the urban respondents consider themselves completely free to join any political organisation while when it comes to freedom to choose who to vote for without feeling pressured, the numbers increase to 66.1% and 67.7% for urban and rural respondents respectively.

**Graph 6.2 – In Sri Lanka, how free do you think you are to join any political organisation you want?**

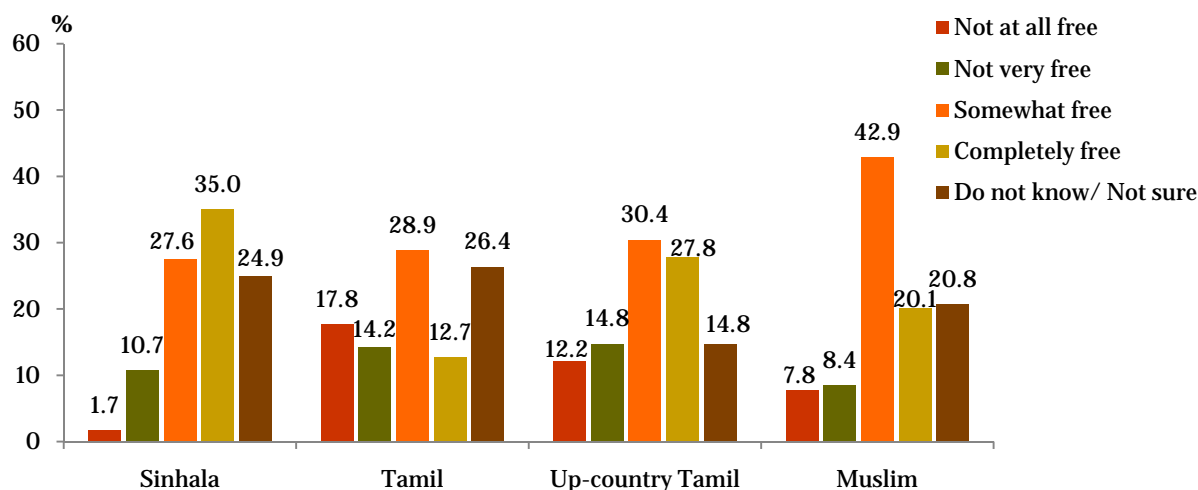


**Graph 6.3 – In Sri Lanka, how free do you think you are to choose who to vote for without feeling pressured?**



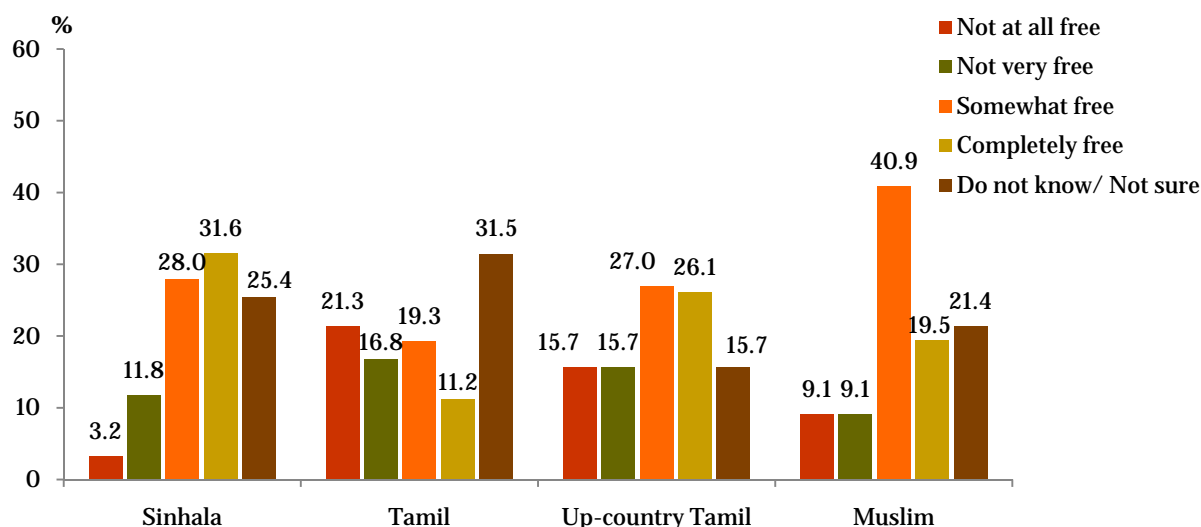
Protesting against or attending a demonstration against social injustices such as the rising cost of living or an increase in bus fares is not unusual to observe in Sri Lanka. However, to what extent do people think they are free to do so? 35% of Sinhalese respondents believe they are completely free while only 12.7% of Tamil respondents, 27.8% of Up country Tamil respondents and 20.1% of Muslim respondents believe the same. 17.8% of Tamil respondents believe that they are not free at all to engage in this way. (Refer Graph 6.4) Compared to the 17.5% of the urban respondents who stated that they are completely free to protest against or attend a demonstration against social injustices, almost double that percentage (35.8%) of the rural respondents also believe that they completely free.

**Graph 6.4 – In Sri Lanka, how free do you think you are to protest/ attend a demonstration against social injustice?**



In order to find out if opinions differ if the issues were pegged to political injustice, respondents were asked how free they felt when it comes to protesting against or attending a demonstration against political injustice. The percentage of those who think they are free to do so reduced in all four communities. (Refer Graph 6.5) Once again, more rural respondents (32.6%) believe that they are completely free while a lower percentage of the urban respondents (15.4%) believe the same.

**Graph 6.5 – In Sri Lanka, how free do you think you are to protest/ attend a demonstration against political injustice?**



With regard to the freedom that people feel they have to practice religion in their community, an overwhelming majority from all communities (Sinhala – 98.5%, Tamil – 96.9%, Up country Tamil – 95.7%, Muslim – 94.2%) stated that they can practice without any restriction. Around 98% of both urban and rural populations agreed with the same.

When asked how they assess the level of freedom their religion has in Sri Lanka to practice its traditional customs/ rituals, again majority from all communities that they can be practiced without any restrictions. However, agreement by Tamil and Up country Tamil communities that they can be practiced without any restrictions was lower, with 6.7% of Tamil respondents and 9.6% of Up country Tamil respondents stating that they can only be practiced with some amount of restriction. 92% of the urban respondents agreed that the traditional customs/ rituals of their religion can be practiced without any restrictions in Sri Lanka, while 7.4% of the urban respondents stated that they can be practiced but with some restrictions. 96.8% of rural respondents said that they can be practiced without any restrictions while 2.2% said with some restrictions.

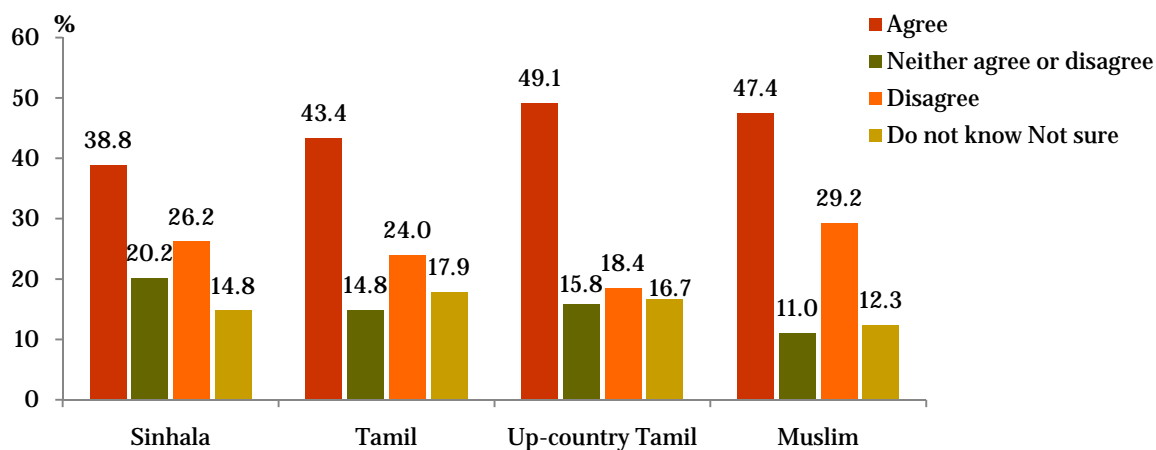
# 7

## Assessment of Government Performance

Respondents were asked for their opinion on topics such as the government’s performance post-war in sectors such as economy and public services, reconciliation and also about the expanding role of the armed forces.

Looking at the assessment of the economy, most of the respondents from all four communities said that they believe that the government is doing a good job. However, 26.2% of Sinhala, 24% of Tamil, 18.4% of Up country Tamil and 29.2% of the Muslim respondents said that the government has not been doing a good job in managing the economy (*Refer Graph 7.1*) When looking at the opinion based on whether they live in an urban or rural area, around 40% of both urban and rural respondents believe that the government is doing a good job. When looking at those who disagree, more urban respondents (31.1%) believe that the government is not doing a good job in managing the economy when compared to the rural respondents (24%).

**Graph 7.1 - The government is doing a good job in managing the economy**

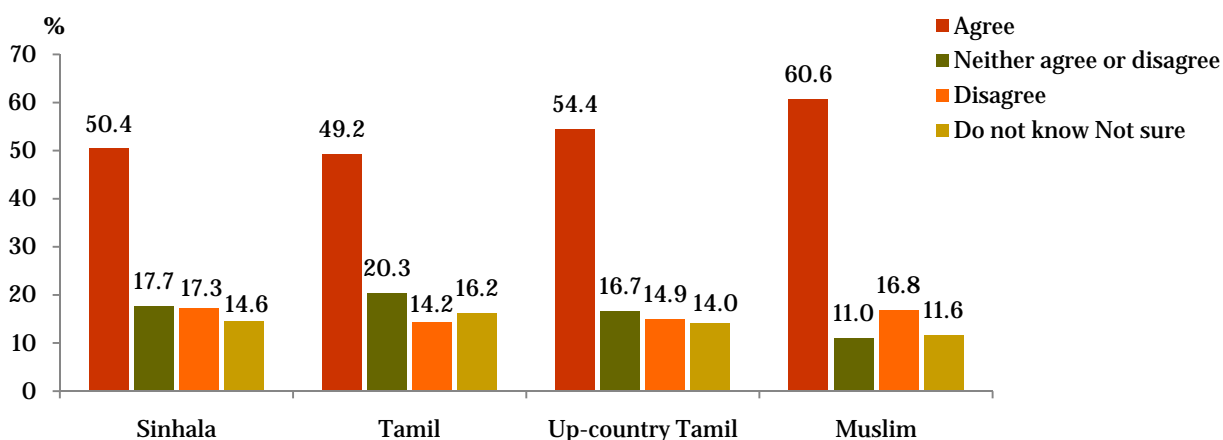


After respondents stated their level of agreement (*Refer Graph 7.1*), they were asked if that level of agreement had increased, decreased or remained the same since the end of war. According to 71.6% of Sinhala, 67.9% of Tamil, 56.6% of Up country Tamil and 69% of Muslim respondents who agreed that the government is doing a good job, their level of agreement has increased since the end of war. Around 4% of Sinhala and Tamil respondents, 22.6% of Up country Tamil and 9.9% of Muslim respondents who also agreed said that their level of agreement has in fact decreased since the end of war. Among those who disagreed

and said that Government is not doing a good job in managing the economy, 13.6% of Sinhala, 11.1% of Tamil, 27.3% of Up country Tamil and 9.3% of Muslim respondents said that their level of disagreement has increased since the end of war. However, around 37% of Sinhala and Muslim respondents and around 18% of Tamil and Up country Tamil respondents said that their level of disagreement has decreased since the end of war.

The same question was asked with respect to the performance of the government in managing public services like health care and education. 50.4% of Sinhala, 49.2% of Tamil, 54.4% of Up country Tamil and 60.6% of Muslim communities agree that the government is doing a good job in managing public services. (Refer Graph 7.2) When comparing the assessment of government performance in managing the economy and public services, respondents believe that the government is doing a better job in managing public services than managing the economy. 47.1% of the urban respondents and 52.7% of rural respondents stated their agreement about the government doing a good job in managing public services, while 20.8% of urban and 15.5% of rural respondents stated their disagreement.

**Graph 7.2 - The government is doing a good job in managing the public services like healthcare and education**



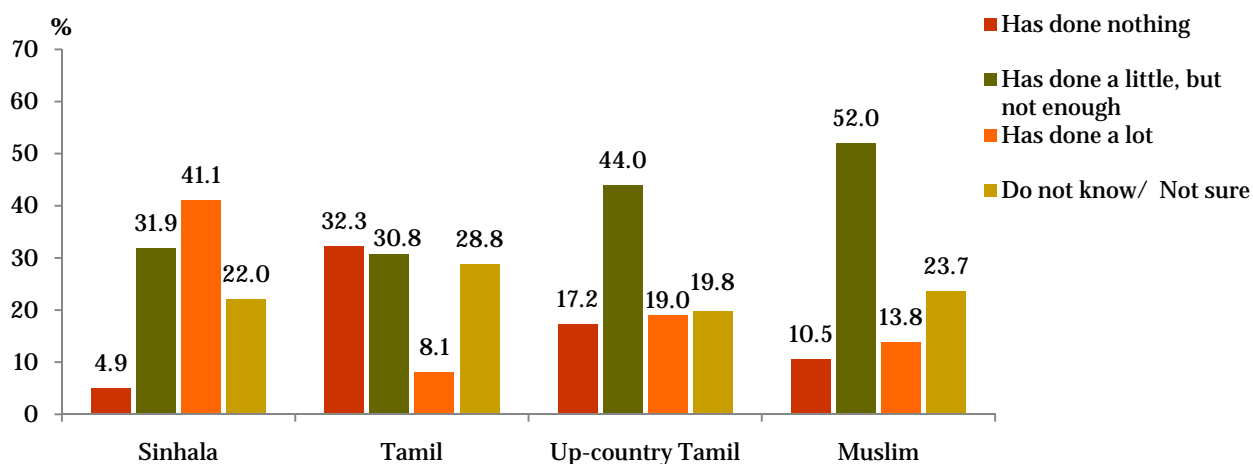
71.7% of Sinhala, 74.4% of Tamil, 55.9% of Up country Tamil and 64% of Muslim respondents who said that the Government is doing a good job in managing public services also stated that this favourable opinion increased since the end of war, while 5.5% of Sinhala, 2.3% of Tamil, 20.3% of Up country Tamil and 7.9% of Muslim respondents said that it has decreased. From among those who disagree that the Government is doing a good job, 6.1% of Sinhala, 13.8% of Tamil, 35.3% Up country Tamil and 8% Muslim respondents said their level of disagreement has increased since the end of war.



On the topic of reconciliation, 32.3% of people from the Tamil community are of the opinion that the government has done nothing with regard to addressing the root causes of the conflict which resulted in thirty years of war. On the other hand, 41.1% of people from the Sinhala community believe that the government has done a lot. 44% of Up Country Tamil and 52% of Muslim communities believe that the government has done a little but not enough to address the root causes of the conflict. (Refer Graph 7.3)

Looking at responses based on which Province a person lives in, only 5.7% of those in the Northern Province said that the government has done a lot with regard to addressing the root causes of the conflict. 28.6% said the government has done a little but enough while 38.1% said that the government has done nothing. On the other hand, 63.2% of those from the Uva Province, 60.2% from North Central, 43.1% from Western, 42.6% from Sabaragamuwa and 28.2% from the Southern Province believe that the government has done a lot. Less than 9% from these 5 Provinces say that the government has done nothing.

