

Heartfelt Condolences of the Centre for Policy Alternatives !

Chaminda Samantha Rajakaruna – Departure of an amazing human being and a civil society activist

By this time, our friend Chaminda Samantha Rajakaruna has departed. This note is written with the scent of his outstanding qualities, the heartfelt pain caused by his sudden departure. First, we at the Centre for Policy Alternatives express our deepest condolences on his sudden death.

We do not have to write about who Chaminda Rajakaruna is. As a young Attorney-at-Law, Rajakaruna is a strong civic activist with international experience.

Chaminda, who was the Executive Director of Sarvodaya at the time of his death, is also the youngest Executive Director of Sarvodaya as far as we know. His time with Sarvodaya was not an easy period but a difficult time with a range of challenges and threats. As we know, Dr Vinaya Ariyaratne and Chaminda were a great strength to the Sarvodaya movement. Sarvodaya will not be able to fill his gap for long.

Chaminda was a humane colleague who worked closely with the Centre for Policy Alternatives. The memory of working closely with him for so long cannot be easily forgotten. Chaminda's unique quality was to deal with everyone with the utmost patience and optimism. We have a lot of experience in that regard. He was often smiling. He conversed with any stranger and worked closely.

He was also well versed in the philosophy of Sarvodaya and implemented that philosophy in his personal life too. As we begin our civil society journey and gain experience in civil society in association with Sarvodaya, we also have an understanding.

We know that Chaminda's sudden death was unbearable for his wife and three children. It goes without saying that the loss of a loving husband to his wife and a loving father to his children is not at all bearable. Others might forget Chaminda's memory, but the children and wife will only be left with his scent forever. We extend our condolences to the entire family of Chaminda.

Similarly, Chaminda's death leaves a message for us. Social workers should be on the lookout for their health. Young civil activists are responsible for society, so it is essential to take care of their health.

Last but not least, Chaminda Rajakaruna is not only another social activist but also an activist who has worked tirelessly for the betterment of a society without injustices. His death is an irreparable loss to civil society.

We wish that our colleague Chaminda rest in peace!



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