

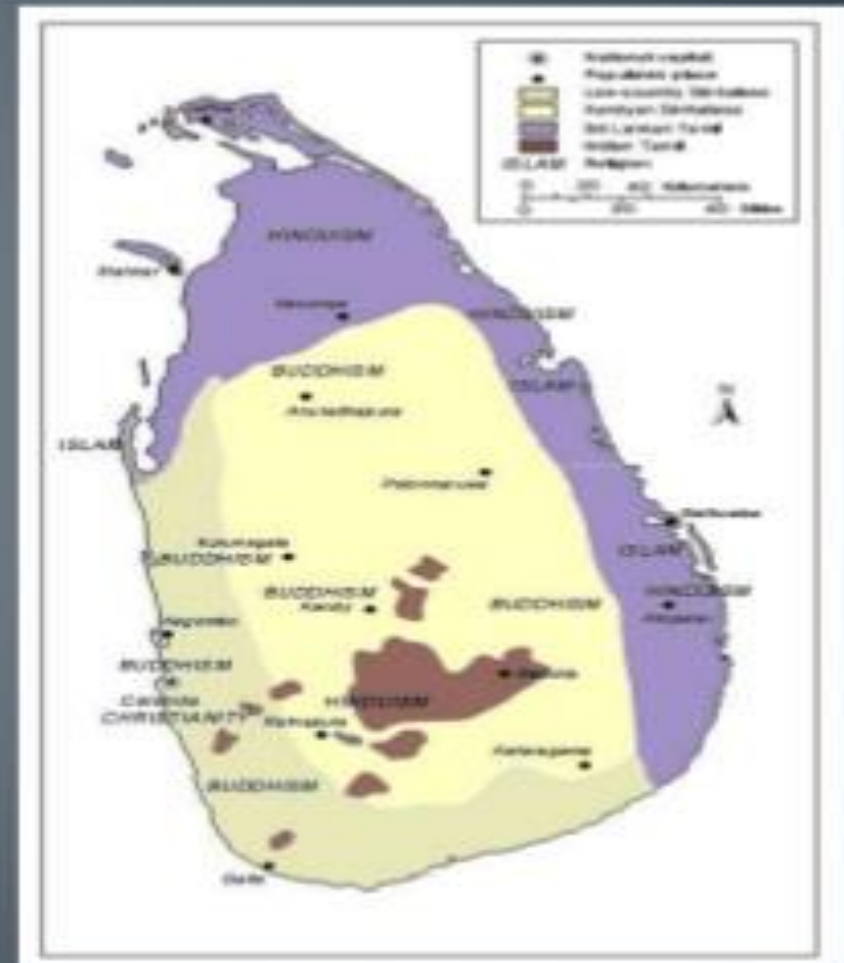
Day: 2

power sharing

SRI LANKA

SIZE

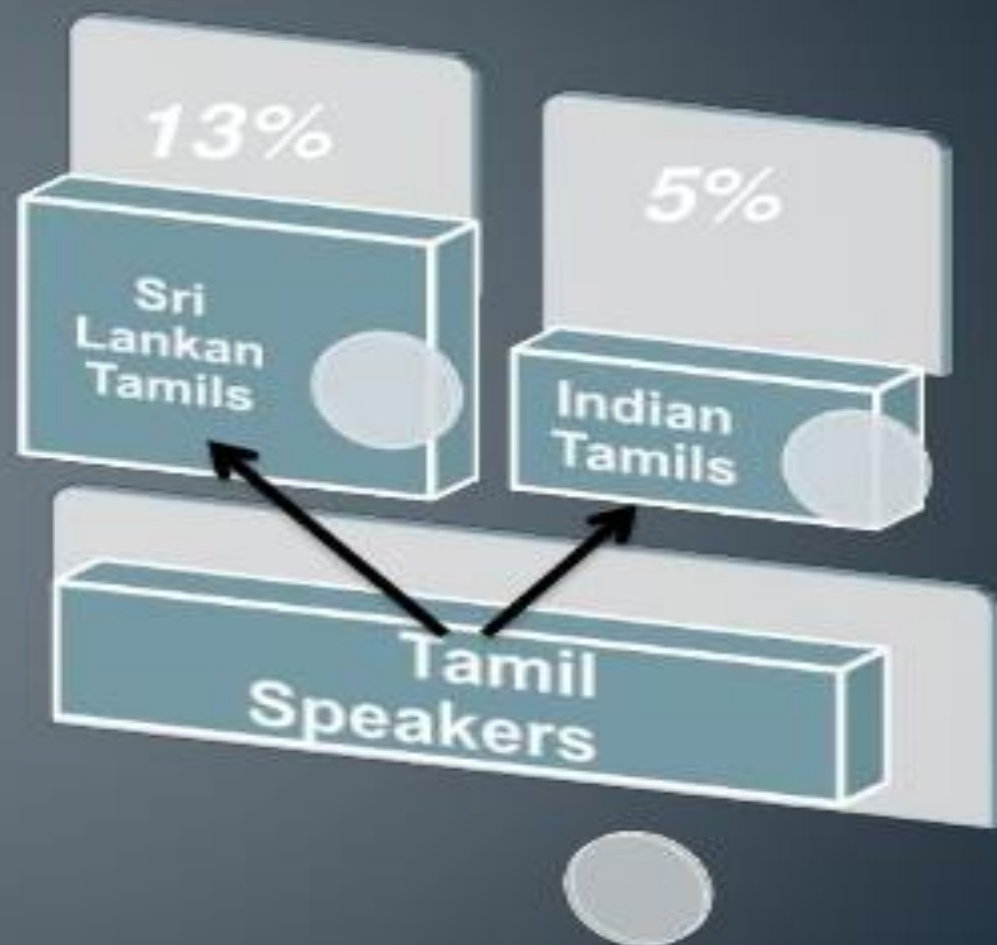
- About the same as Haryana
- Just a few kms away off the southern coast of Tamil Nadu