**Graph 7.3 – In the past two years, do you think the government has done enough to address the root causes of the conflict which resulted in 30 years of war?**



The Lessons Learnt and Reconciliation Commission (LLRC) was appointed in May 2010 to “focus on the causes of conflict, its effect on the people, and promote national unity and reconciliation, so that all citizens of Sri Lanka, irrespective of ethnicity or religion could live in dignity and a sense of freedom”<sup>1</sup>. Among the people who said that they have heard of the LLRC, it is mostly those from the Tamil community (32.5%) who are aware of the commission. Most of the people from all four communities said that they have not heard of the LLRC, with around 90% of the Up country Tamil and Muslim communities stating that they have not heard of the LLRC. (Refer Graph 7.4) 18.4% of urban respondents and 19.5%

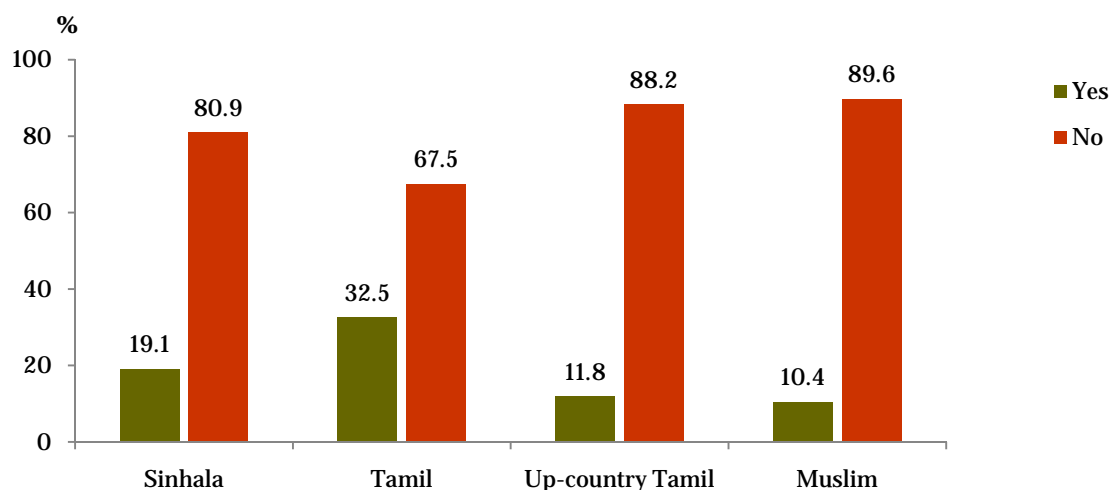
<sup>1</sup> [http://www.llrc.lk/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=18&Itemid=2](http://www.llrc.lk/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=18&Itemid=2)

of rural respondents have heard of the LLRC while 81.6% of urban and 80.5% of rural respondents have not heard of it.

19.3% of respondents (381 in number) who have heard of the LLRC were asked if they knew what the functions of the LLRC were. Majority of them did not know what the functions were. Some of the answers that were given by respondents (less than 30 people) were –

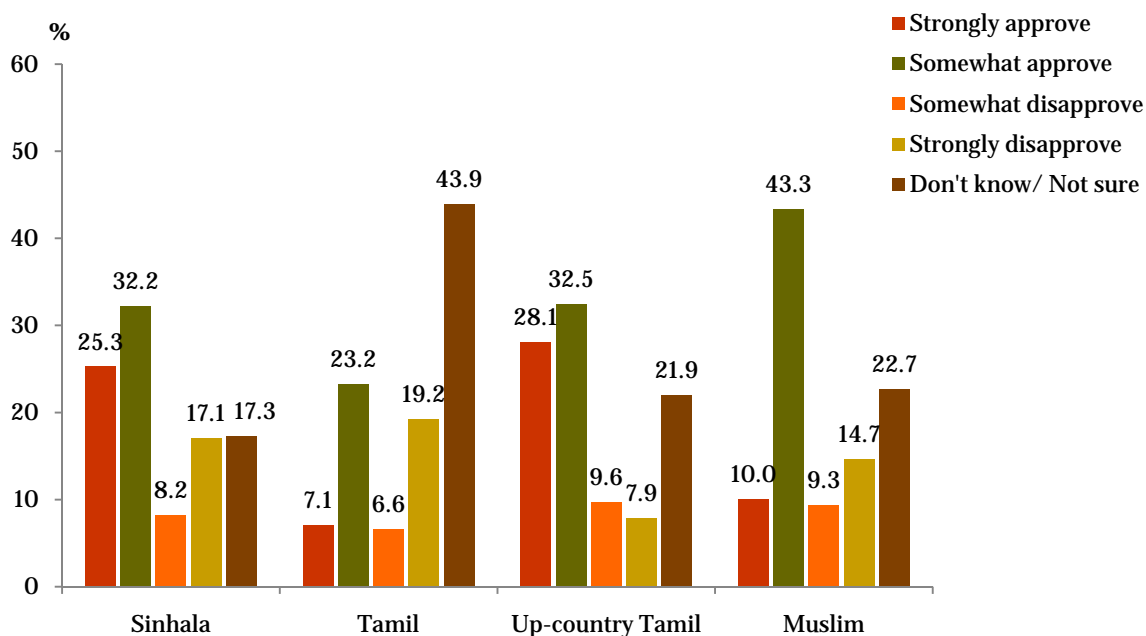
- To find out about the difficulties faced by the minorities when the war was going on
- To find out about the war
- To find out about human rights

**Graph 7.4 – Have you heard of the Lessons Learnt and Reconciliation Commission (LLRC)?**



Since the end of war, the role of the forces has expanded to include civilian tasks, such as selling vegetables and other economic and recreation activities. More than 55% of the Sinhala, Up country Tamil and Muslim communities approve of this, with 25.3% of the Sinhala community, 28.1% of the Up country Tamil community and 10% of the Muslim community stating their strong approval. Around a quarter of the people from the Sinhala, Tamil and Muslim communities expressing their disapproval where 17.1% Sinhala, 19.2% Tamil, and 14.7% Muslim people said that they strongly disapprove of this role. (Refer Graph 7.5) 23.6% of the urban respondents and 22.2% of rural respondents stated their strong approval while 21.3% of urban and 15.1% of rural respondents expressed their strong disapproval about this issue.

**Graph 7.5 – The role of the forces is expanding to include civilian tasks – such as selling vegetables and other economic and recreation roles. Do you approve or disapprove of this?**



## 8

## Trust in Institutions

There are several key institutions that people have direct or indirect contact with and these institutions range from the Central government to the army to NGOs. People were asked about how much trust they have in each institution and whether or not that level of trust has increased or decreased since the end of war.

With regard to the level of trust that they have, most people from all four communities have some trust in the Central/ National government, their Provincial government, their Local government, civil service, police, parliament and political parties. Most Sinhalese people have a great deal of trust in the army while most of those from the other three communities have some trust. However, 32.8% of people from the Tamil community stated that they have no trust in the army.

On the Election Commission, most Sinhalese respondents said that they do not know or unsure as to how much trust they have while most Tamil and Muslim respondents said that they have some trust. 35.8% of Up country Tamil people said they have some trust while another 35.8% said they do not know or are unsure. Most people from the Sinhala and Up country Tamil communities said they are also unsure about how much trust they have in NGOs while most Tamil and Muslim people said they have some trust. (Refer Table 8.1)

**Table 8.1 – I am going to name a number of institutions. For each one, could you tell me how much trust you have in them?**

Institution	Level of trust	Sinhala	Tamil	Up country Tamil	Muslim
Central/ National government	Great deal of trust	25.8	7.4	13.8	10.1
	Some trust	55.3	53.7	48.6	56.8
	No trust	8.1	23.2	14.7	17.6
	Don't know/ Not sure	10.9	15.8	22.9	15.5
Provincial government	Great deal of trust	13.2	6.6	10.0	4.7
	Some trust	55.1	54.4	53.6	57.7
	No trust	15.1	20.3	16.4	23.5
	Don't know/ Not sure	16.7	18.7	20.0	14.1

<b>Local government</b>	Great deal of trust	12.0	9.0	7.3	4.7
	Some trust	58.7	55.3	59.6	56.8
	No trust	13.6	19.1	14.7	26.4
	Don't know/ Not sure	15.7	16.5	18.3	12.2
<b>Civil service</b>	Great deal of trust	19.2	16.7	17.3	6.1
	Some trust	60.9	62.5	51.8	60.5
	No trust	8.0	12.0	13.6	23.8
	Don't know/ Not sure	11.9	8.9	17.3	9.5
<b>Police</b>	Great deal of trust	19.7	6.8	11.8	9.5
	Some trust	50.3	52.1	50.0	48.3
	No trust	21.9	29.2	29.1	30.6
	Don't know/ Not sure	8.1	12.0	9.1	11.6
<b>Army</b>	Great deal of trust	59.7	6.3	18.2	15.8
	Some trust	32.6	43.8	33.6	47.3
	No trust	0.9	32.8	27.3	21.2
	Don't know/ Not sure	6.8	17.2	20.9	15.8
<b>Courts</b>	Great deal of trust	37.1	20.6	47.7	17.7
	Some trust	42.2	57.2	31.2	43.5
	No trust	3.3	9.8	5.5	20.4
	Don't know/ Not sure	17.4	12.4	15.6	18.4
<b>Parliament</b>	Great deal of trust	15.2	7.9	20.0	10.3
	Some trust	48.9	48.7	42.7	50.0
	No trust	13.2	21.2	16.4	23.3
	Don't know/ Not sure	22.8	22.2	20.9	16.4
<b>Political Parties</b>	Great deal of trust	6.5	3.2	10.8	4.8
	Some trust	49.8	45.5	45.9	51.0
	No trust	21.0	35.4	29.7	29.0
	Don't know/ Not sure	22.6	15.9	13.5	15.2
<b>Election Commission</b>	Great deal of trust	7.2	12.7	17.0	6.4
	Some trust	36.9	48.7	35.8	42.6
	No trust	8.6	16.9	11.3	26.2
	Don't know/ Not sure	47.3	21.7	35.8	24.8
<b>NGOs</b>	Great deal of trust	4.8	20.3	11.3	15.1
	Some trust	36.1	53.6	35.8	36.3
	No trust	16.9	10.4	11.3	18.5
	Don't know/ Not sure	42.2	15.6	41.5	30.1

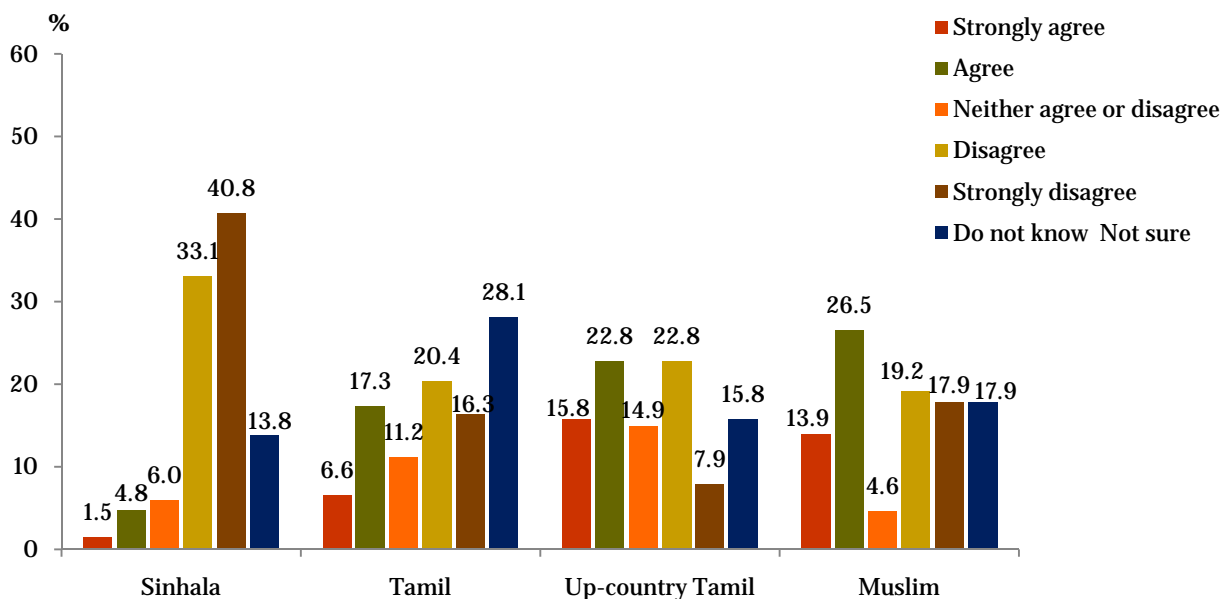
Looking at people's opinions on whether the level of trust they placed on each institution has increased, decreased or remained the same since the end of the war, people's opinions have changed in a similar pattern across the board. Those who have a great deal of trust or some trust in institutions said that the level of trust has increased or stayed the same since the end of war while those who said they have no trust said that it has decreased or remained the same.

# 9

## Corruption

Corruption is present in any government, but do people believe that corruption can be ignored if the country is developing? 65% of Sri Lankans, mostly from the Sinhala community, do not think that corruption can be ignored, with mostly respondents from the Sinhala community stating so. (Refer Graph 9.1) When analysing the opinions based on respondents' geographic locations, it is interesting that among the urban respondents, 21.1% agree that one can ignore the corruption as long as the country is being developed while only 9.7% of the rural respondents agree with the same. 58% of urban and 67.2% of rural respondents disagree with this, with around 33% of both urban and rural respondents strongly disagreeing.

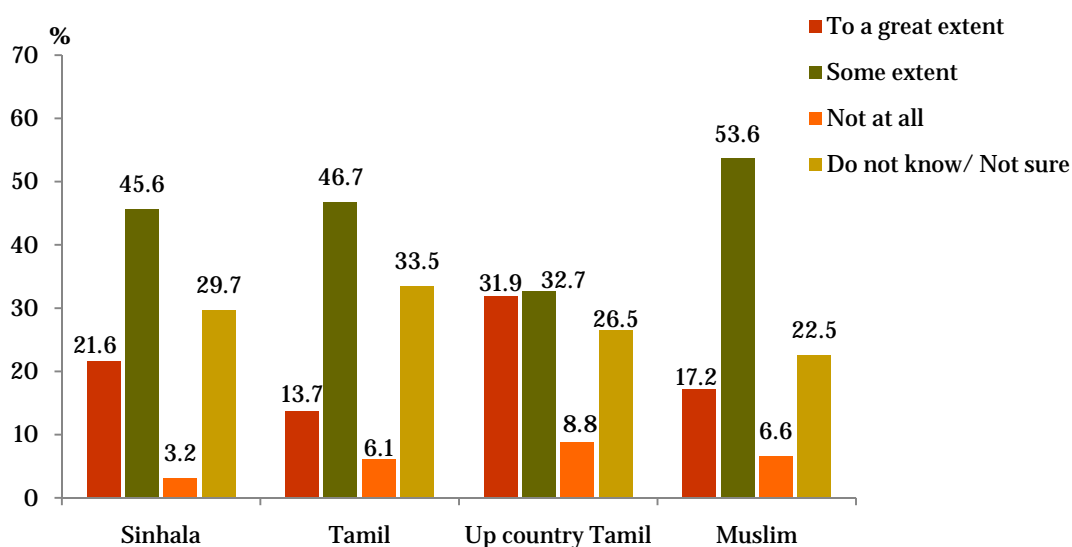
**Graph 9.1 – Some people said that since corruption is inevitable in any government, as long as the country is being developed they can ignore the corruption. To what extent do you agree with this statement?**



Respondents were given a list of people who at one point or another have been accused of being engaged in various types of corruption. Respondents were asked to what extent they felt that corruption was prevalent among these groups of people. The people included in the list were Members of Parliament, elected Local Government officials, Government officials, Police and NGOs.

Most respondents from all four communities stated that corruption is prevalent among Members of Parliament to some extent. 53.6% of the Muslim community hold this opinion, the highest amongst the groups polled. Less than 10% from all communities think that there is no corruption at all. (Refer Graph 9.2) 29.2% of urban and 18.4% of rural respondents think that there corruption is prevalent to great extent while 44% - 46% from both think that it is prevalent to some extent.

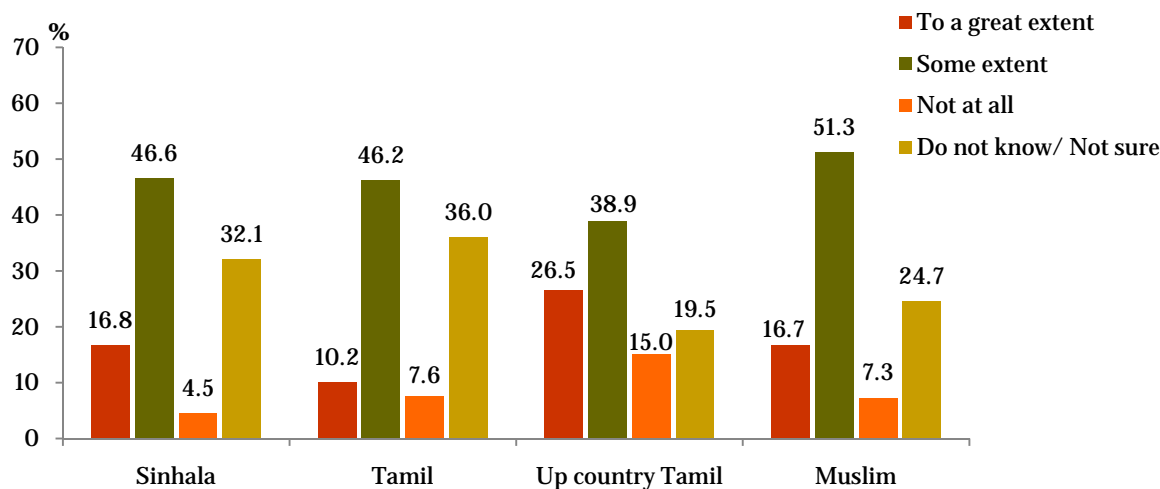
**Graph 9.2– In your opinion, to what degree is corruption prevalent among Members of Parliament**



With regard to the prevalence of corruption among elected Local Government officials, most respondents from all four communities said it is prevalent to some extent, with the highest number coming from the Muslim community again (51.3%). (Refer Graph 9.3) Looking at responses from an urban – rural perspective, more urban respondents (23.3%) said that corruption is prevalent to great extent compared to the 14.7% of rural respondents who stated the same. 42.8% of urban and 47.5% of rural respondents said it is prevalent to some extent while around 5.5% of both said it is not at all prevalent.

