The incumbent, post-war President of Sri Lanka, re-elected in 2010 on account of his victory over Tamil separatists in the northeast of the country, was defeated by a candidate from within his own party who was fielded as the common opposition candidate at the Presidential election held in January this year. Professor Hettige will propose that the new government will not be able to address diverse issues in the country and satisfy the voters unless the leaders take steps to formulate and implement evidence based public policies.

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