



OFFICIAL STATEMENT

23rd October 2016

The shooting of Jaffna University students Nadarasa Kajan (23) and Pavunraj Sulaxan (24) by the Sri Lankan state police on the 20th of October 2016 is yet another reminder of the chilling effects of intense militarisation in the North-East.

Both students have been identified as being from the university's arts faculty - a popular filmmaker studying media studies and a thriving political sciences student. It is saddening that these two prospering students had their lives cut short by state violence. Their deaths are yet another tragedy that will reverberate with the Tamil community - especially students - across the globe. We cannot lose more young lives to state violence.

Here at Tamil Students Initiative (TSI) we express our grief and sorrow to the family and community which has been left in a deject position. We in the U.K., stand in solidarity with the students of Jaffna as they demand accountability and an impartial inquiry into the killings and ask for justice to be delivered. Our hearts and thoughts, as ever, remain with our people.