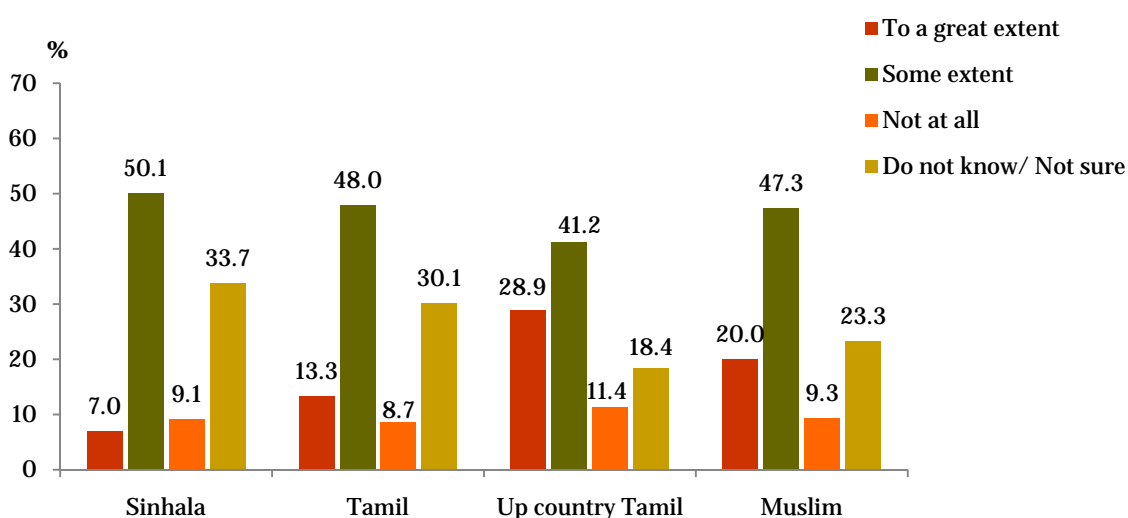


**Graph 9.3– In your opinion, to what degree is corruption prevalent among elected Local Government Officials?**



Around 50% of Sinhala, Tamil and Muslim respondents and 41.2% of Up country Tamil respondents believe that corruption is prevalent to some extent among Government officials. Almost 30% of Up country Tamil respondents and 20% Muslim respondents believe that it is prevalent to a great extent. (Refer Graph 9.4) With regard to urban – rural perspective, more urban respondents think that Government Officials are corrupt when compared to rural respondents, where 14.8% urban and 8.4% rural stated that they are corrupt to a great extent and 49.6% of urban and 48.8% of rural respondents stating it is to some extent.

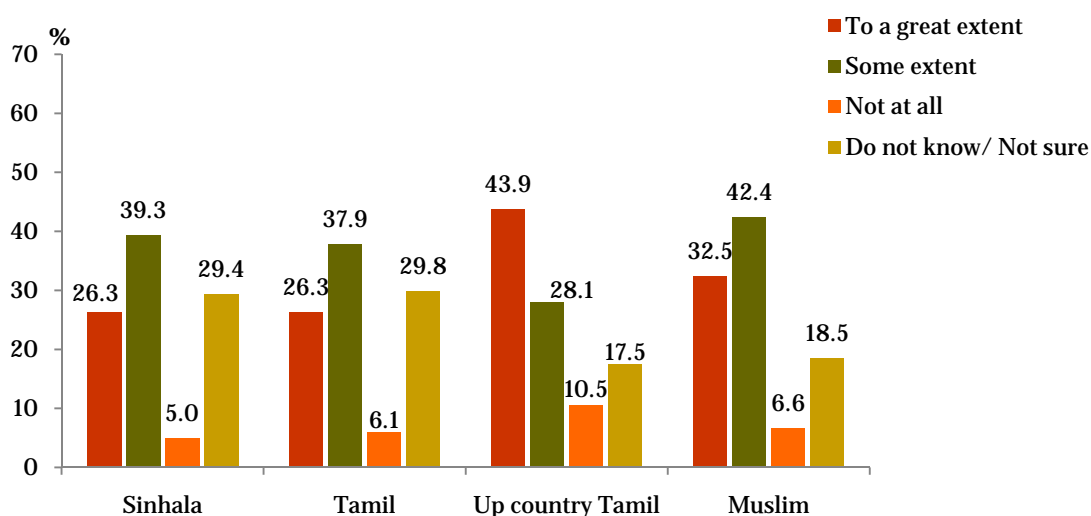
**Graph 9.4– In your opinion, to what degree is corruption prevalent among Government Officials?**



When comparing the overall opinion of respondents towards the people included in the list, it is among the police that most respondents from all four communities believe that

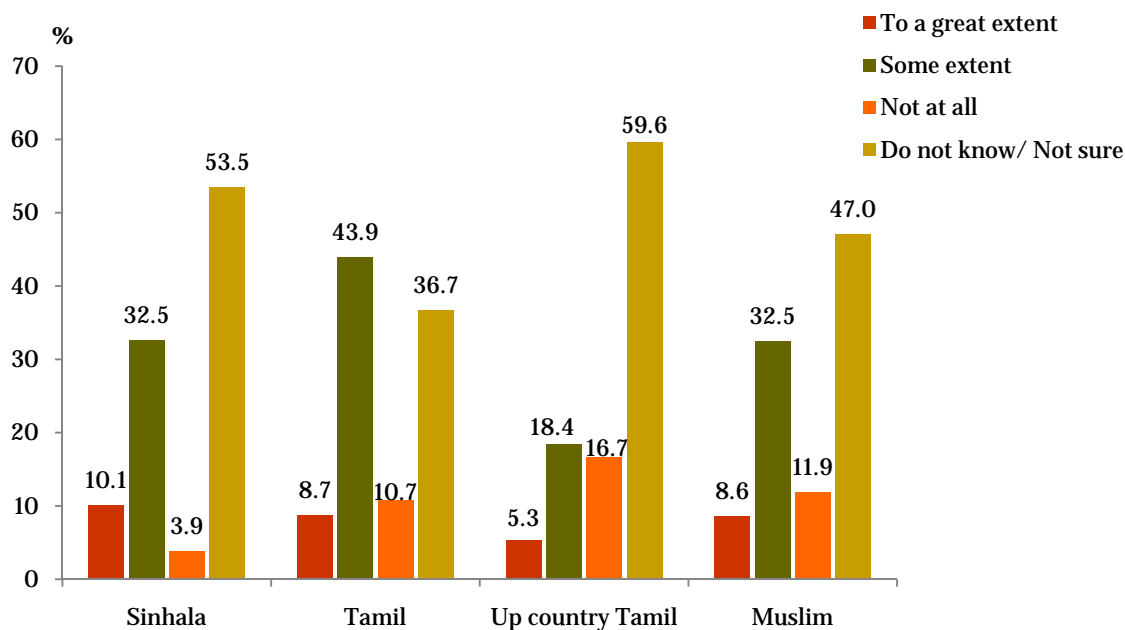
corruption is most prevalent. Looking at those who believe corruption is prevalent to a great extent, the Up country Tamil community has the highest percentage of people who think so. (Refer Graph 9.5) Opinion does not differ too much when looking at it from an urban – rural perspective, with 28.7% of urban and 27.6% of rural respondents stating that they think corruption is prevalent among the police to a great extent, 41% and 37.8% stating to some extent and only 4.7% of urban and 5.8% of rural stating it is not prevalent at all.

**Graph 9.5– In your opinion, to what degree is corruption prevalent among the police?**



Most people from the Sinhala, Up country Tamil and Muslim communities said that they do not know or are unsure about the degree to which corruption is prevalent among people in NGOs. Most respondents in the Tamil community (43.9%) said that corruption is prevalent to some extent. (Refer Graph 9.6) Among urban respondents, 9.8% said that it is prevalent to a great extent, 34.8% to some extent and 6.1% said not at all. 9.5% of rural respondents said to a great extent, 32.2% to some extent and 5.8% not at all. Around 50% of both urban and rural respondents said that they do not know or are unsure about the prevalence of corruption in NGOs.

**Graph 9.6– In your opinion, to what degree is corruption prevalent among NGOs?**



# 10

## Development

Development of the country has been the Government's top priority in the past two years. In order to find out what areas/sectors people think the Government should pay urgent attention to, respondents were given a list and asked to rank the three most important areas they felt the Government should pay urgent attention to. The areas listed out were infrastructure/ roads, agriculture, health, cost of living, crime, corruption, reducing poverty, unemployment, management of economy, education and flood relief.

According to a majority of the respondents, the most important area the Government needs to pay attention to is the cost of living. When it comes to the second most important area, respondents in the Tamil and Up country Tamil communities said it should be reducing poverty while the Sinhala community said agriculture and the Muslim community said unemployment. (Refer Table 10.1) Looking at opinion from an urban – rural perspective, most respondents from both urban and rural areas rank cost of living as the most important area the government should pay urgent attention to. Urban respondents consider reducing poverty and unemployment as the second and third most important areas while for rural respondents it is infrastructure/ roads and reducing poverty.

**Table 10.1 – Out of the following list, what are three most important areas the government should pay urgent attention to?**

	<b>Sinhala</b>	<b>Tamil</b>	<b>Up-country Tamil</b>	<b>Muslim</b>
<b>1</b>	Cost of living <b>35.3%</b>	Cost of living <b>22.4%</b>	Cost of living <b>51.7%</b>	Cost of living <b>35.7%</b>
<b>2</b>	Agriculture <b>13.6%</b>	Reducing poverty <b>18.4%</b>	Reducing poverty <b>22.9%</b>	Unemployment <b>16.1%</b>
<b>3</b>	Infrastructure/ roads <b>15.2%</b>	Unemployment <b>13.8%</b>	Unemployment <b>23.5%</b>	Reducing poverty <b>19.9%</b>

When asked about the main results that people would like to see from the current development process, once again cost of living ranks as the top priority for respondents in all four communities. For the Sinhala community, improved infrastructure is the second result they would like to see while for the other three communities it is addressing unemployment and the creation of more jobs. (Refer Table 10.2) From an urban – rural point of view, reduction in the cost of living is the first main result that most people would like to see. However, for the urban respondents, the creation of more jobs is the second result whereas for rural respondents it is an improvement in infrastructure. Improved healthcare service is what urban respondents would like to see next and for rural respondents it is the creation of more jobs.

**Table 10.2 – What are the three main results you would like to see from the current development process?**

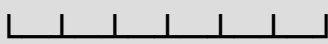
	<b>Sinhala</b>	<b>Tamil</b>	<b>Up-country Tamil</b>	<b>Muslim</b>
<b>1</b>	Reduction in cost of living <b>63.6%</b>	Reduction in cost of living <b>50.8%</b>	Reduction in cost of living <b>74.6%</b>	Reduction in cost of living <b>62.7%</b>
<b>2</b>	Improved infrastructure (roads, bridges etc) <b>29.7%</b>	Addressing unemployment/ Creating more jobs <b>29.7%</b>	Addressing unemployment/ Creating more jobs <b>34.2%</b>	Addressing unemployment/ Creating more jobs <b>26.5%</b>
<b>3</b>	Addressing unemployment/ Creating more jobs <b>20.5%</b>	Improved healthcare service <b>21.7%</b>	Better education facilities <b>28.3%</b>	Better education facilities <b>22.2%</b>

When allocating government resources, do people feel that priority should be given to rebuilding the conflict affected areas, even if this means that less money is spent on the rest of the country? Or do they think that there are many other problems that Sri Lanka is facing

that the Government should focus on and that rebuilding conflict affected areas should not be given priority over the needs of the rest of country?

Most respondents from all four communities believe that priority should be given to rebuilding conflict affected areas, with the Tamil (73.6%) and Up country Tamil (65.2%) being the highest among the four communities who think so when compared to the 49.6% of Sinhala respondents and 46.1% of Muslim respondents who believe the same. There are some who think that rebuilding the conflict affected areas should not be given priority over the needs of rest of the country. 16.1% of Sinhala respondents, 19.1% of Up country Tamil and 24.7% of Muslim respondents believe this, while only 6.6% of Tamil respondents agree. Around 20% of Sinhala and Muslim respondents, 13.7% of Tamil and 9.6% of Up country Tamil respondents stated that they had no opinion about these two options. From an urban – rural perspective, 46% of urban and 55% of rural respondents believe that conflict affected areas should be given priority while around 15% of both urban and rural respondents said it should not.

# **ANNEX**

 Questionnaire Number
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**SURVEY ON DEMOCRACY IN SRI LANKA**  
MARCH 2011  
**CONDUCTED BY**  
**SOCIAL INDICATOR**  
  
**105, FIFTH LANE, COLOMBO 03**  
**TP: 2370473 FAX: 2370475**

***INTERVIEWER:***

NAME OF INTERVIEWER:
I hereby certify that all information provided here is true and accurate and has been obtained from the respondent as instructed.
_____ Signature of Interviewer

Good morning /afternoon/ evening. My name is \_\_\_\_\_ and I represent Social Indicator, a research organisation that conducts independent research on social issues. We are currently conducting a study on how people perceive democracy in Sri Lanka. We would appreciate it if you could spend some of your valuable time to answer a few questions on this issue.

***I hereby assure you that your views expressed will be treated with utmost confidentiality.***

***SUPERVISOR:***

NAME OF SUPERVISOR:
DATE OF BACK-CHECKING:
STATUS: 1. VALID 2. INVALID 3. SUSPICIOUS
IF <u>INVALID</u> , STATE REASONS:
IF <u>SUSPICIOUS</u> , STATE REASONS:
_____ SIGNATURE OF SUPERVISOR



a. Can I speak to \_\_\_\_\_ please?

1. Yes
2. No –
  - I. Respondent is not willing to give interview **(MOVE TO NEXT HOUSEHOLD)**
  - II. Respondent is not available

IF THE CHOSEN RESPONDENT IS NOT AVAILABLE SET AN APPOINTMENT TO CONDUCT THE INTERVIEW LATER.

