

The Individual and Collective Responsibility of the Judiciary, Police, and the Prisons to deliver the utmost to achieve the Intended Objectives of the Criminal Justice System

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Honourable Wijayadasa Rajapaksha, Minister to the Justice and Prison Affairs and constitutional reforms, and honourable justice Navaz and Dr Ajith Rohana, Senior Deputy Inspector General and Professor Jeeva Niriella, and the participants. So, it is my great pleasure to address the 15th International Research Conference, organized by General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University this evening. At honest on behalf of the department of prisons. I may take this opportunity to convey my warmest wishes to the vice-chancellor of KDU. We are proud of KDU to stand as one of the foremost universities both nationally and internationally. And I also extend my warmest wishes to Prof. Jeeva Niriella and the members of the faculty KDU for the kind invitation sent to me.

Ladies and gentlemen, the modern articulation of national security began in the 17th century after 30 years of war in Europe and the civil war in England. To be very precise its origin can be traced to two precise treatise signs on October 04, 1648. This introduces the broad definition of national security. It is mostly more than just dealing with military threats but also includes securing the state and the chronic threats and protection from the sudden dispute of daily life.

Ladies and gentlemen, it is obvious that national security and research in the criminal justice system are very important in making criminal justice policies. On the other hand, sustainable development of public security should be based on a balance of national and effective criminal justice policy. Criminal justice policies can be received value and implemented as a set of scientific theories and concepts on the conceptual strategic and practical elements of preventing combating crimes and other anti-social behaviour. It isn't possible to achieve the effective function of society and its legal system without relying on general human norms and values. The criminal justice approach reflects the common value of society. The 2030 agenda for sustainable development emphasizes that there can be no sustainable development without peace. And there is no peace without sustainable development. It includes peace, rule of law, human rights development and equity reducing conflict, violence, and discrimination and ensuring inclusion stable conditions and good governance are key elements of people's well-being and sustainable development. Through the adaptation of the 2030 sustainable development agenda member states recognized the importance of justice and the rule of law within the wider social, sustainable development framework.

Within the international framework, the criminal justice system of any country encompasses police, judiciary, and prisons. Every institution bears an individual collective responsibility to deliver the utmost to achieve and intended objectives of the criminal justice system. Even to this end research in this area plays a vital role.

Ladies and gentlemen, time constraint allows me to highlight a few examples which are related to my subject. Violence extension has been another rapidly growing concern throughout the world. That can similarly affect the national security sustainability of any country. Sri Lanka experience violent extremism during the easter Sunday attack a few years ago. While the police and attorney general's department were ensuring the investigation, prosecution of the perpetrators and the judiciary with the judication. The department of prisons is also

entrusted with keeping radicalized prisoners safe.

Let me highlight an important factor which is related to prisons. If you take the prison statistics, you can see convicted and remand population ratio is one to five in Sri Lanka today. So, this indicates that most remanded inmates are released after judicial hearings. Due to this remand population is comparatively high. There are many aspects of this issue. Overcrowding in prisons directly violates the rights of inmates and it causes many challenges to prison security and the good order of the prisons. Therefore, it is mandatory to have researchers in this field of criminal justice to identify the gaps and the field such gaps through the developments. If their gaps aren't prepared to address the entire criminal justice system may be in danger. Therefore, research relating to criminal justice is very important when concerning national security and sustainability. Thank you very much.