

**100<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF CHINA (CPC)**  
**Joint Statement of Sri Lanka Political Parties**

The year 2021 marks the 100th the anniversary of the founding of the CPC. On 23<sup>rd</sup> July 1921, the inaugural congress of the Communist Party of China (CPC) was held in Shanghai with 13 delegates representing around 50 members of the Party. A century years after its founding, the CPC has grown to more than 91 million members, making it one of the largest political parties in the world. At this joyous occasion, we extend our congratulations to General Secretary Xi Jinping and the Communist Party of China for the tremendous achievements of the CPC over the last 100 years in the history of China, international politics and mankind.

The CPC has remained true to its ambition to seek liberation, unification and rejuvenation of the Chinese nation, while building socialism and creating a community with a shared future for mankind. The relentless efforts of the CPC have turned a semi-feudal, semi-colonial country into the second largest economy in the world, while pulling over 700 million people out of poverty and successfully fighting with the COVID-19 pandemic.

Under the leadership of the Communist Party, China has been a steadfast friend and ally to the Third World. General Secretary Xi Jinping's "Belt and Road" Initiative has helped underdeveloped countries develop their infrastructure and forces of production while respecting sovereignty. China's generosity amid the unprecedented COVID-19 pandemic has been crucial for developing countries struggling to procure anti-epidemic materials and vaccines.

Sri Lanka's relations with China are over 2000 years old. The Rubber-Rice pact of 1952 deepened the bonds between the Sri Lankan and Chinese people, leading to the formal establishment of diplomatic ties in 1957. Successive Sri Lankan governments have maintained friendly relations with China. Buddhist philosophy, international trade, cultural exchange, and diplomatic solidarity, have brought the peoples of two old civilizations to a new level of friendship in the modern era. In the context of looming political, economic and ecological challenges, the relations between our two countries and between CPC and political parties in Sri Lanka, bolstering mutual support, practical cooperation, and promoting progress and peace warrants further strengthening.

Sri Lanka Podujana Party

United National Party

Jathika Nidahas Peramuna

Pivithuru Hela Urumaya

Sri Lanka Mahajana Party

Communist Party of Sri Lanka

Sri Lanka Freedom Party

Mahajana Eksath Peramuna

Democratic Left Front

Elam Peoples Democratic Party

Lanka Sama Samaja Party