<i>Below, please document attempts to make initial contact with the selected individual</i>			
	1 <sup>st</sup> Attempt	2 <sup>nd</sup> Attempt	3 <sup>rd</sup> Attempt
Date	____ / ____ /11	____ / ____ /11	____ / ____ /11
Time	____ : ____	____ : ____	____ : ____
Interviewer ID:	____	____	____

**These questions will take about 30 - 40 minutes to complete and we would be very grateful if you could spend some time with us to answer these questions. Information we get from you will be kept confidential.**

**You do not have to answer any questions that you do not want to. Your participation in the study is voluntary and you will not be affected in any way if decided not to participate. Before we start do you have any questions related to this survey?**

*Mark the response below to indicate whether or not the respondent gives verbal consent to complete the survey.*

<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<i>Discontinue interview, thank respondent and go to next selected household</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes	<i>Thank the respondent and continue the interview</i>

### RESPONDENT INFORMATION

i	Respondent Age:	____
ii	Respondent Sex:	M    F
iii	Respondent First Language:	1 – Sinhala 2 – Tamil 3 – English

**1. How do you think the general economic situation in this country has changed over the last 2 years?**

- 1) Got a lot better
- 2) Got a little better
- 3) Stayed the same
- 4) Got a little worse
- 5) Got a lot worse
- 99) Don't know

**2. How does the financial situation of your household now compare with what it was 2 years ago?**

- 1) Got a lot better
- 2) Got a little better
- 3) Stayed the same
- 4) Got a little worse
- 5) Got a lot worse
- 99) Don't know

**3. How do you think the general economic situation in this country will change over the next 2 years?**

- 1) Will get a lot better
- 2) Will get a little better
- 3) Stay the same
- 4) Will get a little worse
- 5) Will get a lot worse
- 99) Don't know

**4. How do you think the general security situation in this country has changed over the last 2 years?**

- 1) Got a lot better
- 2) Got a little better
- 3) Stayed the same
- 4) Got a little worse
- 5) Got a lot worse
- 99) Don't know

**5. How do you think the general security situation in this country will change over the next 2 years?**

- 1) Will get a lot better
- 2) Will get a little better
- 3) Stay the same
- 4) Will get a little worse
- 5) Will get a lot worse
- 99) Don't know

6. Out of the following list, what are the three most important areas the government should pay urgent attention to? (Note to enumerator – Rank only the first three answers)

	Rank
1) Infrastructure/roads	
2) Agriculture	
3) Health	
4) Cost of living	
5) Crime	
6) Corruption	
7) Reducing poverty	
8) Unemployment	
9) Management of economy	
10) Education	
11) Flood relief	

7. Now I am going to read through a list of groups, and I would like you to tell me whether you or a member of your family currently are a member of each group or not (If not a member of any group/organization Go to Q9)

<u>Group/ Organization</u>	<u>Respondent</u>		<u>Family member</u>	
	<u>(1)Yes</u>	<u>(2) No</u>	<u>(1)Yes</u>	<u>(2) No</u>
a) Religious organization	1	2	1	2
b) A sports or recreation group	1	2	1	2
c) A women’s group	1	2	1	2
d) A community or neighborhood group (Eg: Funeral society)	1	2	1	2
e) A business or professional association (Eg: Traders’ Association, Chamber of Commerce)	1	2	1	2
f) A labor union	1	2	1	2
g) Peace organisation	1	2	1	2
h) Humanitarian aid/Human Rights organisation	1	2	1	2
i) Organisations based on ethnicity	1	2	1	2
j) Voluntary service (Eg: Rotary, Lions club)	1	2	1	2
k) Youth group (Eg: Tharunayata hetak)	1	2	1	2
l) Other (Specify) –	1	2	1	2
_____	1	2	1	2
_____	1	2	1	2

**8. As a member of one of these groups, how often do you (*Only for respondent*)**

	<u>Always</u>	<u>Often</u>	<u>Hardly</u>	<u>Never</u>
a) Attend its meetings	1	2	3	4
b) Participate in decision making at its meetings	1	2	3	4
c) Participate as an office bearer	1	2	3	4

**9. How often do you**

	<u>Everyday</u>	<u>Few times a week</u>	<u>Once a week</u>	<u>Never</u>	<u>Other (specify)</u>
a) Read a newspaper for political news	1	2	3	4	
b) Listen to radio for political news	1	2	3	4	
c) Watch television for political news	1	2	3	4	
d) Read a newspaper on a news site on the internet	1	2	3	4	
e) Receive/ read news of a SMS news service on your mobile phone ( <i>Note – Receive directly from news service or from a friend who has subscribed</i> )	1	2	3	4	

**10. Leaving aside the period of elections, how much interest would you say you have in politics and public affairs in general?**

- 1) A great deal of interest
- 2) Some interest
- 3) No interest at all
- 99) Don't know / Not sure

**11. From which of the following media do you get information about politics and in which language? (*Mark only primary language*)**

	Yes	No	Language		
			Sin	Tam	Eng
a. Discussions/ talk shows on television	1	2	1	2	3
b. Discussions / talk shows on radio	1	2	1	2	3
c. Newspaper articles	1	2	1	2	3
d. Party/ Candidate websites	1	2	1	2	3
e. Websites that discuss politics	1	2	1	2	3

f. From friends and others on social networking sites – eg: Facebook	1	2	1	2	3
g. Information from others	1	2	-	-	-
h. Other (Specify)	1	2	1	2	3

**12. To what extent do you trust the news and information from the following mediums?**

		To a great extent	To some extent	Do not trust them	Don't know/Not sure	Not applicable
a. Television	i. State	1	2	3	99	101
	ii. Private	1	2	3	99	101
b. Radio	i. State	1	2	3	99	101
	ii. Private	1	2	3	99	101
c. Newspaper	i. State	1	2	3	99	101
	ii. Private	1	2	3	99	101
a. News websites	i. State	1	2	3	99	101
	ii. Other (Including, private media and citizen journalism)	1	2	3	99	101

**13. Some people say that the media in Sri Lanka is completely free to criticize the government as they wish. Please tell me how strongly you agree or disagree with this statement?**

- 1) Strongly agree
- 2) Somewhat agree
- 3) Neither agree nor disagree
- 4) Somewhat disagree
- 5) Strongly disagree
- 99) Don't know/Not sure

**14. Do you think the state media in Sri Lanka gives fair coverage to the views of the opposition political parties?**

- 1) Yes
- 2) No
- 99) Don't know/Not sure

**15. Do you think the private media in Sri Lanka gives fair coverage to the views of the opposition political parties?**

- 1) Yes
- 2) No
- 99) Don't know/Not sure

**16. Some people say that after the end of war, the level of democracy in Sri Lanka has increased. Please tell me how strongly you agree or disagree with this statement?**

- 1) Yes, much more democratic
- 2) Yes, somewhat more democratic
- 3) It has remained the same
- 4) No, somewhat less democratic
- 5) No, much less democratic
- 99) Don't know/ Not sure

**17. Sri Lanka has had many leaders since Independence. Under which leader's period do you think Sri Lanka was most democratic?**

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**18. Now I am going to read some statements about one's support for democracy in general. Which of the following statements do you agree with the most?**

- 1) Democracy is preferable to any other kind of government
- 2) In certain situations, a dictatorial government can be preferable to a democratic one
- 3) It doesn't matter to people like me whether we have democratic or non democratic governance
- 4) No opinion

**19. I am going to name a number of institutions. For each one, could you tell me how much trust you have in them. Is it a great deal of trust, some trust or none at all?**

	Great deal of trust	Some trust	No trust	Don't know/ Not sure	No response
a) Central/ National government	1	2	3	99	100
b) Provincial government	1	2	3	99	100
c) Local government	1	2	3	99	100
d) Civil service	1	2	3	99	100
e) Police	1	2	3	99	100
f) Army	1	2	3	99	100
g) Courts	1	2	3	99	100
h) Parliament	1	2	3	99	100
i) Political parties	1	2	3	99	100
j) Election Commission	1	2	3	99	100
k) NGOs	1	2	3	99	100

**20. Can you please tell me whether the trust that you have in these institutions increased or decreased since the end of war?**

	Increased	Remained the same	Decreased	Don't know/ Not sure	No response
a) Central/ National government	1	2	3	99	100
b) Provincial government	1	2	3	99	100
c) Local government	1	2	3	99	100
d) Civil service	1	2	3	99	100
e) Police	1	2	3	99	100
f) Army	1	2	3	99	100
g) Courts	1	2	3	99	100
h) Parliament	1	2	3	99	100
i) Political parties	1	2	3	99	100
j) Election Commission	1	2	3	99	100
k) NGOs	1	2	3	99	100

**21. Can you tell me the official language of Sri Lanka? Is it ...**

- 1) Sinhala only
- 2) Tamil only
- 3) English only
- 4) Sinhala and Tamil
- 5) Sinhala and English
- 6) Tamil and English
- 7) Sinhala, Tamil and English
- 99) Don't know/Not sure
- 100) No response

**22. What changes did the 18<sup>th</sup> amendment introduce?**

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**23. How many member of parliament (MP) seats are there in parliament?**

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**24. What did the 17<sup>th</sup> amendment seek to do?**

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**25. Have you heard of the Lessons Learnt and Reconciliations Commission (LLRC)?**

- 1) Yes
- 2) No (*Go to Q27*)

**26. What are the main functions of the LLRC?**

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**27. Now I will read out two statements on various issues. Tell me which statement is the most agreeable to you.**

<b>a. (A)</b> The number of government employees should be reduced because paying their salaries is too expensive.	<b>(B)</b> The number of government employees should not be reduced because they are necessary to run the country.
<b>1. Agree with (A) 2. Agree with (B) 3. Neither 4. Could not understand 5. No Opinion</b>	
<b>b. (A)</b> Government corporations should be sold to private companies because running businesses is not the work of the Government.	<b>(B)</b> Government corporations should not be sold to private companies because government control over business is necessary for the country's development.
<b>1. Agree with (A) 2. Agree with (B) 3. Neither 4. Could not understand 5. No Opinion</b>	
<b>c. (A)</b> State ownership is the best way to run an enterprise (State Enterprise)	<b>(B)</b> An enterprise is best run by private entrepreneurs (Private Enterprise)
<b>1. Agree with (A) 2. Agree with (B) 3. Neither 4. Could not understand 5. No Opinion</b>	
<b>d.(A)</b> The government should allow foreign companies to come into our country as more trade benefits everyone.	<b>(B)</b> The government should not allow foreign companies to come into our country because they exploit us.
<b>1. Agree with (A) 2. Agree with (B) 3. Neither 4. Could not understand 5. No Opinion</b>	
<b>e. (A)</b> The Constitution should be changed based on recommendations made by an all party committee to produce a political solution to country's ethnic problem	<b>(B)</b> There is no need for a political solution as the LTTE was completely defeated militarily
<b>1. Agree with (A) 2. Agree with (B) 3. Neither 4. Could not understand 5. No Opinion</b>	
<b>f. (A)</b> Power needs to be devolved to the Provincial Councils while reducing the Power of the central government.	<b>(B)</b> It is ok to decentralize certain powers but powers of the central government should not be reduced
<b>1. Agree with (A) 2. Agree with (B) 3. Neither 4. Could not understand 5. No Opinion</b>	
<b>g. (A)</b> People should be prevented from joining any organization that the Government believes is not working in the interest of the country	<b>(B)</b> We should be able to join any organization, whether or not the government approves of it.
<b>1. Agree with (A) 2. Agree with (B) 3. Neither 4. Could not understand 5. No Opinion</b>	



<b>h. (A)</b> Political parties create division and confusion; it is therefore unnecessary to have many political parties	<b>(B)</b> Many political parties are needed to make sure that people have real choices in who governs them.
<b>1. Agree with (A) 2. Agree with (B) 3. Neither 4. Could not understand 5. No Opinion</b>	
<b>i. (A)</b> The news media should constantly investigate and report on corruption and the mistakes made by the government.	<b>(B)</b> Too much reporting on negative events, like corruption, only harms the country.
<b>1. Agree with (A) 2. Agree with (B) 3. Neither 4. Could not understand 5. No Opinion</b>	
<b>j. (A)</b> The constitution should limit the president to serving a maximum of two terms in office irrespective of how popular he is	<b>(B)</b> There should be no constitutional limit on how many terms the president can serve in order to allow strong presidents to serve the country
<b>1. Agree with (A) 2. Agree with (B) 3. Neither 4. Could not understand 5. No Opinion</b>	
<b>k. (A)</b> Buddhist monks being elected to parliament has been beneficial to the country	<b>(B)</b> Buddhist monks being elected to parliament has not been beneficial to the country
<b>1. Agree with (A) 2. Agree with (B) 3. Neither 4. Could not understand 5. No Opinion</b>	
<b>l. (A)</b> The Government should give priority in allocating resources to rebuilding the conflict affected areas, even if this means that less money is spent in the rest of the country.	<b>(B)</b> There are many other problems facing this country that government should focus on; rebuilding the conflict affected areas should not be given priority over the needs of the rest of the country
<b>1. Agree with (A) 2. Agree with (B) 3. Neither 4. Could not understand 5. No Opinion</b>	

**28. In Sri Lanka, how free do you think you are to -**

	<b>Not at all free</b>	<b>Not very free</b>	<b>Somewhat free</b>	<b>Completely free</b>	<b>Don't know/ Not sure</b>
a) Express your feelings about politics, irrespective of where you are and who you're with	1	2	3	4	99
b) To join any political organization you want	1	2	3	4	99
c) To choose who to vote for without feeling pressured	1	2	3	4	99
d) Protest/ attend a demonstration against social injustice (rising cost of living, increase in bus fares etc)	1	2	3	4	99
e) Protest/ attend a demonstration against political injustice	1	2	3	4	99

**29. Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with the following statements**

	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Neither agree or disagree</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>Don't know/ Not sure</b>
a) The rights of minority groups should be protected even if the majority in the area do not agree	1	2	3	99
b) Each ethnic group should have the right to elect a certain number of members to the Parliament	1	2	3	99
c) Politicians who are not religious are unfit for public office	1	2	3	99
d) Religious leaders should not influence government decisions	1	2	3	99
e) Sri Lankans should not be allowed to convert to a different religion without special approval	1	2	3	99
f) Private universities should be established in Sri Lanka	1	2	3	99

**30. How free do you think you are to practice your religion in your community?**

- 1) I can practice without any restriction **(Go to Q32)**
- 2) I can practice, but with some amount of restriction
- 3) I don't have the freedom to practice my religion in my community
- 99) Don't know/ Not sure **(Go to Q32)**
- 100) No response **(Go to Q32)**

**31. Who do you think is primarily responsible for these restrictions?**

\_\_\_\_\_

**32. How do you assess the level of freedom your religion has in Sri Lanka to practice its traditional customs/rituals?**

- 1) Can be practiced without any restriction
- 2) Can be practiced, but with some amount of restriction
- 3) There is no freedom to practice the traditional customs/ rituals of my religion
- 99) Don't know/ Not sure
- 100) No response

**33. What do you think of the idea of allocating a fixed quota for women candidacies for each district at the elections?**

- 1) Strongly agree
- 2) Somewhat agree
- 3) Somewhat disagree
- 4) Strongly disagree
- 99) Don't know / Not sure

**34. There are different ways in which a country may be governed. I will read out some suggestions. For each of these would you say that you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree or strongly disagree?**

	<b>Strongly Agree 1</b>	<b>Somewhat Agree 2</b>	<b>Somewhat Disagree 3</b>	<b>Strongly Disagree 4</b>	<b>Don't Know 99</b>
a) Having a strong leader who does not have to bother with parliament and elections	1	2	3	4	99
b) Having experts, not government, make decisions according to what they think is best for the country	1	2	3	4	99
c) Having the army rule	1	2	3	4	99
d) Having a democratically elected political leader	1	2	3	4	99
e) Having religious leaders rather than politicians make all major decisions about the country	1	2	3	4	99

**35. Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with the following statements**

	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Neither agree or disagree</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>Don't know/ Not sure</b>
a) People like me can have a real influence on politics if they are prepared to get involved	1	2	3	99
b) If a person is dissatisfied with the policies of the government, he/she has a duty to do something about it	1	2	3	99
c) Sometimes politics & functions of the government seem so complicated that a person like me cannot really understand what is going on	1	2	3	99

d) It doesn't really matter which party is in power, because it will not affect our lives	1	2	3	99	
e) People like me have no say in what the government does	1	2	3	99	
f) My vote has no impact on the outcome of an election	1	2	3	99	
<b>36. Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with the following statements and whether your level of agreement has increased, decreased or remained the same since the end of war.</b>					
	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Neither agree or disagree</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>Don't know/ Not sure</b>	<b>(i)Increased/ (ii)Decreased/ (iii)Same</b>
a) The government is doing a good job in managing the economy	1	2	3	99	(i) (ii) (iii)
b) The government is doing a good job in managing public services like health care and education	1	2	3	99	(i) (ii) (iii)

**37. How did your parents vote in the elections? Which of the following statements reflect their voting practice?**

- 1) They both always voted for the same party
- 2) Most of the time they both voted for the same party
- 3) They both voted for a party of their own choice
- 99) I do not know

**38. Think about your father's voting behaviour. Which of the following statement reflect his voting behaviour?**

- 1) He always voted for a particular party
- 2) He mostly voted for a particular party
- 3) He did not have a special party loyalty, so his voting decision varied from election to election
- 99) I do not know

**39. Think about your voting behaviour. Which of the following statements describe your voter behaviour?**

- 1) I always voted for a particular party
- 2) I mostly voted for a particular party
- 3) I have voted for different parties from election to election (*Go to Q41*)
- 100) No response (*Go to Q41*)

**40. Think about the party that you have most amount of allegiance to. Have you voted for that party in all four different types of elections in the past?**

	Yes, always	Yes, most of the time	Yes, sometimes	Never
a) Presidential	1	2	3	4
b) Parliamentary	1	2	3	4
c) Provincial	1	2	3	4
d) Local	1	2	3	4

**41. Now I would like to know whether the party you mostly voted for is the same party that your father mostly voted for?**

- 1) Yes
- 2) No
- 99) Don't know/ Not sure

**42. During the last 12 months, how often have you done any of the following to influence rules, laws or policies?**

	Done it more than once	Done it once	Never done it	Will never do it	Don't know/ Not sure
a) Discussed political issues with friends, family or co-workers	1	2	3	4	99
b) Worked for a candidate or party in an election campaign	1	2	3	4	99
c) Participated/ worked with a neighborhood or community group on a particular issue that involves politics/ policy in your village	1	2	3	4	99
d) Contacted/ approached an elected official/ politician to ask for a favor or raise an issue for a public good/ service	1	2	3	4	99
e) Taken part in a protest campaign/march on some national or local issue	1	2	3	4	99
f) Signed a petition to influence an issue/ policy that would have an impact on the country	1	2	3	4	99
g) Raised funds for an organisation working to influence laws/policies of the country	1	2	3	4	99

h) Donated money to an organization working to influence laws/policies of the country	1	2	3	4	99
i) Attended a political meeting or rally	1	2	3	4	99
j) Taken part in a strike	1	2	3	4	99
k) Attend a demonstration about a political issue/ policy that would have an impact on the country	1	2	3	4	99
l) Joined a boycott	1	2	3	4	99
m) Contributed an article to mainstream media to express your opinion/ influence on rules, laws or policies	1	2	3	4	99
n) Contributed an article to a website to express your opinion/ influence on rules, laws or policies	1	2	3	4	99

**43. Did you vote in the 2010 Presidential Election?**

- 1) Yes **(Go to Q45)**
- 2) No
- 99) No response **(Go to Q45)**

**44. What was the main reason for not voting?**

- 1) Out of station
- 2) Not well
- 3) No interest/ did not feel like voting
- 4) Prevented from voting
- 5) Fear of violence
- 6) No identity card/ proof of identity
- 7) No good choice
- 8) Someone had voted in place of me before I went to vote
- 9) Did not receive polling cards
- 10) Other (specify) .....

