



Akkinip Parabaikal

SEPTEMBER ISSUE
2021

Puradsi Media.
Phoenix - the Next
Generation



Memorandum of Understanding - Palermo
Giovani Tamil

What becomes apparent in an update from Palermo outlining a recent MoU and Tamil genocide recognition?

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SC Phoenix's Football tournament - Switzerland
Nitharsan

Despite countless obstacles and pressures, motivational spirits rise in unprecedented circumstances during SC Phoenix's recent football tournament in Switzerland.

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HFT2021 - 5 Years of Hunger strike for Thileepan
Phoenix TNG

5 years. 30 hours. 34 years. 36 demands. 3 continents. 5 countries.
1 unwavering doctrine. HFT2021.

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“தான் நேசித்த மக்களுக்காக, தான்
நேசித்த மண்ணுக்காக ஒருவன்
எத்தகைய உயர்ந்த உன்னதமான
தியாகத்தை செய்ய முடியுமோ அந்த
அற்புதமான அர்ப்பணிப்பைத்தான்,
திலீபன் செய்திருக்கிறான்.”

தமிழீழத் தேசியத் தலைவர்

Memorandum of Understanding – Palermo

GIOVANI TAMIL

On the 24.09.2021 a Memorandum of Understanding has been signed between the Tamil Community and the Municipality of Palermo. Based upon the agreement the Palermo City has agreed to the following:

1. Recognize the genocide of Eelam Tamils perpetrated by the Government of Sri Lanka (former Ceylon) since 1948;
2. Promote the "Educational Week of the Tamil Genocide" from 11 to 18 May each year. During which awareness-raising activities and demonstrations in collaboration with Tamil organisations will take place in schools and public environments, to inform and raise awareness among Palermo citizens of the Tamil genocide and other similar realities;
3. Keep promoting a strong network of communication and solidarity between the City of Palermo and the Tamil Community in order to foster integration and mutual understanding between the two communities;
4. Promote and support initiatives dedicated to citizens in order to encourage the spread of the Eelam Tamil history, culture, and identity.

The event took place in the Palazzo delle Aquile in Piazza Pretoria and it was chaired by the Mayor of Palermo Leoluca Orlando, the councillor Maria Cinzia Mantegna, the Tamil Union of Italy, members of the Tamil Coordinating Committee - Italy, the youth organisation Giovani Tamil and members of the Tamil community.

Following the virtual conference "Eelam Tamil: a nation between genocide and oblivion" held on the 12th May 2021, the Major of Palermo Leoluca Orlando stated his intentions to issue an official resolution that recognizes and acknowledges the Tamil genocide and urges the necessity to call for an international investigation into war crimes, crimes against humanity and crimes of genocide.

Sine 1948 the Eelam Tamils have been subject to a structural genocide orchestrated by the Sri Lankan state that reached the peak in May 2009, causing the death of hundred thousands. The final phase of the armed conflict was the cause of great losses for the Tamil nation, who faced a ruthless massacre through violations of international law. Despite it being more than a decade since the end of the armed conflict, the genocide of Eelam Tamils is still continuing through various means which all aim to erase the Eelam Tamil identity: such as the increasing militarisation and expropriation of Tamil owned lands in the northeast regions of the island since 2009. The Sri Lankan state keeps ignoring and rejecting any request of trials and investigation mechanisms that look into the crimes

that have been committed; and the delay by the International Community guarantees the genocidal state to buy the necessary time and space to erase the evidence.

Palermo welcomes the largest Eelam Tamil community of Italy and throughout the years a long-lasting relationship based on integration and solidarity has been established between the two. The city has always shown its support to any project that was undertaken to condemn the genocide of the Eelam Tamil nation. The signing of this Memorandum of Understanding is indeed an important step in the history of the Eelam Tamil community of Italy and the Eelam Tamil nation on their journey towards justice.

- ♦ <https://tamilaction.org/genocidio/protocollo-sul-genocidio-firmato-tra-la-citta-di-palermo-e-la-comunita-eelam-tamil/>
- ♦ <https://www.palermotoday.it/politica/protocollo-intesa-comune-comunita-tamil.html>



International News

01.09.2021: **FIOP** - According to the Royal Australian Navy, Australia has joined Japanese, US and Indian warships for Ex - Malabar exercises which were held near the coasts of Guam. This was the second consecutive year that Australia had participated in the exercises.

