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## ABSTRACT

The root cause for this research was to focus its attention to find out as to how much of space allowance had been made political party-wise in newspapers and how the papers had behaved during the Presidential elections so far held in Sri Lanka. Reports published in Sinhala media on Sunday were used as aid in this connection, Contents of such reports were analyzed and included in this report.

As Sri Lanka newspapers were used for this study a concern had to be made about the history and the expansion of such newspaper establishment too.

The main section of this research is the connection shown between politics and newspapers. Therefore special effort is made to show the political affiliation of a newspaper. Also details have been included here to show how various countries in the world have controlled the newspapers and have maneuvered their election campaigning works.

Presidential Election is the other main section of this Research. Here detailed reports are included about the governing systems prevailing and prevailed in and before presidential election periods.

In 1978 with the change of statutory powers vested with the President and various other amendments made to date, the Presidential laws explain how a President should be elected. This procedure is discussed under this research and details included.

With the aim of discussing further about the Presidential Election, the reports tendered by the election observing teams, the petitions so far received in connection with the election and the election commissioner's observations issued to the media are also some subjects discussed in this research.

### Key words

Presidential Election, Political party, Sri Lankan newspapers, Politics and newspapers, Election commissioner