

Tamils who Met UN Rights Chief Threatened in Sri Lanka: TGTE

"High-Commissioner Pillay urged to protect Tamils whom she met"

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- In an urgent appeal to the UN High-Commissioner for Human Rights Ms. Pillay, the Prime-Minister of the Transnational Government of Tamil Eelam ([TGTE](#)), Mr. Visuvanathan Rudrakumaran , urged her to ensure that those Tamils who met her in the NorthEast of the island are protected from harassment and abuse by the Sri Lankan Security forces and intelligence agencies.

According to BBC (Tamil Service), those who met the UN High-Commissioner Pillai have been threatened.

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We strongly urge High-Commissioner Pillay to ensure the safety of those Tamils she met. These people are extremely vulnerable and need protection”

Visuvanathan Rudrakumaran

Additionally BBC reports that the military who were kept inside the camps during her trip were out in the streets and have re-established their check points, after the High-Commissioner left Tamil areas. The checkpoint at Elephant-pass in the A9 road, which was closed down during her stay have also been reopened after she left.

Hundreds of mothers of the disappeared held peaceful rally showing the pictures of their loved ones who went missing after security forces abducted them or

surrendered to the security forces. Some of these mothers and relatives of the disappeared met High-Commissioner Pillay and urged her to find their loved ones.

“It is those who met High-Commissioner Pillay who are being threatened by the intelligence



services and the security forces" said Rudrakumaran.

"We strongly urge High-Commissioner Pillay to take necessary steps to ensure the safety of those Tamil whom she met. These people are extremely vulnerable and need protection" appealed Mr. Rudrakumaran.

UN High-Commissioner Pillai visited Northern town of Jaffna and "Mullivalkal" where the mass killing of Tamils took place during the final months of the war in May 2009. It is in these places she met families of those directly affected by the Sri Lankan Security Force abuse.

According to UN internal Review report around 70,000 Tamils were killed in five months in early 2009 and hundreds of Tamil women were raped by the Sri Lankan Security forces. There are also around 90,000 Tamil war widows.

Tamil areas are saturated with the Sri Lankan Security forces. It is believed that the ratio of military to civilian is the highest in the world in Tamil areas (one soldier to every five civilians). Sri Lankan Security forces comprise almost exclusively by the Sinhalese and victims are all Tamils.

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ABOUT TRANSNATIONAL GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL EELAM (TGTE):

Transnational Government of Tamil Eelam (TGTE) is a new political concept, formed after the mass killing of Tamils in the final months of the war in 2009.

It is a political formation based on the principles of nationhood, homeland and self-determination. The raison d'être for the TGTE is lack of political space inside the island of Sri Lanka for the Tamils to articulate and realize their political aspirations fully due to Constitutional impediments, racist political environment and military strangulation; and the coordination of diaspora political activities based on democratic principles and the rule of law.

TGTE held internationally supervised elections in 12 countries. These elections were held to ensure that core belief of democracy be upheld within the TGTE and to demonstrate TGTE's belief and reliance upon democratic ideals. TGTE has a bicameral legislature and a Cabinet. Although an elected body, TGTE does not claim to be a government in exile. The Constitution of the TGTE mandates that it should realize its political objective only through peaceful means.

Presently, in addition to the campaign for an international investigation, the TGTE is also campaigning for an International Protection Mechanism and the release of documents pertaining to Tamils prepared by the Office of the Special Advisor of the Secretary-General on the Prevention of Genocide. TGTE also have declared Freedom Charter on May 18, 2013 incorporating the "freedom demands" of Tamils across the globe.

TGTE believes that the referendum among the Tamils inside the island of Sri Lanka and the Tamil diaspora will contribute to the political resolution of the Tamil national conflict. So far, the human cost has reached 100,000 as it grows. There are also 90,000 Tamil war widows, facing sexual abuse by the Sri Lankan security forces.

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