

"It is essential, if man is not to be compelled to have recourse, as a last resort, to rebellion against tyranny and oppression. that human rights should be protected by the Rule of Law" – United Nations Declaration of Human Rights – 1948

TAMIL ACTION COMMITTEE UK

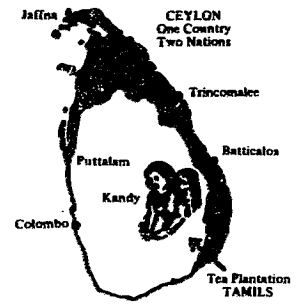
(Formed in Association with Tamil Film and Cultural Society in 1962)

**A Movement for Human Rights for 3.9 million
Tamil Speaking People of Ceylon (Sri Lanka)**

Refugee Resettlement Programme

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****This letterhead supersedes that of the previous one for it's illicit use by others**



Chairman: S. Maharasingam, Secretary-General: K. S. Balasunderam, Refugee Affairs: M. Maharasingam, Research & Publicity: B. Ravindran

13th September, 1994

Sinappu Maharasingam as chairman of the London based Tamil Action Committee is submitting below the consensus of the United Kingdom Tamil intelligentsia for the urgent priority consideration of the Sri Lankan Prime Minister Chandrika Kumaratunga and Vellupillai Prabaharan, the leader of the Tamil Tigers of Tamil Eelam, when the talks begin.

We welcome the courageous action of the Sri Lankan Prime Minister Chandrika Kumaratunga in reaching her hand of friendship to the Tamil Tiger(LTTE) leader Vellupillai Prabaharan, like her late illustrious husband, in the pursuit of a lasting peace by partial lifting of the four year embargo on the Tamil people of the Jaffna peninsula and inviting the LTTE for unconditional talks. Tamil Tigers in response have in addition to talks have announced a cease fire. But the Prime Minister's commitment towards peace, must fundamentally be seen to solve the out going 17 year-old United National Party (UNP) state terrorism by death squads, which is much in evidence when an attempted assassination on the life of the Prime Minister in Kandy was unravelled, where she has gone with her ministers to be blessed by the Buddhist clergy.

- 1) Declaration of cease fire of areas occupied by the government army, navy and air force and organise with upmost urgency negotiated resettlement programme for over 600,000 displaced destitute Tamil refugees in their homes in the northeast directly with the leader of the LTTE and Tamil organisations supporting them.
- 2) For the people of Sri Lanka to build on the already developed goodwill between the Prime Minister and the Tamil Tiger leader V Prabaharan, who represents the most important component of the Tamil people within and outside Sri Lanka in a durable solution to the Sinhala/Tamil divide.
- 3) To recognise that the fear and endemic violence won't simply vanish, and to urgently establish a Judicial Commission with wide ranging powers to investigate into the structures of the death squad, which is posing an ever increasing presence, endangering even the PM's life recently, and stand as a stumbling block in the path of Tamil/Sinhala understanding.
- 4) The same Commission to enact afresh constitutional provisions to recognise and give effect to, that Sri Lanka's heritage is composed of diverse ethnic communities, their distinct languages and cultures, and the occupation and usage of their home lands, so that a repetition of the endemic violence and ethnic cleansing by majority races will not surface again.
- 5) To stop colonisation of Tamil home lands with donor aid by the previous government administrators immediately; and that donor aid to be earmarked to enable the return of over 600,000 destitute internally displaced Tamils to their homes with security and safety.
- 6) Withdrawal of armed forces from the northeast as a gesture of goodwill and commitment to a negotiated settlement with the Tamil Tigers leader V Prabaharan. Tamils should not feel that they are being victimised to live under the threat of the army occupation.
- 7) A constitutional guarantee for the Tamils to feel that their collective security will never be abused in their own homes and lands by the Sinhala armed forces and death squads in the future.
- 8) For the asylum seekers to return to their homes from where they fled in the northeast, a guarantee that normality in the whole of the island has been established is fundamental, to this extent, the Prime Minister must issue a memorandum to ambassadors of respective foreign embassies in Colombo not to deport any Tamil or Sinhala who has fled for fear of persecution to foreign countries (UK, the European Union and non-European Union countries, India, etc.) until such time normality has been permanently established. Under the draconian new UK Asylum and Immigration Appeals Act 1993, blanket refusals to asylum and deportation of Tamils are being perpetrated.
- 9) To establish a friendly environment in Sri Lankan embassies in the UK and other European, Indian and foreign countries by introducing a fair representation of Tamils at all levels in the embassies, for Tamils to feel they are not discriminated against.
- 10) It is incumbent on the part of the Tamil Tiger leader Vellupillai Prabaharan to root out once and for all the underlying Duttugemunu psyche which has clogged the minds of the Sinhala nation by the paranoiac fear of being 'pushed into the sea by Tamil invasions from the north east'.