

Vote intelligently

- PAFFREL

By **THAMEENAH RAZEEM**

Pointing out that at the Parliamentary Election held in 2010, people had elected those who did not even have a basic knowledge about the Constitution and the basic laws of the land, the People's Action for Free and Fair Elections (PAFFREL) urged the public to elect a team of intelligent representatives.

Executive Director of the PAFFREL, Rohana Hettiarachchi told the Media yesterday representatives who are elected should perform the role of Parliamentarians knowledgeable to legislate, formulate policies and responsibly manage public finance.

"Even though representatives are elected to Parliament for five years, if we fail to elect a qualified and suitable team, the survival of the country for decades to come will be challenged due to wrong decisions taken by them," he said.

He further said it was essential that the true view of the people be expressed in an Election without influence or distortion. "Therefore, it is the responsibility of the Election Commission, Government officials,



the Police and the entire voting public to achieve this objective. We appeal to all parties to fulfill this democratic responsibility properly. Further, we request all of you to be peaceful in celebrating the victory after the election. The purpose of declaring a silent period would be to give voters the rest they need to contemplate on

making an independent decision without being influenced by external pressure," he said.

In particular, the PAFFREL called on all political parties to stop election propaganda activities during the silent period using various dubious tactics, and under the guise of performing religious and sports events.