SOCIAL

COMPOSITION

- Sinhala Speakers: 74%. They are mostly Buddhists
- Tamils Speakers: 18%. They are Hindus and Muslims



Indian Tamils

- They migrated to Sri Lanka as Plantation workers during the British Rule

Sri Lankan Tamils

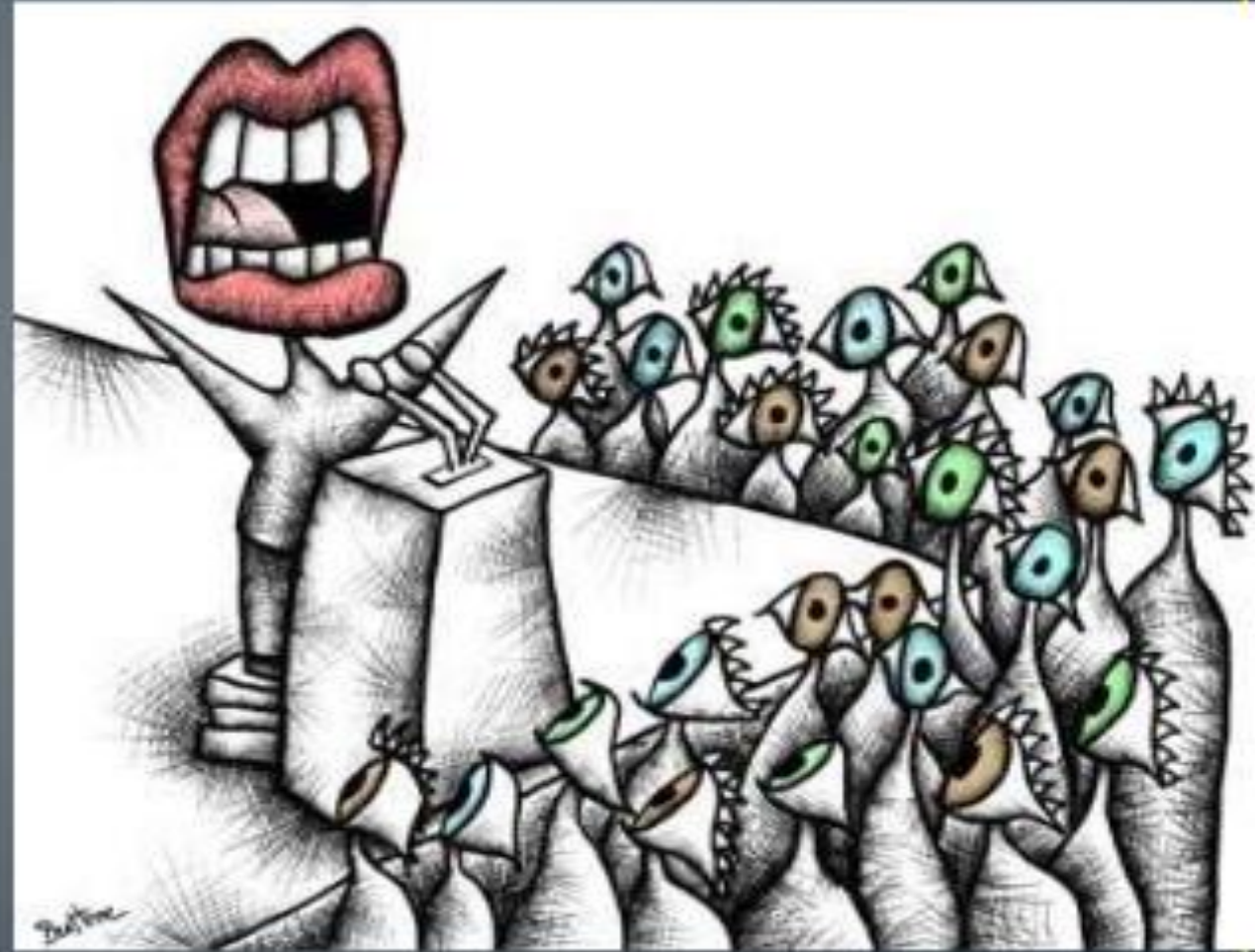
- Tamil Natives

7% of the Population

- Consists Christians who speak both Sinhala and Tamil

MAJORITARIANISM IN SRI LANKA

- After independence in 1948, Sri Lanka adopted a series of majoritarian measures to establish Sinhalese supremacy over the Tamils
- In 1956, an Act was passed to recognise Sinhala as the only official language



MAJORITARIANISM IN SRI LANKA

- In 1956 an Act was passed which recognised Sinhala as the only official language.
- Sinhala speakers were preferred both for university positions and Govt. jobs.



MAJORITYTARIANISM IN SRI LANKA

- Constitution was amended to protect and strengthen Sinhala Language.

EFFECT ON TAMILS

- The Tamils felt isolated
- They thought that even the constitution was against them.
- None of the Political parties ever considered their needs.
- The Tamils formed groups, organisations and parties to fight for rights



EFFECT ON TAMILS

- Their demands for recognition to their language and separate state with autonomous status were repeatedly neglected.
- This made some groups like the LTTE to take violent actions.



THE CIVIL WAR

- Civil war thus broke out between the Tamils and the Sinhalias
Thousands of people on both the sides were killed.

Thousands of Tamil families went out of the country as refugees

