

16.12.2021

Mrs. S.Mohanathan
Secretary to the Governor
Northern Province

Dear Madam,

Re: Water, Environment and Agriculture Security Forum – Northern Province

Your Letter dated 09.12.2021 refers,

I thank the Governor for inviting me to the above said Forum meeting. The matters to be discussed are very relevant to the Northern Province. But I regret that the Forum meeting is arranged in collaboration with the Office of the Commander, Sri Lanka Army.

Most of the problems our people face today in the Northern Province is because of the continued presence of the Military even 12 years after the war in our Province. What our Ministries and Departments of the Northern Provincial Council should handle are now taken over by the Office of the Governor to be handled with input from the Military. In other words the centre is now intruding into the affairs of the Provinces. No election for the Provincial Council to be formed have taken place for over 3 years.

I have always thought the Military should leave the Northern Province and allow only a workable office of the Military to consider security. I am unable to agree that what has to be handled by the Provincial Council should be handled by the Nominee of the President, Hon' Governor, and the Sri Lanka Army.

I regret I would not be able to attend such a meeting unless the Hon' Governor keeps the Military out of such meeting. Thanking again for inviting me.

Sincerely,

Justice C.V.Wigneswaran
Member of Parliament
Jaffna