

RANIL ELECTED PRESIDENT OF CRISIS-HIT SRI LANKA

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“It is a sad day for democracy that such a candidate was elected President of Sri Lanka,” she added..

Over the last few months, the ‘Aragalaya’ did “much of the heavy lifting”, Ms. De Silva said, in ousting Mahinda and Gotabaya Rajapaksa from office, and dismantling the Cabinet. “The Parliament had one job today — to heed the call of the people. Our MPs proved that they don’t have the people’s interest at heart,” she said.

On May 12, recently ousted President Gotabaya Rajapaksa appointed him as Prime Minister, replacing Mahinda Rajapaksa, who had resigned days earlier, in the wake of violence triggered by his [Mahinda Rajapaksa’s] supporters. On July 13, Mr. Wickremesinghe was appointed Acting President, just ahead of Mr. Gotabaya’s resignation, upon fleeing the island to seek refuge in the Maldives, and later Singapore, as demonstrators stormed his office and home in an escalation of mass resistance to his government.

Mr. Wickremesinghe will helm the country during its worst economic crisis since Independence, which has put citizens amidst crippling shortages and soaring living costs.

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