

Send Sri Lanka to International Court for Tamil killings - urges main Tamil political Party TNA

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The main Tamil political party in Sri Lanka, Tamil National Alliance (TNA), wants Sri Lanka to be brought before the International Court for the killing of Tamil civilians by the Sri Lankan Security forces six years ago. According to UN estimates around 70,000 Tamils were killed by the Sri Lankan Security forces in six months in 2009.

Mr. Mavai Senathirajah one of the main leaders of TNA have reiterated this call to an interview with New Indian Express (<u>http://www.newindianexpress.com/world/TNA-Wants-International-Court-Not-International-Probe-Senathirajah/2015/09/07/article3015415.ece</u>).

It is reported that Tamil National Alliance (TNA) was formed by the Tamil Tigers (LTTE) in 2001, when LTTE was controlling large areas in the North and East of Sri Lanka.

The current Sri Lankan President Sirisena also confirmed his involvement in the war in an interview to a Sri Lanka daily earlier this year: "I was the Minister in Charge of Defence during the last two weeks of the war in which most of the leaders of the LTTE were killed with General Fonseka at the helm of the Army. Prior to that I have acted as the Minister of Defence five times during the height of the war." Maithripala Sirisena's Interview to Daily Mirror (Published: January 2, 2015). http://dbsjeyaraj.com/dbsj/archives/36931#more-36931

The report of the OISL is expected at the end of this month. The High Commissioner's office had conducted it under the supervision of distinguished persons.

"What is needed now is a judicial follow up, and this has to be an international court with the involvement of foreign judges, Senathirajah said in that interview.

The report is expected to be hard on Sri Lanka and the TNA believes that it can press its case for an international judicial process, arguing that the Tamils had never secured justice under the Lankan legal system.

It is also reported that an international signature campaign urging Sri Lanka to be referred to International Criminal Court (ICC) have gained over 1.2 Million signatures.

Recently, The Northern Provincial Council unanimously passed a resolution seeking an international judicial process on the same grounds.

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