**45. Did you vote in the 2010 General Election?**

- 1) Yes
- 2) No **(Go to Q47)**
- 100) No response **(Go to Q48)**

**46. When did you finally make up your mind about who to vote for?**

- 1) On the day of voting **(Go to Q48)**
- 2) A day or two before voting **(Go to Q48)**
- 3) Earlier, during the campaign **(Go to Q48)**
- 4) Even before the campaign started **(Go to Q48)**
- 99) Don't know/ Not sure **(Go to Q48)**

**47. What was the main reason for not voting?**

- 1) Out of station
- 2) Not well
- 3) No interest/ did not feel like voting
- 4) Prevented from voting
- 5) Fear of violence
- 6) No identity card/ proof of identity
- 7) No good choice
- 8) Someone had voted in place of me before I went to vote
- 9) Did not receive polling cards
- 10) Other (specify) .....

**48. In Sri Lanka there are four different types of elections – Presidential, Parliamentary, Provincial and Local. In order of importance, please rank the four elections – rank 1 being assigned to the election you consider most important and rank 4 being assigned to the election you find least important.**

Election	Rank
1) Presidential	
2) Parliamentary	
3) Provincial	
4) Local	

**49. Which political party do you feel that you are close to? (Note to enumerator – respondent must name specific party, not alliance)**

- 1) All Ceylon Muslim Congress
- 2) All Ceylon Tamil Congress
- 3) Ceylon Workers Congress
- 4) Communist Party
- 5) Democratic People’s Front
- 6) Eelam People’s Democratic Party
- 7) Eelam People’s Revolutionary Liberation Front
- 8) Illankai Tamil Arasu Kachchi
- 9) Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna
- 10) Jathika Hela Urumaya
- 11) Jathika Nidahas Peramuna
- 12) Lanka Sama Samaja Party
- 13) Mahajana Eksath Peramuna
- 14) National Unity Alliance
- 15) National Muslim Congress
- 16) Sri Lanka Freedom Party
- 17) Sri Lanka Muslim Congress
- 18) Tamil Eelam Liberation Organization
- 19) United National Party
- 20) Up-Country People's Front
- 21) Independent groups
- 22) Other (Specify) \_\_\_\_\_

**50. Why did you choose that party or alliance?**

- 1) I am a member of that party
- 2) Because friends suggested that party
- 3) The party / alliance which is best suited to control the cost of living
- 4) The party / alliance which is best suited to solve the ethnic conflict
- 5) The party / alliance which is best suited to preserve the culture of our society
- 6) The party / alliance which is best suited to protect my religion
- 7) The party / alliance that represented my ethnic group
- 8) The party / alliance that represented my caste
- 9) The party / alliance that had my candidate
- 10) There was no particular reason
- 11) Other.....

**51. Can you please tell me what political party your father and grandfather mostly voted for?**

Father	Grandfather
1)Left party	1)Left party
2)Sri Lanka Freedom Party	2)Sri Lanka Freedom Party
3)United National Party	3)United National Party
4)Other (Specify)	4)Other (Specify)
99)I do not know	99)I do not know

**52. Please rank the 5 most important attributes / reasons that matter to you when voting for a candidate at elections, in the order of importance (*Do not read out loud*)**

Attributes	Rank
1. His/Her education level	
2. His/Her family background	
3. Gender	
4. His/Her party affiliations	
5. His/Her charisma	
6. His/Her financial ability	
7. His/Her ethnicity	
8. His/Her caste	
9. His/Her religion	
10. His/Her commitment to public service	
11. His/Her honesty	
12. His/Her leadership ability	
13. His/Her experience in politics	
14. His/Her stand on local & national issues	
15. His/Her past conduct	
16. His/Her public image	
17. Inducements offered by candidate to voters	
18. His/Her closeness to the party leadership	
19. Influence by the media	
20. How long he/she has lived in the area	
21. Other _____	



**53. Do you have a member of parliament that represents your electorate?**

- 1) Yes
- 2) No
- 99) Don't know/Not sure
- 100) No response

**54. In general, during an election campaign, do you feel you learn enough about the candidates and the issues to make an informed choice?**

- 1) Yes, very much
- 2) Yes, somewhat
- 3) Not at all
- 99. Don't know / Not sure

**55. Some people are accused of being engaged in various types of corruption. In your opinion, to what degree is corruption prevalent among individuals in the following institutions?**

	To a great extent	Some extent	Not at all	Don't know/Not sure
a) Members of Parliament	1	2	3	99
b) Elected Local Government officials	1	2	3	99
c) Government Officials	1	2	3	99
d) Police	1	2	3	99
e) NGOs	1	2	3	99

**56. In your opinion, in the past two years, do you think the government has done enough to address the root causes of the conflict which resulted in thirty years of war?**

- 1) Has done nothing
- 2) Has done a little, but not enough
- 3) Has done a lot
- 99) Don't know/ Not sure

**57. The role of the forces is expanding to include civilian tasks – such as selling vegetables and other economic and recreation roles. Do you approve or disapprove of this?**

- 1) Strongly approve
- 2) Somewhat approve
- 3) Somewhat disapprove
- 4) Strongly disapprove
- 99) Don't know / Not sure

**58. Some people say that since corruption is inevitable in any government, as long as the country is being developed they can ignore the corruption. To what extent do you agree with this statement?**

- 1) Strongly agree
- 2) Agree
- 3) Neither agree or disagree
- 4) Disagree
- 5) Strongly disagree
- 99) Don't know/ Not sure

**59. What are the three main results you would like to see from the current development process?**

	<b>Rank</b>
1) Reduction in cost of living	
2) Improved infrastructure (roads, bridges etc)	
3) Addressing unemployment/ Creating more jobs	
4) Developing agriculture	
5) Improved healthcare service	
6) Better education facilities	
7) Other (specify)	

**DEMOGRAPHICS**

<b>D1</b>	<b>Religion</b>	1. Buddhism 2. Hinduism 3. Islam 4. Christianity (Roman Catholic) 5. Christianity (Non-RC) <i>Specify</i> - _____ 6. Other _____
<b>D2</b>	<b>Ethnicity</b>	1. Sinhala 2. Tamil 3. Up-country Tamil 4. Muslim 5. Burgher 6. Other _____
<b>D3</b>	<b>Educational qualifications</b>	1. Cannot read and write 2. Literate but no formal education 3. Up to Grade 5 4. Grade 6 – 9 5. Up to O/L 6. O/L 7. Up to A/L 8. A/L 9. Vocationally trained 10. Technically trained 11. Professional 12. Graduate 13. Graduate and above

<b>D4</b>	<b>Current employment status</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Employed – full time</li> <li>2. Employed – part time</li> <li>3. Unemployed</li> <li>4. Retired</li> <li>5. Housewife</li> <li>6. Permanently disabled</li> <li>7. Student</li> </ol>
<b>D5</b>	<b>Main occupation of respondent</b>	
<b>D6</b>	<b>Occupation of main income earner</b>	
<b>D7</b>	<b>Total monthly income of household</b>	
<b>D8</b>	<b>Other sources of income other than of the main income earner's? (Eg: House on rent, income from agriculture land etc)</b>	
<b>D9</b>	<b>How many people are there in your household who live there permanently?</b>	
<b>D10</b>	<b>Are any of your household members working in the government sector?</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Yes</li> <li>2. No</li> </ol>
<b>D11</b>	<b>Is your household a recipient of any government assistance? (Eg: Samurdhi)</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3. Yes</li> <li>4. No</li> </ol>
<b>D12</b>	<b>Type of area</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Municipal council</li> <li>2. Urban Council</li> <li>3. Pradeshiya Sabha</li> </ol>

<b>1. PROVINCE</b>		<b>2. DISTRICT:</b>
<b>3. ELECTORATE:</b>		
<b>4. POLLING STATION:</b>		
<b>5. DATE:</b>	<b>6. START TIME:</b>	<b>7.END TIME:</b>

**Enumerator notes**

**Q1. How do you think the general economic situation in this country has changed over the last 2 years?**

	<b>Sinhala %</b>	<b>Tamil %</b>	<b>Up-country Tamil %</b>	<b>Muslim %</b>
<b>Got a lot better</b>	11.7	11.0	5.4	3.9
<b>Got a little better</b>	42.2	30.4	11.6	27.0
<b>Stayed the same</b>	17.2	8.9	7.1	13.8
<b>Got a little worse</b>	19.2	18.8	18.8	26.3
<b>Got a lot worse</b>	9.5	30.9	57.1	28.9
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>1,456</b>	<b>191</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>152</b>

	<b>Urban %</b>	<b>Rural %</b>
<b>Got a lot better</b>	9.8	10.9
<b>Got a little better</b>	33.0	39.4
<b>Stayed the same</b>	12.1	16.4
<b>Got a little worse</b>	19.9	19.7
<b>Got a lot worse</b>	25.2	13.6
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>397</b>	<b>1,515</b>

**Q2. How does the financial situation of your household now compare with what it was 2 years ago?**

	<b>Sinhala %</b>	<b>Tamil %</b>	<b>Up-country Tamil %</b>	<b>Muslim %</b>
<b>Got a lot better</b>	3.7	4.1	1.7	5.2
<b>Got a little better</b>	28.8	29.9	11.3	17.6
<b>Stayed the same</b>	32.4	17.5	7.0	14.4
<b>Got a little worse</b>	21.3	17.0	21.7	31.4
<b>Got a lot worse</b>	13.9	31.4	58.3	31.4
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>1,499</b>	<b>194</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>153</b>

	<b>Urban %</b>	<b>Rural %</b>
<b>Got a lot better</b>	3.4	3.9
<b>Got a little better</b>	27.5	26.9
<b>Stayed the same</b>	20.9	29.9
<b>Got a little worse</b>	20.2	22.0
<b>Got a lot worse</b>	28.0	17.3
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>411</b>	<b>1,552</b>

**Q3. How do you think the general economic situation in this country will change over the next 2 years?**

	<b>Sinhala %</b>	<b>Tamil %</b>	<b>Up-country Tamil %</b>	<b>Muslim %</b>
<b>Will get a lot better</b>	24.2	17.1	11.9	10.0
<b>Will get a little better</b>	45.8	35.8	14.3	29.0
<b>Stay the same</b>	15.3	11.4	11.9	21.0
<b>Will get a little worse</b>	7.1	9.8	17.9	19.0
<b>Will get a lot worse</b>	7.6	26.0	44.0	21.0
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>978</b>	<b>123</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>100</b>

	<b>Urban %</b>	<b>Rural %</b>
<b>Will get a lot better</b>	11.7	24.0
<b>Will get a little better</b>	44.1	41.0
<b>Stay the same</b>	13.4	15.7
<b>Will get a little worse</b>	8.9	8.9
<b>Will get a lot worse</b>	21.9	10.5
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>247</b>	<b>1,035</b>

**Q4. How do you think the general security situation in this country has changed over the last 2 years?**

	<b>Sinhala %</b>	<b>Tamil %</b>	<b>Up-country Tamil %</b>	<b>Muslim %</b>
<b>Got a lot better</b>	77.5	25.8	57.8	36.0
<b>Got a little better</b>	18.6	41.2	25.7	43.3
<b>Stayed the same</b>	2.7	9.9	1.8	5.3
<b>Got a little worse</b>	1.1	9.9	8.3	8.0
<b>Got a lot worse</b>	0.1	13.2	6.4	7.3
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>1,465</b>	<b>182</b>	<b>109</b>	<b>150</b>

	<b>Urban %</b>	<b>Rural %</b>
<b>Got a lot better</b>	60.4	70.3
<b>Got a little better</b>	25.9	22.4
<b>Stayed the same</b>	6.5	2.7
<b>Got a little worse</b>	3.0	2.8
<b>Got a lot worse</b>	4.2	1.7
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>402</b>	<b>1,504</b>

**Q5. How do you think the general security situation in this country will change over the next 2 years?**

	<b>Sinhala %</b>	<b>Tamil %</b>	<b>Up-country Tamil %</b>	<b>Muslim %</b>
<b>Will get a lot better</b>	57.1	41.7	68.7	54.4
<b>Will get a little better</b>	21.5	39.1	16.9	32.5
<b>Stay the same</b>	19.6	6.1	7.2	7.0
<b>Will get a little worse</b>	1.5	3.5	3.6	3.5
<b>Will get a lot worse</b>	0.4	9.6	3.6	2.6
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>1,239</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>114</b>

	<b>Urban %</b>	<b>Rural %</b>
<b>Will get a lot better</b>	59.0	55.6
<b>Will get a little better</b>	25.9	22.7
<b>Stay the same</b>	8.2	19.2
<b>Will get a little worse</b>	3.9	1.4
<b>Will get a lot worse</b>	3.0	1.0
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>305</b>	<b>1,246</b>

**Q6. Out of the following list, what are the three most important areas the government should pay urgent attention to?**

**6a. First most important**

	<b>Sinhala %</b>	<b>Tamil %</b>	<b>Up-country Tamil %</b>	<b>Muslim %</b>
<b>Infrastructure/roads</b>	13.7	9.2	9.5	9.1
<b>Agriculture</b>	10.6	7.7	2.6	6.5
<b>Health</b>	5.9	4.1	5.2	5.2
<b>Cost of living</b>	35.3	22.4	51.7	35.7
<b>Crime</b>	3.0	3.1	1.7	1.9
<b>Corruption</b>	4.0	2.6	.9	1.3
<b>Reducing poverty</b>	10.1	11.2	8.6	4.5
<b>Unemployment</b>	8.1	17.9	9.5	10.4
<b>Management of economy</b>	2.2	6.1	2.6	18.2
<b>Education</b>	7.0	15.8	7.8	7.1
<b>Flood relief</b>	0.3	.0	.0	.0
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>1520</b>	<b>196</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>154</b>

**Q6b. Second most important**

	<b>Sinhala %</b>	<b>Tamil %</b>	<b>Up-country Tamil %</b>	<b>Muslim %</b>
<b>Infrastructure/roads</b>	13.4	6.1	11.9	9.7
<b>Agriculture</b>	13.6	6.1	3.4	6.5
<b>Health</b>	10.7	10.2	6.8	4.5
<b>Cost of living</b>	19.9	19.9	24.6	16.8
<b>Crime</b>	3.5	7.1	1.7	5.8
<b>Corruption</b>	4.3	3.6	1.7	3.9
<b>Reducing poverty</b>	13.2	18.4	22.9	14.8
<b>Unemployment</b>	10.2	15.3	13.6	16.1
<b>Management of economy</b>	4.2	4.6	2.5	8.4
<b>Education</b>	6.8	8.7	10.2	12.3
<b>Flood relief</b>	0.1	0.0	0.8	1.3
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>1517</b>	<b>196</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>155</b>

**Q6b. Third most important**

	<b>Sinhala %</b>	<b>Tamil %</b>	<b>Up-country Tamil %</b>	<b>Muslim %</b>
<b>Infrastructure/roads</b>	15.2	9.7	7.0	6.6
<b>Agriculture</b>	11.0	6.1	2.6	4.6
<b>Health</b>	11.3	9.2	10.4	7.3
<b>Cost of living</b>	13.2	15.3	11.3	11.9
<b>Crime</b>	4.7	6.1	.9	3.3
<b>Corruption</b>	6.2	5.1	1.7	6.6
<b>Reducing poverty</b>	13.0	16.3	14.8	19.9
<b>Unemployment</b>	11.6	13.8	23.5	14.6
<b>Management of economy</b>	4.4	6.1	7.0	10.6
<b>Education</b>	9.1	11.2	20.9	13.2
<b>Flood relief</b>	.2	1.0	.0	1.3
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>1489</b>	<b>196</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>151</b>



**Q6. Out of the following list, what are the three most important areas the government should pay urgent attention to?**

**6a. First most important**

	<b>Urban %</b>	<b>Rural %</b>
Infrastructure/roads	7.3	14.0
Agriculture	3.6	11.1
Health	6.3	5.3
Cost of living	41.8	33.2
Crime	2.7	2.9
Corruption	6.8	2.6
Reducing poverty	10.5	9.6
Unemployment	8.0	9.7
Management of economy	6.3	3.1
Education	5.8	8.4
Flood relief	.7	.1
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>411</b>	<b>1575</b>

