

Paul Scully MP
Member of Parliament for Sutton,
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HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON SW1A 0AA

The Rt Hon Dominic Raab MP
Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs
Foreign & Commonwealth Office
King Charles Street
London
SW1A 2AH

Our Ref: PS13560

29 January 2020

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dear Dominic".

I am writing in my capacity as Chairman of the All Party Parliamentary Group for Tamils.

We note recent media reports that Sri Lankan President Gotabaya Rajapaksa has informed the United Nations representative in the country that tens of thousands of Tamils still missing after the end of the war in 2009 are dead. The President reportedly declared that most of the missing had been "taken by the LTTE or forcefully conscripted" and that steps would be taken to issue death certificates.

The way the Sri Lankan President announced this grave news, with no due process, has deeply upset the tens of thousands of mothers, fathers, sons and daughters who have been searching for their loved ones and calling for their release.

We note that many of the disappeared were reportedly seen surrendering to the Sri Lankan military forces. Alternatively they were taken from the camps in which all survivors were held by men identified by eye-witnesses as being affiliated with the government. Thus many of the individual's families are still searching for the 'disappeared' in government custody. Given these facts, we call on the Foreign Secretary to seek clarification on the following:

1. What records exist to establish when and how these people died?
2. How many individuals that were missing are dead and what are their details?

Regular advice surgeries are held around the constituency. Telephone constituency office for details.

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3. Why the Sri Lankan state has withheld this information until now?

Thank you for your consideration of these awful events and I look forward to hearing from you in due course.

Best wishes

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Paul Scully'.

Paul Scully

Conservative Member of Parliament for Sutton, Cheam and Worcester Park