03.09.2021: **LTTE** - The Government of Sri Lanka (GoSL) according to the Colombo Page, has received confirmation of the continued proscription of the LTTE as a terrorist entity under the United Kingdom (UK) Terrorism Act No. 7 of 2000 reports the prior's Foreign Ministry. The decision comes following judgement of the Proscribed Organizations Appeals Commission (POAC) by the UK Home Secretary.

Diaspora

08.09.2021: **Palm** - International distributors were signed for palm distribution under the chairmanship of Sri Lankan (SL) Minister Fernando in Paris, reports Virakesari. Reports indicate that the agreement was signed between the Chairman of SL's Palm Development Board, Krishantha Pathiraja and distributors Duke Illango and Arumaithurai Sivaravuran. Distributors were appointed and signed across:

- ◆ France
- ◆ Germany
- ◆ Switzerland

20.09.2021: **UN** - G. Rajapaksa has pledged for cooperation with the

United Nations (UN) after 15 months of warnings that the island could be expelled from the world organisation and its agencies. Reports indicate that G. Rajapaksa was also willing to invite the "Tamil diaspora" for talks on ethnic reconciliation. In addition, he said, he would pardon Tamil youths who have been in detention for a long time, Economy Next reports.

27.09.2021: **Norway** - Newly-elected Norwegian Labour Party MP, Kamzy Gunaratnam has said in a virtual media conference that she will ask the new Norwegian government to continue engagement with SL and she does not believe boycotting the country is a way forward. She has mentioned that Norway must continue to assist Sri Lanka through trade, education and that there is a need for investments to ensure employment, reports Colombo Gazette.

22.09.2021: **Tamil Diaspora** - Colombo Gazette reports that an influential diaspora group, The Global Tamil Forum (GTF) is prepared to engage with G. Rajapaksa. The President had told the UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres this week that internal issues of SL should be resolved through an internal mechanism and that the Tamil Diaspora would be invited for discussions in this regard. However, GTF spokesman Suren Surendiran questioned the President's sudden change of mind when only six months ago, in March 2021, the GoSL had

gazetted proscribed organisations such as the Global Tamil Forum.

03.09.2021: **New Zealand Attack** - Sri Lankan man who was under surveillance by 30 New Zealand authorities has been shot dead after he stabbed six people in an Auckland supermarket, reports Colombo Gazette. He was identified by SL authorities as Ahamed Adhil Mohamed Samsudeen, a resident of Kattankudy, Batticaloa.

08.09.2021: **ITJPSL** - The International Truth and Justice Project Sri Lanka (ITJPSL) released a report regarding victims of torture and sexual violence as perpetrated by the genocidal SL police and army during G. Rajapaksa's term - specifically between 2020-21.

10.09.2021: **Troubles** - According to Human Rights First, the British government's announcement from July 2021 in granting amnesty to its soldiers for any crimes committed during "The Troubles" in Ireland is comparably worse than the encompassing amnesty granted by former Chilean dictator, General Augusto Pinochet.

Immigration

10.09.2021: **Investigation** - Family members of the Japanese Tamil women who died in an immigration centre in March are pushing for security footage to be analysed and a proper investigation to be held, reports Colombo Gazette.

18.09.2021: **Arrest** - According to daijiworld.com, a Tamil named Starwin was arrested in Tamil Nadu by the Q-

Branch. Starwin is accused of being the kingpin of an illegal immigration racket, which has assisted over 100 "Sri Lankans" to enter India. This arrest was conducted by a senior officer of the relevant state department in connection with the recent arrest of a Tamil in relation with drug trade. In this comment he said that they will not allow the soil of the state to be used for any insurgent activities.

23.09.2021: **Biloela Family** - Colombo Gazette reports that three members of the Tamil asylum-seeking family have been provided a 12-month bridging visa. However, the family's youngest daughter, Tharnicaa has not been given a visa - forcing the family to remain in Perth.

