



தெற்காசிய கனிமனித உரிமைகள்  
NORTH EAST SECRETARIAT ON HUMAN RIGHTS  
**NESOHR**

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**Two Catholic Priests Arrested and has to face trial on Wednesday(29.11.2006) in Jaffna Courts for Human Rights and Humanitarian Activities**

Due to the closure of A-9 thoroughfare which is the only land route to the besieged Jaffna peninsula in Sri Lanka, a human tragedy is staged by the Sri Lankan Government . With the view to draw the attention of the United Nations, a post card campaign has been organized by the Justice and Peace Commission of Jaffna Catholic Church with the approval of His Lordship Bishop of Jaffna.

Last Friday morning around 11.00 am (24.11.2006) a young girl has shown this post card to a friend of her on her way home. The Army at Swamiyar Road in Colombagam in Jaffna detained both of them. On hearing this, Rev. Frs. F.X. Jejasegaram and J.J. Bernard rushed to the spot and explained to the Army about this post card campaign and took the responsibility of this non-violent campaign . Army permitted all of them to go home. But later they went in search of them and asked them to be present for an inquiry. They went to the Army camp and were kept in the camp interrogated and handed over to the Jaffna police. They kept them there till mid-night, produced them before the magistrate who released them on personal bail and ordered them to appear in the courts on 29.11.2006.

NESOHR draw the attention of the international community and human Rights activists that media freedom ( Especially for Tamil media) is already denied in Jaffna and Rev. Fr.Jim Brown is still missing. Now a whip is very strongly given those who lead the task to bring out the human rights violations and human tragedies in Jaffna peninsula. NESOHR also alerts all the international leaders and human rights and humanitarian agencies that Sri Lankan Government with aide of EPDP is driving the last nail to the coffin to shut up the Catholic Church of Jaffna. NESOHR fears that more Catholic priests and religious can be the target for the Sri Lankan Government.

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