**Q6b. Second most important**

	<b>Urban %</b>	<b>Rural %</b>
Infrastructure/roads	4.6	14.3
Agriculture	6.6	13.1
Health	14.1	8.8
Cost of living	19.7	20.0
Crime	4.1	3.8
Corruption	3.6	4.1
Reducing poverty	17.5	13.7
Unemployment	14.1	10.7
Management of economy	7.8	3.6
Education	8.0	7.5
Flood relief	.0	.3
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>412</b>	<b>1573</b>

**Q6c. Third most important**

	<b>Urban %</b>	<b>Rural %</b>
<b>Infrastructure/roads</b>	7.1	15.3
<b>Agriculture</b>	3.2	11.2
<b>Health</b>	9.3	11.1
<b>Cost of living</b>	11.5	13.7
<b>Crime</b>	7.1	3.9
<b>Corruption</b>	10.3	4.7
<b>Reducing poverty</b>	17.4	13.0
<b>Unemployment</b>	15.4	12.1
<b>Management of economy</b>	5.9	5.0
<b>Education</b>	12.5	9.7
<b>Flood relief</b>	.5	.3
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>409</b>	<b>1538</b>

**Q9a. How often do you read a newspaper for political news?**

	<b>Urban %</b>	<b>Rural %</b>
<b>Everyday</b>	27.3	11.9
<b>Few times a week</b>	16.2	16.0
<b>Once a week</b>	19.9	19.6
<b>Never</b>	29.0	42.0
<b>Rarely</b>	7.6	10.5
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>487</b>	<b>1473</b>

**Q9b. How often do you listen to radio for political news?**

	<b>Urban %</b>	<b>Rural %</b>
<b>Everyday</b>	34.7	28.5
<b>Few times a week</b>	15.5	21.4
<b>Once a week</b>	5.8	9.9
<b>Never</b>	34.1	34.3
<b>Rarely</b>	9.9	5.9
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>484</b>	<b>1483</b>

**Q9c. How often do you watch television for political news?**

	<b>Urban %</b>	<b>Rural %</b>
Everyday	67.2	59.9
Few times a week	13.7	15.1
Once a week	2.9	5.9
Never	14.3	16.6
Rarely	1.8	2.6
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>488</b>	<b>1480</b>

**Q9d. How often do you read a newspaper on a news site on the internet?**

	<b>Urban %</b>	<b>Rural %</b>
Everyday	5.6	0.5
Few times a week	4.0	1.2
Once a week	2.9	2.0
Never	85.6	95.7
Rarely	1.9	0.5
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>480</b>	<b>1455</b>

**Q9e. How often do you receive/ read news of a SMS news service on your mobile phone?**

	<b>Urban %</b>	<b>Rural %</b>
Everyday	6.4	2.5
Few times a week	1.6	1.4
Once a week	2.5	1.2
Never	89.5	94.4
Rarely	0.0	0.5
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>486</b>	<b>1465</b>

**Q10. Leaving aside the period of elections, how much interest would you say you have in politics and public affairs in general?**

	<b>Urban %</b>	<b>Rural %</b>
A great deal of interest	7.4	9.7
Some interest	38.4	44.3
No interest at all	54.2	45.9
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>443</b>	<b>1380</b>

**Q11. From which of the following media do you get information about politics and in which language?**

**11a. Discussions/ talk shows on television**

	<b>Urban %</b>	<b>Rural %</b>
<b>Yes</b>	72.3	57.7
<b>No</b>	27.7	42.3
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>491</b>	<b>1487</b>

**11b. Discussions / talk shows on radio**

	<b>Urban %</b>	<b>Rural %</b>
<b>Yes</b>	41.5	30.4
<b>No</b>	58.5	69.6
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>489</b>	<b>1486</b>

**11c. Newspaper articles**

	<b>Urban %</b>	<b>Rural %</b>
<b>Yes</b>	52.7	33.2
<b>No</b>	47.3	66.8
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>486</b>	<b>1486</b>

**11d. Party/ Candidate websites**

	<b>Urban %</b>	<b>Rural %</b>
<b>Yes</b>	5.5	1.0
<b>No</b>	94.5	99.0
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>474</b>	<b>1472</b>

**11e. Websites that discuss politics**

	<b>Urban %</b>	<b>Rural %</b>
<b>Yes</b>	2.7	0.9
<b>No</b>	97.3	99.1
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>478</b>	<b>1479</b>

**11f. From friends and others on social networking sites**

	<b>Urban %</b>	<b>Rural %</b>
<b>Yes</b>	4.2	1.6
<b>No</b>	95.8	98.4
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>477</b>	<b>1476</b>

**11g. Information from others**

	<b>Urban %</b>	<b>Rural %</b>
<b>Yes</b>	40.5	59.0
<b>No</b>	59.5	41.0
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>479</b>	<b>1477</b>

**Q12. To what extent do you trust the news and information from the following mediums?**

**12A. Television - State**

	<b>Urban %</b>	<b>Rural %</b>
<b>To a great extent</b>	19.2	30.6
<b>To some extent</b>	52.2	50.0
<b>Do not trust them</b>	17.3	8.1
<b>Do not know/ Not sure</b>	11.3	11.2
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>452</b>	<b>1381</b>

**Television - Private**

	<b>Urban %</b>	<b>Rural %</b>
<b>To a great extent</b>	21.2	24.1
<b>To some extent</b>	62.1	59.2
<b>Do not trust them</b>	6.3	4.4
<b>Do not know/ Not sure</b>	10.4	12.4
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>462</b>	<b>1376</b>

**12B. Radio - State**

	<b>Urban %</b>	<b>Rural %</b>
To a great extent	15.5	27.3
To some extent	48.7	41.3
Do not trust them	13.1	7.3
Do not know/ Not sure	22.7	24.1
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>374</b>	<b>1261</b>

**Radio - Private**

	<b>Urban %</b>	<b>Rural %</b>
To a great extent	18.1	21.7
To some extent	54.5	51.8
Do not trust them	5.0	4.0
Do not know/ Not sure	22.5	22.5
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>382</b>	<b>1279</b>

**12C. Newspaper - State**

	<b>Urban %</b>	<b>Rural %</b>
To a great extent	16.8	20.5
To some extent	53.1	38.4
Do not trust them	12.3	7.1
Do not know/ Not sure	17.8	34.1
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>416</b>	<b>1207</b>

**Newspaper - Private**

	<b>Urban %</b>	<b>Rural %</b>
To a great extent	16.2	19.7
To some extent	61.1	45.3
Do not trust them	5.7	2.2
Do not know/ Not sure	16.9	32.8
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>419</b>	<b>1208</b>

**12D. News websites - State**

	<b>Urban %</b>	<b>Rural %</b>
<b>To a great extent</b>	3.7	1.9
<b>To some extent</b>	15.2	7.1
<b>Do not trust them</b>	9.3	2.4
<b>Do not know/ Not sure</b>	71.7	88.6
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>269</b>	<b>702</b>

**News websites - Other**

	<b>Urban %</b>	<b>Rural %</b>
<b>To a great extent</b>	4.0	2.8
<b>To some extent</b>	11.2	5.2
<b>Do not trust them</b>	4.0	1.0
<b>Do not know/ Not sure</b>	80.9	90.9
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>277</b>	<b>706</b>

**Q13. Some people say that the media in Sri Lanka is completely free to criticize the government as they wish. Please tell me how strongly you agree or disagree with this statement?**

	<b>Urban %</b>	<b>Rural %</b>
<b>Strongly agree</b>	16.9	15.8
<b>Somewhat agree</b>	32.0	23.9
<b>Neither agree nor disagree</b>	9.4	9.1
<b>Somewhat disagree</b>	9.4	9.8
<b>Strongly disagree</b>	12.6	7.7
<b>Do not know/ Not sure</b>	19.8	33.7
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>491</b>	<b>1491</b>

**Q14. Do you think the state media in Sri Lanka gives fair coverage to the views of the opposition political parties?**

	<b>Urban %</b>	<b>Rural %</b>
<b>Yes</b>	24.1	23.4
<b>No</b>	41.0	33.4
<b>Do not know/ Not sure</b>	34.9	43.2
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>493</b>	<b>1492</b>

**Q15. Do you think the private media in Sri Lanka gives fair coverage to the views of the opposition political parties?**

	<b>Urban %</b>	<b>Rural %</b>
<b>Yes</b>	41.7	40.4
<b>No</b>	19.7	16.0
<b>Do not know/ Not sure</b>	38.6	43.7
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>492</b>	<b>1484</b>

**Q17. Sri Lanka has had many leaders since Independence. Under which leader's period do you think Sri Lanka was most democratic?**

	<b>Sinhala %</b>	<b>Tamil %</b>	<b>Up-country Tamil %</b>	<b>Muslim %</b>
<b>Mahinda Rajapaksa</b>	67.7	21.2	13.0	21.6
<b>D.B. Wijeyatunga</b>	0.9	0.0	0.0	0.0
<b>R. Premadasa</b>	8.8	11.2	48.1	20.9
<b>Chandrika Kumaratunga</b>	1.4	12.8	13.9	6.1
<b>Sirimavo Bandaranaike</b>	0.8	3.9	1.9	2.7
<b>D.S. Senanayaka</b>	4.3	0.6	0.9	2.7
<b>Ranil Wickramasinghe</b>	0.0	4.5	0.9	0.0
<b>Dudley Senanayake</b>	1.8	3.4	2.8	6.8
<b>J.R. Jayawardena</b>	2.0	3.4	4.6	14.2
<b>S.W.R.D. Bandaranaike</b>	1.8	1.1	0.9	0.7
<b>No one</b>	2.5	10.1	0.0	0.7
<b>Do not know/ Not sure</b>	5.3	25.1	11.1	20.9
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>1,483</b>	<b>179</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>148</b>



	Urban %	Rural %
Mahinda Rajapaksa	45.7	60.5
D.B. Wijeyatunga	0.0	0.8
R. Premadasa	13.4	11.8
Chandrika Kumaratunga	3.4	3.5
Sirimavo Bandaranaike	1.1	1.3
D.S. Senanayaka	4.1	3.5
Ranil Wickramasinghe	0.4	0.6
Dudley Senanayake	3.9	1.9
J.R. Jayawardena	6.7	2.1
S.W.R.D. Bandaranaike	1.7	1.5
No one	5.6	2.0
Do not know/ Not sure	11.4	7.8
Total number of respondents	464	1,447

Q18. Now I am going to read some statements about one's support for democracy in general. Which of the following statements do you agree with the most?

	Sinhala %	Tamil %	Up-country Tamil %	Muslim %
Democracy is preferable to any other kind of government	68.2	70.3	70.8	87.8
In certain situations, a dictatorial government can be preferable to a democratic one	4.8	2.1	1.8	0.7
It doesn't matter to people like me whether we have democratic or non democratic governance	3.8	8.2	10.6	1.4
No opinion	23.2	19.5	16.8	10.1
Total number of respondents	1510	195	113	148

	Urban %	Rural %
Democracy is preferable to any other kind of government	77.7	67.6
In certain situations, a dictatorial government can be preferable to a democratic one	6.0	3.4
It doesn't matter to people like me whether we have democratic or non democratic governance	2.9	4.9
No opinion	13.3	24.2
Total number of respondents	480	1478

Q19. I am going to name a number of institutions. For each one, could you tell me how much trust you have in them. Is it a great deal of trust, some trust or none at all?

19a. Central/ National government

	Sinhala %	Tamil %	Up-country Tamil %	Muslim %
Great deal of trust	25.8	7.4	13.8	10.1
Some trust	55.3	53.7	48.6	56.8
No trust	8.1	23.2	14.7	17.6
Do not know/ Not sure	10.9	15.8	22.9	15.5
Total number of respondents	<b>1498</b>	<b>190</b>	<b>109</b>	<b>148</b>

19b. Provincial government

	Sinhala %	Tamil %	Up-country Tamil %	Muslim %
Great deal of trust	13.2	6.6	10.0	4.7
Some trust	55.1	54.4	53.6	57.7
No trust	15.1	20.3	16.4	23.5
Do not know/ Not sure	16.7	18.7	20.0	14.1
Total number of respondents	<b>1498</b>	<b>182</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>149</b>

19c. Local government

	Sinhala %	Tamil %	Up-country Tamil %	Muslim %
Great deal of trust	12.0	9.0	7.3	4.7
Some trust	58.7	55.3	59.6	56.8
No trust	13.6	19.1	14.7	26.4
Do not know/ Not sure	15.7	16.5	18.3	12.2
Total number of respondents	<b>1494</b>	<b>188</b>	<b>109</b>	<b>148</b>

19d. Civil service

	Sinhala %	Tamil %	Up-country Tamil %	Muslim %
Great deal of trust	19.2	16.7	17.3	6.1
Some trust	60.9	62.5	51.8	60.5
No trust	8.0	12.0	13.6	23.8
Do not know/ Not sure	11.9	8.9	17.3	9.5
Total number of respondents	<b>1492</b>	<b>192</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>147</b>

**19e. Police**

	<b>Sinhala</b> %	<b>Tamil</b> %	<b>Up-country Tamil</b> %	<b>Muslim</b> %
<b>Great deal of trust</b>	19.7	6.8	11.8	9.5
<b>Some trust</b>	50.3	52.1	50.0	48.3
<b>No trust</b>	21.9	29.2	29.1	30.6
<b>Do not know/ Not sure</b>	8.1	12.0	9.1	11.6
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>1500</b>	<b>192</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>147</b>

**19f. Army**

	<b>Sinhala</b> %	<b>Tamil</b> %	<b>Up-country Tamil</b> %	<b>Muslim</b> %
<b>Great deal of trust</b>	59.7	6.3	18.2	15.8
<b>Some trust</b>	32.6	43.8	33.6	47.3
<b>No trust</b>	0.9	32.8	27.3	21.2
<b>Do not know/ Not sure</b>	6.8	17.2	20.9	15.8
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>1505</b>	<b>192</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>146</b>

**19g. Courts**

	<b>Sinhala</b> %	<b>Tamil</b> %	<b>Up-country Tamil</b> %	<b>Muslim</b> %
<b>Great deal of trust</b>	37.1	20.6	47.7	17.7
<b>Some trust</b>	42.2	57.2	31.2	43.5
<b>No trust</b>	3.3	9.8	5.5	20.4
<b>Do not know/ Not sure</b>	17.4	12.4	15.6	18.4
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>1501</b>	<b>194</b>	<b>109</b>	<b>147</b>

**19h. Parliament**

	<b>Sinhala</b> %	<b>Tamil</b> %	<b>Up-country Tamil</b> %	<b>Muslim</b> %
<b>Great deal of trust</b>	15.2	7.9	20.0	10.3
<b>Some trust</b>	48.9	48.7	42.7	50.0
<b>No trust</b>	13.2	21.2	16.4	23.3
<b>Do not know/ Not sure</b>	22.8	22.2	20.9	16.4
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>1497</b>	<b>189</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>146</b>

19i. Political parties

	Sinhala %	Tamil %	Up-country Tamil %	Muslim %
Great deal of trust	6.5	3.2	10.8	4.8
Some trust	49.8	45.5	45.9	51.0
No trust	21.0	35.4	29.7	29.0
Do not know/ Not sure	22.6	15.9	13.5	15.2
Total number of respondents	<b>1481</b>	<b>189</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>145</b>

19j. Election Commission

	Sinhala %	Tamil %	Up-country Tamil %	Muslim %
Great deal of trust	7.2	12.7	17.0	6.4
Some trust	36.9	48.7	35.8	42.6
No trust	8.6	16.9	11.3	26.2
Do not know/ Not sure	47.3	21.7	35.8	24.8
Total number of respondents	<b>1450</b>	<b>189</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>141</b>

19k. NGOs

	Sinhala %	Tamil %	Up-country Tamil %	Muslim %
Great deal of trust	4.8	20.3	11.3	15.1
Some trust	36.1	53.6	35.8	36.3
No trust	16.9	10.4	11.3	18.5
Do not know/ Not sure	42.2	15.6	41.5	30.1
Total number of respondents	<b>1444</b>	<b>192</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>146</b>

19a. Central/ National government

	Urban %	Rural %
Great deal of trust	12.3	25.4
Some trust	54.9	54.8
No trust	15.4	9.0
Do not know/ Not sure	17.3	10.8
Total number of respondents	<b>486</b>	<b>1452</b>

**19b. Provincial government**

	<b>Urban</b> %	<b>Rural</b> %
<b>Great deal of trust</b>	8.4	12.9
<b>Some trust</b>	50.7	56.5
<b>No trust</b>	19.7	15.1
<b>Do not know/ Not sure</b>	21.1	15.5
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>487</b>	<b>1444</b>

**19c. Local government**

	<b>Urban</b> %	<b>Rural</b> %
<b>Great deal of trust</b>	7.0	12.4
<b>Some trust</b>	56.4	58.9
<b>No trust</b>	17.2	14.4
<b>Do not know/ Not sure</b>	19.5	14.4
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>488</b>	<b>1446</b>

