

வலிந்து காணாமல் ஆக்கப்பட்டவர்களின் உறவுகளின் சங்கம் கீளிநொச்சி மாவட்டம்

Association for Relatives of the Enforced Disappeared

KILINOCHCHI DISTRICT

பதிவு இவ Rgd No கண்டி வீதி, கிளிநோச்சி Kandy Road, Kilinochchi

திக்தி Date 2017.03.12

Jaffna 12 June 2017

His Excellency Hon. Maithripala Sirisena President of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka (Memo handed to H.E President Maithripala Sirisena in Jaffna on 12 June 2017)

Your Excellency,

Release of lists of surrendees/ detainees

It has been more than 100 days since the families of the disappeared launched our protests across the North-East seeking answers to questions about the whereabouts of our loved ones. Families of the disappeared are at the end of our ropes as we enter the eighth year since the war ended with no prospects of answers about the whereabouts of our loved ones—some of us have been searching for decades. Our physical and mental health is in an extremely poor state as we have spent years worrying all day everyday about what has happened to our children, husbands, wives, etc. This has affected our entire families, as our children wonder where their siblings are and watch their parents suffer everyday for years on end. Despite numerous commissions over the years, we still do not know what happened to even one person who was forcibly disappeared. The government must act without delay to provide us with long overdue answers.

We take note that Your Excellency has agreed to this meeting in response to demonstrations marking our 100th day of protest in Kilinochchi.

We wish to put forward the following demands and seek your response within the next 10 working days:

1. Release a list of all those who surrendered or were detained by the Sri Lankan Armed forces during and after the war, and in particular during the last stages of the war (latter part of 2008 - 2009). Such detention/ surrender took place at a number of exit points from LTTE-controlled areas to Sri Lankan Army-controlled areas throughout the last stages of the war but mostly over the last few days of the war in May 2009. These lists should be available with the different divisions of the armed forces in charge of the exit points. The Government should collate this information intelligently and make them available to us to find out whether any of our loved ones are on such lists.

- Release a list of all secret detention centres run by the Sri Lankan Armed Forces/ Police throughout the war and after the war, their current status and an annual list of detainees held in such detention centres throughout the war and after the end of the war.
- Release a list of all detainees being held under the PTA/ Emergency Regulation
 or unlawfully in any legal detention centre in Sri Lanka. Release a list of
 detainees held in these legal detention centres/remand prisons/prisons annually
 from 1983 onwards.
- The Government must release these lists to a representative group of families of the disappeared, their lawyers and any representatives that they authorize.
- Release in the public domain all reports of committees/ commissions on the subject of disappearances appointed by various Governments over the past 30 years, and this Government's response to those reports.

We believe that Your Excellency in your capacity as the President as well as the Defence Minister is best placed to respond to these requests.

We expect a response, to demands 1 and 2 within 10 days, and to demands 3-5 within one month, as stated above. We will not give up our struggle until we find answers.

Thank you,

Yogarasa Kanagaranjini

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