



வடக்கு கிழக்கு மனித உரிமைகள் செயலகம் North East Secretariat on Human Rights – NESOHR

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Kiranchi in Poonakari Bombed – 22 Feb. 2008

8 People Killed including mother + 2 Children & 12 civilians several injured

A civilian settlement adjoining Murugan Temple at Kiranchi, Poonakari in the Kilinochchi division was indiscriminately bombed at 8.15am on 22 Feb 2008 by several bombers from the Sri Lanka Air Force (SLAF).

Eight people were killed at the spot. This included a mother, her 06 month old infant and a 04 year old son. An English teacher was also among the dead.

Twelve were admitted at the Mullankavil hospital but 07 of them had to be hurriedly transferred to the hospital in Kilinochchi as their condition was very precarious.

Several houses were damaged and three were completely demolished. Plenty of yielding trees coconut palms were severely damaged.

The survivors of this terrible disaster are speechlessly shocked with panic and grief. Everything was over within a matter of minutes. Most of them have lost all their meagre savings.

Those killed were:

1. Sasikaran Gowrinayaki (34)
2. Sasikaran Gajeevan (04)
3. Sasikaran Tamilventhan (06 Month infant)
4. Kathiravelu Thiruneelakandan (79)
5. Kirushnasami Sivaananthi (27) English Teacher
6. Viyakumar Vithusa (21)
7. Inthiran Lalitha
8. Suthakaran Sumathi (30)

Those who were injured:

1. Sasikaran Karunniyan (08)
2. Sripathi Rajeswari (33)
3. Saththiyathan Theivanayaki (43)
4. Sathasivam Kamalathevi (60)
5. Suthakaran Bhanushan (06)
6. Vijayakumar Sivaananthini (36)
7. Vijayakumar Dinoshan (21)
8. Arulanantham Leelavathi (68)
9. Arulanantham Saththiyavarathan (43)
10. Theivanayaki (43)
11. Tharmalingam Poomani (68)
12. Vijayakumar Kinoshan (02)

The Deputy Secretary General of the United Nations (DSGUN) Ms. Angela Cane came to Sri Lanka on 20.02.2008 to familiarize herself of the Human Rights violations in Sri Lanka. She is expected to be here for a week.

165 civilians including infants and children were killed since bombing spree commenced on 25.04.2006. A further 431 civilians were injured. Billions of rupees worth of properties were destroyed.

S.Sasikaran, whose wife Gowrinayaki, children Gajeevan and Tamilventhan were killed during this barbaric incident, was anxiously waiting outside the intensive care unit (ICU) at the Kilinochchi hospital where his remaining son Karunyan was being treated. The father was understandably in tears fervently hoping that at least this son will survive.

He said: "I normally go one kilometer into the sea for fishing. On this dreaded day too I went fishing and was on the verge of returning when I saw bombers coming with petrifying noise bombing coastal settlements. I was able to see several bombs being dropped but could not clearly envisage the exact locality of the attack. It was only after the bombing episode ceased we got information that our house had got hit. So we hurried home. We ran towards my home but it was not there; Yes it was not there. It was from the debris I was able to fathom out that it was my home that had been demolished. My wife and children bid me save journey in the early hours, were not there. When I searched for them there were few dead bodies in that vicinity and I saw my wife." (At this juncture he broke down and sobbed bitterly) "She was lifelessly lying there and beside her was my 06 months old infant. Our other son was also lying dead nearby. When I started to look out for our third son, I was told that he had been removed to the hospital. Within a matter of minutes my whole family has been wiped out."

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Some of those diseased taken at the site.



The Seriously Injured at the Kilinochchi Hospital



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