**19d. Civil service**

	<b>Urban</b> %	<b>Rural</b> %
<b>Great deal of trust</b>	8.8	21.1
<b>Some trust</b>	56.8	61.8
<b>No trust</b>	18.6	6.8
<b>Do not know/ Not sure</b>	15.8	10.4
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>488</b>	<b>1446</b>

**19e. Police**

	<b>Urban</b> %	<b>Rural</b> %
<b>Great deal of trust</b>	11.8	18.8
<b>Some trust</b>	50.9	50.2
<b>No trust</b>	24.6	23.5
<b>Do not know/ Not sure</b>	12.6	7.5
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>483</b>	<b>1459</b>

**19f.Army**

	<b>Urban</b> %	<b>Rural</b> %
<b>Great deal of trust</b>	38.1	52.2
<b>Some trust</b>	37.3	34.1
<b>No trust</b>	11.7	5.6
<b>Do not know/ Not sure</b>	12.9	8.2
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>488</b>	<b>1457</b>

**19g.Courts**

	<b>Urban</b> %	<b>Rural</b> %
<b>Great deal of trust</b>	27.3	36.8
<b>Some trust</b>	42.4	43.6
<b>No trust</b>	10.7	3.6
<b>Do not know/ Not sure</b>	19.7	16.0
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>488</b>	<b>1456</b>

**19h.Parliament**

	<b>Urban</b> %	<b>Rural</b> %
<b>Great deal of trust</b>	10.5	15.7
<b>Some trust</b>	48.4	48.6
<b>No trust</b>	18.7	13.5
<b>Do not know/ Not sure</b>	22.4	22.1
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>486</b>	<b>1448</b>

**19i.Political parties**

	<b>Urban</b> %	<b>Rural</b> %
<b>Great deal of trust</b>	5.2	6.8
<b>Some trust</b>	48.6	49.5
<b>No trust</b>	26.6	22.4
<b>Do not know/ Not sure</b>	19.5	21.4
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>481</b>	<b>1436</b>

19j. Election Commission

	Urban %	Rural %
Great deal of trust	6.5	8.8
Some trust	42.6	37.1
No trust	16.2	9.0
Do not know/ Not sure	34.6	45.1
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>474</b>	<b>1406</b>

19k. NGOs

	Urban %	Rural %
Great deal of trust	7.1	7.8
Some trust	38.0	37.9
No trust	22.1	13.7
Do not know/ Not sure	32.8	40.5
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>479</b>	<b>1402</b>

25. Have you heard of the Lessons Learnt and Reconciliations Commission (LLRC)?

	Sinhala %	Tamil %	Up-country Tamil %	Muslim %
Yes	19.1	32.5	11.8	10.4
No	80.9	67.5	88.2	89.6
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>1508</b>	<b>197</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>154</b>

	Urban %	Rural %
Yes	18.4	19.5
No	81.6	80.5
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>488</b>	<b>1476</b>

Q28. In Sri Lanka, how free do you think you are to –

28a. Express your feelings about politics, irrespective of where you are and who you're with

	Sinhala %	Tamil %	Up-country Tamil %	Muslim %
Not at all free	2.2	18.9	9.5	9.1
Not very free	6.1	13.3	12.9	9.1
Somewhat	31.0	41.3	31.0	50.0
Completely	50.0	15.8	38.8	16.9
Do not know/ Not sure	10.7	10.7	7.8	14.9
Total number of respondents	<b>1518</b>	<b>196</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>154</b>

	Urban %	Rural %
Not at all free	5.5	4.6
Not very free	6.7	7.6
Somewhat	45.1	29.7
Completely	25.9	49.1
Do not know/ Not sure	16.8	9.0
Total number of respondents	<b>494</b>	<b>1486</b>

28b. To join any political organization you want

	Sinhala %	Tamil %	Up-country Tamil %	Muslim %
Not at all free	0.5	11.7	6.0	7.2
Not very free	4.6	14.8	12.1	10.5
Somewhat	21.3	42.9	28.4	47.1
Completely	62.0	11.7	42.2	19.6
Do not know/ Not sure	11.6	18.9	11.2	15.7
Total number of respondents	<b>1518</b>	<b>196</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>153</b>

	Urban %	Rural %
Not at all free	3.7	2.0
Not very free	5.5	6.8
Somewhat	35.8	22.6
Completely	43.0	55.7
Do not know/ Not sure	12.0	12.9
Total number of respondents	<b>491</b>	<b>1486</b>



**28c. To choose who to vote for without feeling pressured**

	<b>Sinhala %</b>	<b>Tamil %</b>	<b>Up-country Tamil %</b>	<b>Muslim %</b>
<b>Not at all free</b>	0.5	7.1	2.6	9.1
<b>Not very free</b>	2.7	9.7	12.9	7.1
<b>Somewhat</b>	17.1	43.9	26.7	45.5
<b>Completely</b>	74.6	29.1	50.9	26.6
<b>Do not know/ Not sure</b>	5.1	10.2	6.9	11.7
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>1518</b>	<b>196</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>154</b>

	<b>Urban %</b>	<b>Rural %</b>
<b>Not at all free</b>	3.9	1.3
<b>Not very free</b>	4.3	4.4
<b>Somewhat</b>	27.6	21.0
<b>Completely</b>	56.1	67.7
<b>Do not know/ Not sure</b>	8.1	5.6
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>492</b>	<b>1484</b>

**28d. Protest/ attend a demonstration against social injustice**

	<b>Sinhala %</b>	<b>Tamil %</b>	<b>Up-country Tamil %</b>	<b>Muslim %</b>
<b>Not at all free</b>	1.7	17.8	12.2	7.8
<b>Not very free</b>	10.7	14.2	14.8	8.4
<b>Somewhat</b>	27.6	28.9	30.4	42.9
<b>Completely</b>	35.0	12.7	27.8	20.1
<b>Do not know/ Not sure</b>	24.9	26.4	14.8	20.8
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>1518</b>	<b>197</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>154</b>

	<b>Urban %</b>	<b>Rural %</b>
<b>Not at all free</b>	5.3	4.1
<b>Not very free</b>	14.4	10.1
<b>Somewhat</b>	38.6	25.8
<b>Completely</b>	17.5	35.8
<b>Do not know/ Not sure</b>	24.2	24.2
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>492</b>	<b>1486</b>

**28e. Protest/ attend a demonstration against political injustice**

	<b>Sinhala %</b>	<b>Tamil %</b>	<b>Up-country Tamil %</b>	<b>Muslim %</b>
<b>Not at all free</b>	3.2	21.3	15.7	9.1
<b>Not very free</b>	11.8	16.8	15.7	9.1
<b>Somewhat</b>	28.0	19.3	27.0	40.9
<b>Completely</b>	31.6	11.2	26.1	19.5
<b>Do not know/ Not sure</b>	25.4	31.5	15.7	21.4
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>1519</b>	<b>197</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>154</b>

	<b>Urban %</b>	<b>Rural %</b>
<b>Not at all free</b>	7.1	5.8
<b>Not very free</b>	16.9	10.8
<b>Somewhat</b>	35.1	25.6
<b>Completely</b>	15.5	32.6
<b>Do not know/ Not sure</b>	25.3	25.2
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>490</b>	<b>1486</b>

**30. How free do you think you are to practice your religion in your community?**

	<b>Sinhala %</b>	<b>Tamil %</b>	<b>Up-country Tamil %</b>	<b>Muslim %</b>
<b>I can practice without any restriction</b>	98.5	96.9	95.7	94.2
<b>I can practice, but with some amount of restriction</b>	0.7	1.5	2.6	3.9
<b>I don't have the freedom to practice my religion in my community</b>	0.3	0.5	0.0	0.6
<b>Do not know/ Not sure</b>	0.5	1.0	1.7	1.3
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>1513</b>	<b>196</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>154</b>

	<b>Urban %</b>	<b>Rural %</b>
<b>I can practice without any restriction</b>	97.4	97.9
<b>I can practice, but with some amount of restriction</b>	1.0	1.2
<b>I don't have the freedom to practice my religion in my community</b>	0.4	0.3
<b>Do not know/ Not sure</b>	1.2	0.5
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>493</b>	<b>1478</b>

32. How do you assess the level of freedom your religion has in Sri Lanka to practice its traditional customs/rituals?

	Sinhala %	Tamil %	Up-country Tamil %	Muslim %
Can be practiced without any restriction	95.5	89.9	87.1	92.2
Can be practiced, but with some amount of restriction	2.4	6.6	9.5	5.2
There is no freedom to practice the traditional customs/	0.4	0.5	0.9	0.0
Do not know/ Not sure	0.3	1.5	0.9	0.7
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>1525</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>153</b>

	Urban %	Rural %
Can be practiced without any restriction	92.0	96.8
Can be practiced, but with some amount of restriction	7.4	2.2
There is no freedom to practice the traditional customs/	0.2	0.5
Do not know/ Not sure	0.4	0.5
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>485</b>	<b>1471</b>

Q33. What do you think of the idea of allocating a fixed quota for women candidacies for each district at the elections?

	Sinhala %	Tamil %	Up-country Tamil %	Muslim %
Strongly agree	53.5	59.3	62.7	51.2
Somewhat agree	36.9	26.9	26.4	22.8
Somewhat disagree	5.7	6.6	6.4	6.5
Strongly disagree	3.8	7.2	4.5	19.5
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>1,332</b>	<b>167</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>123</b>

	Urban %	Rural %
Strongly agree	47.7	56.5
Somewhat agree	37.8	33.4
Somewhat disagree	5.9	5.7
Strongly disagree	8.6	4.4
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>373</b>	<b>1,358</b>

Q34. There are different ways in which a country may be governed. I will read out some suggestions. For each of these would you say that you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree or strongly disagree?

34a. Having a strong leader who does not have to bother with parliament and elections

	Sinhala %	Tamil %	Up-country Tamil %	Muslim %
Strongly Agree	4.6	11.7	17.4	5.2
Somewhat Agree	7.3	13.7	15.7	16.2
Somewhat Disagree	13.3	13.2	16.5	24.7
Strongly Disagree	50.7	44.2	41.7	40.3
Do not know/ Not sure	24.1	17.3	8.7	13.6
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>1514</b>	<b>197</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>154</b>

	Urban %	Rural %
Strongly Agree	7.3	5.7
Somewhat Agree	12.4	8.0
Somewhat Disagree	12.8	14.8
Strongly Disagree	53.4	47.1
Do not know/ Not sure	14.1	24.4
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>491</b>	<b>1481</b>

34b. Having experts, make decisions according to what they think is best for the country

	Sinhala %	Tamil %	Up-country Tamil %	Muslim %
Strongly Agree	33.9	43.7	28.3	23.5
Somewhat Agree	28.9	22.3	35.4	38.6
Somewhat Disagree	7.9	6.6	14.2	10.5
Strongly Disagree	7.9	7.1	4.4	9.2
Do not know/ Not sure	21.5	20.3	17.7	18.3
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>1515</b>	<b>197</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>153</b>

	Urban %	Rural %
Strongly Agree	42.0	31.0
Somewhat Agree	29.5	29.4
Somewhat Disagree	7.6	8.4
Strongly Disagree	5.1	8.6
Do not know/ Not sure	15.8	22.6
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>488</b>	<b>1482</b>

34c. Having the army rule

	Sinhala %	Tamil %	Up-country Tamil %	Muslim %
Strongly Agree	8.1	1.5	1.8	1.3
Somewhat Agree	7.8	4.0	4.4	8.4
Somewhat Disagree	11.0	5.6	16.7	9.1
Strongly Disagree	52.7	76.3	71.1	70.1
Do not know/ Not sure	20.3	12.6	6.1	11.0
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>1511</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>154</b>

	Urban %	Rural %
Strongly Agree	9.6	5.6
Somewhat Agree	10.8	6.2
Somewhat Disagree	10.2	10.7
Strongly Disagree	53.2	58.8
Do not know/ Not sure	16.3	18.7
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>491</b>	<b>1479</b>

34d. Having a democratically elected political leader

	Sinhala %	Tamil %	Up-country Tamil %	Muslim %
Strongly Agree	69.6	74.2	76.1	78.4
Somewhat Agree	11.3	9.1	12.4	7.2
Somewhat Disagree	2.4	2.0	4.4	1.3
Strongly Disagree	0.9	4.5	0.9	3.3
Do not know/ Not sure	15.8	10.1	6.2	9.8
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>1511</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>153</b>

	Urban %	Rural %
Strongly Agree	72.7	70.5
Somewhat Agree	13.3	10.1
Somewhat Disagree	3.7	2.0
Strongly Disagree	1.4	1.6
Do not know/ Not sure	8.8	15.9
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>488</b>	<b>1481</b>

**34e. Having religious leaders rather than politicians make all major decisions**

	<b>Sinhala %</b>	<b>Tamil %</b>	<b>Up-country Tamil %</b>	<b>Muslim %</b>
<b>Strongly Agree</b>	2.6	10.7	14.8	9.9
<b>Somewhat Agree</b>	16.9	12.2	12.2	28.3
<b>Somewhat Disagree</b>	23.7	10.7	19.1	14.5
<b>Strongly Disagree</b>	30.7	46.7	40.0	26.3
<b>Do not know/ Not sure</b>	26.2	19.8	13.9	21.1
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>1509</b>	<b>197</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>152</b>

	<b>Urban %</b>	<b>Rural %</b>
<b>Strongly Agree</b>	6.4	4.1
<b>Somewhat Agree</b>	18.1	16.8
<b>Somewhat Disagree</b>	16.7	22.7
<b>Strongly Disagree</b>	38.1	30.6
<b>Do not know/ Not sure</b>	20.8	25.8
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>486</b>	<b>1478</b>

**Q35. Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with the following statements**

**35a. People like me can have a real influence on politics if they are prepared to get involved**

	<b>Sinhala %</b>	<b>Tamil %</b>	<b>Up-country Tamil %</b>	<b>Muslim %</b>
<b>Agree</b>	27.5	20.5	38.3	26.5
<b>Neither agree or disagree</b>	18.4	10.8	29.6	21.2
<b>Disagree</b>	20.4	23.1	17.4	19.2
<b>Do not know/ Not sure</b>	33.7	45.6	14.8	33.1
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>1514</b>	<b>195</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>151</b>

	<b>Urban %</b>	<b>Rural %</b>
<b>Agree</b>	24.5	28.2
<b>Neither agree or disagree</b>	15.4	19.5
<b>Disagree</b>	24.3	19.3
<b>Do not know/ Not sure</b>	35.8	33.0
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>486</b>	<b>1480</b>

35b. If a person is dissatisfied with the policies of the government, he/she has a duty to do something about it

	Sinhala %	Tamil %	Up-country Tamil %	Muslim %
Agree	55.4	36.3	46.1	42.3
Neither agree or disagree	12.5	9.3	26.1	14.1
Disagree	3.2	16.6	12.2	12.8
Do not know/ Not sure	29.0	37.8	15.7	30.9
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>1514</b>	<b>193</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>149</b>

	Urban %	Rural %
Agree	46.4	53.8
Neither agree or disagree	12.7	13.1
Disagree	8.6	4.7
Do not know/ Not sure	32.2	28.3
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>487</b>	<b>1478</b>

35c. Sometimes politics & functions of the government seem so complicated that a person like me cannot really understand what is going on

	Sinhala %	Tamil %	Up-country Tamil %	Muslim %
Agree	37.2	40.0	54.8	25.5
Neither agree or disagree	18.7	11.3	22.6	20.8
Disagree	19.1	15.9	13.0	22.1
Do not know/ Not sure	25.0	32.8	9.6	31.5
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>1510</b>	<b>195</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>149</b>

	Urban %	Rural %
Agree	43.4	35.6
Neither agree or disagree	16.0	19.1
Disagree	15.0	20.0
Do not know/ Not sure	25.5	25.4
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>486</b>	<b>1478</b>

35d. It doesn't really matter which party is in power, it will not affect our lives

	Sinhala %	Tamil %	Up-country Tamil %	Muslim %
Agree	17.2	25.9	35.1	25.3
Neither agree or disagree	17.5	9.8	18.4	16.0
Disagree	38.9	41.5	38.6	34.7
Do not know/ Not sure	26.4	22.8	7.9	24.0
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>1510</b>	<b>193</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>150</b>

	Urban %	Rural %
Agree	22.5	18.7
Neither agree or disagree	18.3	16.3
Disagree	33.3	40.6
Do not know/ Not sure	26.0	24.5
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>481</b>	<b>1479</b>

35e. People like me have no say in what the government does

	Sinhala %	Tamil %	Up-country Tamil %	Muslim %
Agree	21.7	21.0	41.2	16.0
Neither agree or disagree	18.7	8.7	21.9	17.3
Disagree	32.8	41.0	20.2	38.0
Do not know/ Not sure	26.8	29.2	16.7	28.7
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>1510</b>	<b>195</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>150</b>

	Urban %	Rural %
Agree	24.1	21.8
Neither agree or disagree	22.7	16.2
Disagree	25.8	35.6
Do not know/ Not sure	27.4	26.4
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>481</b>	<b>1479</b>



35f. My vote has no impact on the outcome of an election

	Sinhala %	Tamil %	Up-country Tamil %	Muslim %
Agree	11.0	18.5	19.5	30.0
Neither agree or disagree	11.9	9.7	17.7	8.7
Disagree	58.5	52.3	52.2	47.3
Do not know/ Not sure	18.6	19.5	10.6	14.0
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>1515</b>	<b>195</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>150</b>

	Urban %	Rural %
Agree	19.2	12.0
Neither agree or disagree	11.5	11.9
Disagree	57.5	56.2
Do not know/ Not sure	11.8	20.0
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>485</b>	<b>1481</b>

Q36. Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with the following statements and whether your level of agreement has increased, decreased or remained the same since the end of war.

