



Message from the Chief Guest, Honourable Minister of Higher Education

I would like to congratulate the National Centre for Advanced Studies in Humanities and Social Sciences (NCAS) on organizing its national research symposium for the third time. I am certain that the opportunity that NCAS provides for the researchers to present their research findings and carry out intellectual discussions on them, fulfills a great need in the academia. I firmly believe that discussions among scholars on matters which are important for the nation positively contribute to the development and improvement of national policies.

This year's theme of the symposium 'Youth and Social Transformation: The Power, Opportunities and Challenges' is very significant and valuable for the current Sri Lankan context. Different ways in which, power, energy and creativity of our youth could be utilized for the development of the country, needs in-depth analysis and scholarly concern. Identification of challenges the Sri Lankan youth have in contributing to the economic and social development of the country is a dire need currently. This identification of issues and challenges would lead the relevant authorities to take necessary measures to encounter the challenges and address the issues.

While thanking the NCAS for its worthy endeavour, I extend my best wishes for all the researchers, the participants and everyone who was involved in making this symposium a success.

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