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'Tiger' and when the old gentleman refused he was shot dead. We wish to express our deepest sorrow over the killing of this innocent elderly person. In this case too, the name of our liberation movement has been deliberately and maliciously utilized to discredit its image. We request the Government of Tamil Nadu to investigate this wanton killing and severely punish the culprits.

A BRIEF NOTE ON THE LIBERATION TIGERS OF TAMIL EELAM.

Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam is a revolutionary liberation movement headed by Velupillai Pirabakaran. It is the oldest, most powerful and well disciplined liberation organisation with historical record of twelve years of consistent armed struggle against the repressive Sinhala state. The political objective of our movement is the establishment of an independent sovereign socialist state of Tamil Eelam. Courage, dedication and supreme sense of sacrifice are characteristics of our liberation fighters that has earned them wide popular support in Tamil Eelam and Tamil Nadu. Our freedom fighters adhere to strict moral principles and are well known for their moral and military discipline.

A great deal of confusion is created when the name of our liberation movement is indiscriminately used by the local South Indian press to describe the activities of other liberation groups who are structurally different from the Tigers. For the purpose of clarity we give below the list of other Eelam liberation groups.

People's Liberation Organisation of Tamil Eelam (PLOI)
headed by Uman Maheswaran (Mukundan)

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PRESS RELEASE

THE TIGER MOVEMENT CONDEMNS THE
ABUSE OF ITS NAME.

We, the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam vehemently condemn the utilization of the name of our revolutionary movement by some anti-social elements in Tamil Nadu to carry out their criminal activities. These unlawful activities are carried out with the explicit purpose of undermining the unimpeachable image of our liberation organisation. We call upon the Government of Tamil Nadu to expose the true identity of these culprits and punish them accordingly.

According to recent press reports a gang of robbers from Kumbakonnam have been arrested in Bangalore when they attempted to raid a bank and that this group is said to have claimed that they engaged in robbery to finance the Liberation Tigers. We wish to state emphatically that our liberation organisation is in no way connected with this criminal activity. This group is deliberately using the name of our movement to legitimise their crime. Such an action was intended to tarnish the good image of our national liberation movement and to create confusion among the people. This crime committed in a neighbouring State has also embarrassed the Tamil Nadu State Government. We request the Tamil Nadu state authorities to take appropriate action against these anti-social elements to prevent the recurrence of such crimes.

In another incident at a village in Peravurani area, Tanjavur, an elderly farmer was shot dead by a gang of criminals claiming to be Tigers. We wish to declare that the Tiger movement is in no way connected with this tragic incident. According to press reports a 'Tiger' youth is said to have sought asylum from one Thachanamoorthi an elderly farmer in a village called 'Pannai Vayal'. Last Monday a gang of youths visited the village and demanded the release of the

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Tamil Eelam Liberation Organisation (TELO)
headed by Sri Sabaratnam.

Eelam People's Revolutionary Liberation Front (EPRLF)
headed by Pathma Naba.

Eelam Revolutionary Organisation (EROS)
headed by Bala Kumar.

Tamil Eelam Army
headed by Thambapillai Maheswaran.

The above mentioned liberation groups are not Tigers and the utilisation of the name Tigers to the activities of these groups will certainly create confusion in the minds of the Tamil masses in Tamil Nadu.

Therefore we kindly appeal to the journalists, editors and writers to employ accuracy and scrutiny prior to documenting news stories and articles on the Tamil Eelam liberation struggle.

Thanking you.

Yours Sincerely.

(S. Subramaniam)
Political Committee
Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam.

This press statement is released on behalf of V. Pirabakaran,
Leader and Military
Commander
Liberation Tigers of
Tamil Eelam.