36a. The government is doing a good job in managing the economy

	Sinhala %	Tamil %	Up-country Tamil %	Muslim %
Agree	38.8	43.4	49.1	47.4
Neither agree or disagree	20.2	14.8	15.8	11.0
Disagree	26.2	24.0	18.4	29.2
Do not know/ Not sure	14.8	17.9	16.7	12.3
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>1515</b>	<b>196</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>154</b>

	Urban %	Rural %
Agree	40.4	40.8
Neither agree or disagree	15.9	19.4
Disagree	31.1	24.0
Do not know/ Not sure	12.6	15.9
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>492</b>	<b>1482</b>

**36b. The government is doing a good job in managing public services**

	<b>Sinhala %</b>	<b>Tamil %</b>	<b>Up-country Tamil %</b>	<b>Muslim %</b>
<b>Agree</b>	50.4	49.2	54.4	60.6
<b>Neither agree or disagree</b>	17.7	20.3	16.7	11.0
<b>Disagree</b>	17.3	14.2	14.9	16.8
<b>Do not know/ Not sure</b>	14.6	16.2	14.0	11.6
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>1514</b>	<b>197</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>155</b>

	<b>Urban %</b>	<b>Rural %</b>
<b>Agree</b>	47.1	52.7
<b>Neither agree or disagree</b>	19.4	16.6
<b>Disagree</b>	20.8	15.5
<b>Do not know/ Not sure</b>	12.7	15.2
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>490</b>	<b>1483</b>

**Q42. During the last 12 months, how often have you done any of the following to influence rules, laws or policies?**

**42a. Discussed political issues with friends, family or co-workers**

	<b>%</b>
<b>Done it more than once</b>	56.7
<b>Done it once</b>	7.4
<b>Never done it</b>	32.2
<b>Will never do it</b>	3.7
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>1934</b>

**42b. Worked for a candidate or party in an election campaign**

	<b>%</b>
<b>Done it more than once</b>	24.0
<b>Done it once</b>	8.3
<b>Never done it</b>	58.4
<b>Will never do it</b>	9.3
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>1937</b>

**42c. Participated worked with a neighborhood on a particular issue**

	<b>%</b>
<b>Done it more than once</b>	17.1
<b>Done it once</b>	6.7
<b>Never done it</b>	67.7
<b>Will never do it</b>	8.5
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>1927</b>

**42d. Contacted approached an elected official politician to ask for a favor or raise an issue for a public good/service**

	<b>%</b>
<b>Done it more than once</b>	17.0
<b>Done it once</b>	9.2
<b>Never done it</b>	64.9
<b>Will never do it</b>	8.8
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>1941</b>

**42e. Taken part in a protest campaign on some national or local issue**

	<b>%</b>
<b>Done it more than once</b>	3.6
<b>Done it once</b>	3.2
<b>Never done it</b>	78.9
<b>Will never do it</b>	14.2
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>1931</b>

**42f. Signed a petition to influence an issue/ policy that would have an impact on the country**

	<b>%</b>
<b>Done it more than once</b>	1.5
<b>Done it once</b>	2.2
<b>Never done it</b>	82.9
<b>Will never do it</b>	13.4
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>1922</b>

**42g. Raised funds for an organization working to influence laws/ policies of the country**

	%
Done it more than once	1.2
Done it once	1.0
Never done it	83.1
Will never do it	14.8
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>1923</b>

**42h. Donated money to an organization working to influence laws/ policies of the country**

	%
Done it more than once	2.3
Done it once	1.7
Never done it	82.3
Will never do it	13.8
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>1924</b>

**42i. Attended a political meeting or rally**

	%
Done it more than once	29.2
Done it once	9.1
Never done it	52.7
Will never do it	9.0
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>1941</b>

**42j. Taken part in a strike**

	%
Done it more than once	2.8
Done it once	1.3
Never done it	79.0
Will never do it	16.8
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>1888</b>

**42k. Attended a demonstration about a political issue/ policy that would have an impact on the country**

	%
Done it more than once	2.1
Done it once	1.4
Never done it	79.4
Will never do it	17.0

<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>1914</b>
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**42l. Joined a boycott**

	<b>%</b>
<b>Done it more than once</b>	1.8
<b>Done it once</b>	1.3
<b>Never done it</b>	77.7
<b>Will never do it</b>	19.2
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>1917</b>

**42m. Contributed an article to mainstream media to express your opinion/ influence rules, laws or policies**

	<b>%</b>
<b>Done it more than once</b>	0.3
<b>Done it once</b>	0.4
<b>Never done it</b>	76.0
<b>Will never do it</b>	23.3
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>1899</b>

**42n. Contributed an article to a website to express your opinion influence on rules**

	<b>%</b>
<b>Done it more than once</b>	0.3
<b>Done it once</b>	0.3
<b>Never done it</b>	75.0
<b>Will never do it</b>	24.4
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>1871</b>

**Q49. Which political party do you feel that you are close to?**

	<b>Sinhala %</b>	<b>Tamil %</b>	<b>Up-country Tamil %</b>	<b>Muslim %</b>
<b>All Ceylon Muslim Congress</b>	.0	.7	.0	1.5
<b>All Ceylon Tamil Congress</b>	.1	5.3	.0	.0
<b>Ceylon Workers Congress</b>	.2	.7	29.2	.0
<b>Democratic People's Front</b>	.0	.0	.0	.0
<b>Eelam People's Democratic Party</b>	.0	5.9	.0	.0
<b>Eelam People's Revolutionary Liberation Front</b>	.0	.7	.0	.0
<b>Illankai Tamil Arasu Kachchi</b>	.0	53.9	.0	.0
<b>Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna</b>	1.5	.0	.0	.0

Jathika Nidahas Peramuna	.2	2.0	.0	.8
Lanka Sama Samaja Party	.0	1.3	.0	.0
Mahajana Eksath Peramuna	.2	1.3	.0	14.4
National Unity Alliance	4.1	1.3	3.1	14.4
National Muslim Congress	.0	.0	.0	4.5
Sri Lanka Freedom Party	74.0	2.6	18.8	12.9
Sri Lanka Muslim Congress	.0	.0	.0	19.7
Tamil Eelam Liberation Organization	.0	2.0	.0	.0
United National Party	19.8	22.4	42.7	31.8
Up-Country People's Front	.0	.0	6.3	.0
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>1282</b>	<b>152</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>132</b>

Which political party do you feel that you are close to?

	Urban %	Rural %
All Ceylon Muslim Congress	.3	.1
All Ceylon Tamil Congress	.3	.6
Ceylon Workers Congress	.3	2.3
Democratic People's Front	.0	.0
Eelam People's Democratic Party	.3	.7
Eelam People's Revolutionary Liberation Front	.0	.1
Illankai Tamil Arasu Kachchi	3.5	5.4
Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna	.9	1.3
Jathika Nidahas Peramuna	.0	.4
Lanka Sama Samaja Party	.3	.1
Mahajana Eksath Peramuna	2.6	1.1
National Unity Alliance	.6	5.5
National Muslim Congress	1.5	.1
Sri Lanka Freedom Party	49.7	62.0
Sri Lanka Muslim Congress	2.6	1.4
Tamil Eelam Liberation Organization	.0	.2
United National Party	37.1	18.6
Up-Country People's Front	.0	.5
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>340</b>	<b>1323</b>

**Q54. In general, during an election campaign, do you feel you learn enough about the candidates and the issues to make an informed choice?**

	%
Yes very much	20.4
Yes somewhat	54.1
Not at all	11.0
Do not know/ Not sure	14.5
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>1968</b>

**Q55. Some people are accused of being engaged in various types of corruption. In your opinion, to what degree is corruption prevalent among individuals in the following institutions?**

**55a. Members of Parliament**

	Sinhala %	Tamil %	Up-country Tamil %	Muslim %
To a great extent	21.6	13.7	31.9	17.2
Some extent	45.6	46.7	32.7	53.6
Not at all	3.2	6.1	8.8	6.6
Do not know/ Not sure	29.7	33.5	26.5	22.5
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>1520</b>	<b>197</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>151</b>

	Urban %	Rural %
To a great extent	29.2	18.4
Some extent	43.6	46.0
Not at all	3.7	4.2
Do not know/ Not sure	23.5	31.4
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>489</b>	<b>1486</b>

**55b. Elected Local Government**

	Sinhala %	Tamil %	Up-country Tamil %	Muslim %
To a great extent	16.8	10.2	26.5	16.7
Some extent	46.6	46.2	38.9	51.3
Not at all	4.5	7.6	15.0	7.3
Do not know/ Not sure	32.1	36.0	19.5	24.7
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>1521</b>	<b>197</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>150</b>

	<b>Urban %</b>	<b>Rural %</b>
<b>To a great extent</b>	23.3	14.7
<b>Some extent</b>	42.8	47.5
<b>Not at all</b>	5.3	5.7
<b>Do not know/ Not sure</b>	28.6	32.1
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>486</b>	<b>1487</b>

#### 55c. Government Officials

	<b>Sinhala %</b>	<b>Tamil %</b>	<b>Up-country Tamil %</b>	<b>Muslim %</b>
<b>To a great extent</b>	7.0	13.3	28.9	20.0
<b>Some extent</b>	50.1	48.0	41.2	47.3
<b>Not at all</b>	9.1	8.7	11.4	9.3
<b>Do not know/ Not sure</b>	33.7	30.1	18.4	23.3
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>1518</b>	<b>196</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>150</b>

	<b>Urban %</b>	<b>Rural %</b>
<b>To a great extent</b>	14.8	8.4
<b>Some extent</b>	49.6	48.8
<b>Not at all</b>	8.0	9.6
<b>Do not know/ Not sure</b>	27.7	33.2
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>488</b>	<b>1483</b>

#### 55d. Police

	<b>Sinhala %</b>	<b>Tamil %</b>	<b>Up-country Tamil %</b>	<b>Muslim %</b>
<b>To a great extent</b>	26.3	26.3	43.9	32.5
<b>Some extent</b>	39.3	37.9	28.1	42.4
<b>Not at all</b>	5.0	6.1	10.5	6.6
<b>Do not know/ Not sure</b>	29.4	29.8	17.5	18.5
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>1520</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>151</b>



	<b>Urban %</b>	<b>Rural %</b>
<b>To a great extent</b>	28.7	27.6
<b>Some extent</b>	41.0	37.8
<b>Not at all</b>	4.7	5.8
<b>Do not know/ Not sure</b>	25.6	28.8
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>488</b>	<b>1488</b>

55e. NGOs

	<b>Sinhala %</b>	<b>Tamil %</b>	<b>Up-country Tamil %</b>	<b>Muslim %</b>
<b>To a great extent</b>	10.1	8.7	5.3	8.6
<b>Some extent</b>	32.5	43.9	18.4	32.5
<b>Not at all</b>	3.9	10.7	16.7	11.9
<b>Do not know/ Not sure</b>	53.5	36.7	59.6	47.0
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>1521</b>	<b>196</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>151</b>

	<b>Urban %</b>	<b>Rural %</b>
<b>To a great extent</b>	9.8	9.5
<b>Some extent</b>	34.8	32.2
<b>Not at all</b>	6.1	5.8
<b>Do not know/ Not sure</b>	49.3	52.6
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>489.0</b>	<b>1488.0</b>

Q56. In your opinion, in the past two years, do you think the government has done enough to address the root causes of the conflict which resulted in thirty years of war?

	<b>Sinhala %</b>	<b>Tamil %</b>	<b>Up-country Tamil %</b>	<b>Muslim %</b>
<b>Has done nothing</b>	4.9	32.3	17.2	10.5
<b>Has done a little, but not enough</b>	31.9	30.8	44.0	52.0
<b>Has done a lot</b>	41.1	8.1	19.0	13.8
<b>Do not know/ Not sure</b>	22.0	28.8	19.8	23.7
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>1520</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>152</b>

	<b>Urban</b> %	<b>Rural</b> %
Has done nothing	9.8	8.3
Has done a little, but not enough	41.1	31.6
Has done a lot	32.6	35.2
Do not know/ Not sure	16.5	24.8
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>491</b>	<b>1487</b>

**Q57. The role of the forces is expanding to include civilian tasks – such as selling vegetables and other economic and recreation roles. Do you approve or disapprove of this?**

	<b>Sinhala</b> %	<b>Tamil</b> %	<b>Up-country Tamil</b> %	<b>Muslim</b> %
Strongly approve	25.3	7.1	28.1	10.0
Somewhat approve	32.2	23.2	32.5	43.3
Somewhat disapprove	8.2	6.6	9.6	9.3
Strongly disapprove	17.1	19.2	7.9	14.7
Do not know/ Not sure	17.3	43.9	21.9	22.7
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>1516</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>150</b>

	<b>Urban</b> %	<b>Rural</b> %
Strongly approve	23.6	22.2
Somewhat approve	32.4	31.9
Somewhat disapprove	6.6	8.6
Strongly disapprove	21.3	15.1
Do not know/ Not sure	16.2	22.2
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>488</b>	<b>1483</b>

**Q58. Some people say that since corruption is inevitable in any government, as long as the country is being developed they can ignore the corruption. To what extent do you agree with this statement?**

	<b>Sinhala</b> %	<b>Tamil</b> %	<b>Up-country Tamil</b> %	<b>Muslim</b> %
Strongly agree	1.5	6.6	15.8	13.9
Agree	4.8	17.3	22.8	26.5
Neither agree or disagree	6.0	11.2	14.9	4.6
Disagree	33.1	20.4	22.8	19.2
Strongly disagree	40.8	16.3	7.9	17.9
Do not know/ Not sure	13.8	28.1	15.8	17.9
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>1521</b>	<b>196</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>151</b>

	Urban %	Rural %
Strongly agree	6.6	2.8
Agree	14.5	6.9
Neither agree or disagree	10.7	5.7
Disagree	25.2	31.8
Strongly disagree	32.8	35.4
Do not know/ Not sure	10.2	17.4
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>488</b>	<b>1487</b>

**Q59. What are the three main results you would like to see from the current development process?**

**59a. First main result**

	Sinhala %	Tamil %	Up-country Tamil %	Muslim %
Reduction in cost of living	63.6	50.8	74.6	62.7
Improved infrastructure (roads, bridges etc)	10.5	10.8	4.4	5.9
Addressing unemployment/ Creating more jobs	10.7	19.0	10.5	13.1
Developing agriculture	7.9	7.2	1.8	3.9
Improved healthcare service	2.7	3.6	1.8	6.5
Better education facilities	4.7	8.7	7.0	7.8
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>1,502</b>	<b>195</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>153</b>

**59b. Second main result**

	Sinhala %	Tamil %	Up-country Tamil %	Muslim %
Reduction in cost of living	15.1	20.0	14.9	20.5
Improved infrastructure (roads, bridges etc)	29.7	23.1	10.5	18.5
Addressing unemployment/ Creating more jobs	25.6	29.7	34.2	26.5
Developing agriculture	12.2	8.7	7.9	7.3
Improved healthcare service	10.2	10.8	18.4	15.2
Better education facilities	7.1	7.7	14.0	11.9
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>1,499</b>	<b>195</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>151</b>

**Q59c. Third main result**

	<b>Sinhala %</b>	<b>Tamil %</b>	<b>Up-country Tamil %</b>	<b>Muslim %</b>
<b>Reduction in cost of living</b>	11.2	16.8	7.1	9.7
<b>Improved infrastructure (roads, bridges etc)</b>	22.9	14.7	16.8	18.1
<b>Addressing unemployment/ Creating more jobs</b>	20.5	19.0	15.9	20.8
<b>Developing agriculture</b>	20.4	11.4	7.1	7.6
<b>Improved healthcare service</b>	14.5	21.7	24.8	21.5
<b>Better education facilities</b>	10.4	16.3	28.3	22.2
<b>Total number of respondents</b>	<b>1,423</b>	<b>184</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>144</b>