

Sri Lanka continues to sting the International Community on Human Rights: TGTE

Former head of a notorious Unit involved in torture was part of the Sri Lankan delegation to the UN Committee Against Torture (UNCAT)

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Former head of a notorious Unit involved in torture was part of the Sri Lankan delegation to the UN Committee Against Torture (UNCAT) said Mr. Manicka Vasagar, the Minister for International Affairs of the Transnational Government of Tamil Eelam (TGTE).

The attendance of the former head of the notorious Sri Lanka's Terrorism Investigation Division (TID) Sisira Mendis, as a representative of the Sri Lankan delegation, to the UN Committee Against Torture (UNCAT) meeting in Geneva, shows that Sri Lanka continues



to disrespect and smacks on the integrity on the United Nation's body, he continued.

Mr. Mendis who was in Charge of the Terrorism Investigation Department, was fully responsible for the numerous torture cases on victims under his watch, as documented by the International Truth and Justice Project (ITJP) in their memo to UNCAT. Many are still left traumatized with injuries and some are still unaccounted for or missing.

It is a body blow to the victims and families who are still waiting for justice and accountability, to see perpetrators, allowed to travel freely, when under investigation for human rights, war crimes and crimes against humanity.

Sri Lanka continues to negate on its own co-sponsored resolution, the implementation for an independent international investigation, with foreign judges, prosecutors and lawyers, for justice, and for promoting reconciliation between the two peoples, accountability and human rights, and continues to contravene both the UN Human Rights Council resolutions and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

TGTE calls upon the International Community to refer Sri Lanka to the UN Security Council / ICC for an action plan similar to the HRC referral of North Korea to the general assembly, if Sri Lanka fails to

implement the UN resolution in full by March 2017. Consistency is essential in the integrity of the UN mechanism.

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ABOUT TRANSNATIONAL GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL EELAM (TGTE):

Transnational Government of Tamil Eelam (TGTE) is a democratically elected Government of a million strong Tamils (from the island of Sri Lanka) living in several countries around the world. TGTE was formed after the mass killing of Tamils by the Sri Lankan Government in 2009.

TGTE twice held internationally supervised elections among Tamils around the world to elect 132 Members of Parliament. It has a bicameral legislature and a Cabinet. It held one of its Parliamentary sittings in the British Parliament.

TGTE is leading a campaign to realize Tamils' political aspirations through peaceful, democratic and diplomatic means. The Constitution of the TGTE mandates that it should realize its political objective only through peaceful means.

The Prime Minister of TGTE is Mr. Visuvanathan Rudrakumaran, a New York based lawyer.

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BACKGROUND:

Tamils in the island of Sri Lanka faced repeated mass killings in 1958, 1965, 1977, 1981 and 1983 and the mass killings in 2009 prompted UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon to appoint a Panel of Experts to report on the scale of the killings.

According to UN internal review report on Sri Lanka, over 70,000 Tamils were killed in five months in early 2009 and Tamil women were raped by the Sri Lankan Security forces. There are over 90,000 Tamil war widows and thousands of Tamils disappeared due the conflict.

According to this UN report, the killings and other abuses that took place amount to war crimes and crimes against humanity. Independent experts believe that there are elements of these abuses that constitute an act of genocide.

Members of the Sri Lankan security forces are almost exclusively from the Sinhalese community and the victims are all from the Tamil community.

A Buddhist Monk shot and killed a Sri Lankan Prime Minister 1959 for having talks with Tamil political leaders.

Tamils overwhelmingly voted in a Parliamentary election in 1977 to establish an independent and sovereign country called Tamil Eelam. This Parliamentary election was conducted by the Sri Lankan Government.

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