27.09.2021: **Deportation** - According to JDS Lanka and Human Rights DE, another mass deportation of Tamil & Muslim asylum seekers will be executed by Germany on 27.09.2021. Reports indicate that this is the third such mass deportation by Germany.

30.09.2021: **Canada** - Canada grants asylum to Sinhalese couple and their two children following providing protection to US National Security Contractor Edward Snowden in 2013 reports the Colombo Page. The group sponsored family will reside in Montreal following arrival on 28.09.2021. Vanessa Rodel and daughter whose father is Kellapath attained asylum in 2019. Further, Ajith Pushpakumara, another Sinhala national who remains in Hong Kong is pending approval from Canada's Immigration Authorities while

thousands of Tamil asylum cases remain in the backlog for over 15 years.

Family members:

- ◆ Supun Thilina Kellapatha
- ◆ Nadeeka
- ◆ Dilrukshi
- ◆ Nonis
- ◆ Sethumdi
- ◆ Dinath

11.09.2021: **Terrorism** - According to SL's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, SL had called on all countries to unite to eradicate terrorism in a statement released to coincide with the 20th anniversary of the 9/11 Attacks, reports Virakesari.

11.09.2021: **Afghanistan** - The SL Afghan Ambassador has refused to recognize the interim cabinet of the Taliban, reports Colombo Gazette.

13.09.2021: **G20** - M. Rajapaksa speaks at the G20 interfaith dialogue in Italy. He speaks about the need for poorer countries to have access to vaccines. In addition, reports indicate that he will address the escalating tensions and intends to ensure peace and stability through healthy relations with all, Economy Next reports.

16.09.2021: **Defence Pact** - US, UK, AU establish new Indo-Pacific security pact (AUKUS Spat) focussing on nuclear submarines and training against China. China's defence has mentioned that Australia's troops will be the first to lose mass lives if such anti-China initiatives are extended. Mainly to support AU to UK Uranium transfer, reports ABC News. Further reports indicate that the US will supply weapons and military support to Australia including the supply of bomber planes.

Bilateral Discussions

01.09.2021: **UK** - SL intends to update a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed with the UK) in 2007. This declaration allows SL naval professionals to work on UK-flagged vessels. Thus, more employment opportunities would be created for SL naval professionals, Economy Next reports.

02.09.2021: **China** - Chinese Parliamentary Speaker, Li Zhanshu mentioned that he will support SL in addressing economic and pandemic challenges. This diplomatic talk was the first held by the Chinese parliament since

the COVID-19 pandemic, Economy Next reports.

05.09.2021: **Italy** - SL's Foreign Minister, Professor GL Peiris and Italy's Ambassador to SL, Rita Guilianna Manella held bilateral discussions, reports Virakesari. Areas of discussion:

- ◆ Trade
- ◆ Tourism
- ◆ Investment relations
- ◆ People-to-people contacts

08.09.2021: **Vietnam** - According to Virakesari, Peiris met with the Vietnamese

Ambassador to SL, Ho The Than Dook to discuss areas of bilateral cooperation in the following spheres:

- ◆ Political
- ◆ Economic
- ◆ Cultural

Reports indicated that Peiris commented on 50 years of diplomatic relations with Vietnam including M. Rajapaksa's notable visit to Vietnam in 2009.

10.09.2021: **Iran** - Peiris met with Iran's Ambassador to SL, Hashem Ashzadeh to discuss areas for bilateral cooperation, reports Virakesari. Areas of discussion:

- ◆ Trade
- ◆ Investment
- ◆ Tourism
- ◆ Energy

10.09.2021: **Italy** - An SL delegation left for Italy on the morning of 10.09.2021 to conduct diplomatic meetings and attend an international conference which is scheduled to occur at the University of Bologna, reports Virakesari. The delegation included M. Rajapaksa.

10.09.2021: **Russia** - According to army.lk, the Ambassador of the Russian Federation to SL, Yury Materiye met genocide Shavendra Silva with his Embassy's new Defence Attaché, Aleksey A. Bondarev. A cordial discussion was held on matters of relevance and underlined the need to sustain sound relations in future. Areas of discussion:

- ◆ COVID-19 prevention roles
- ◆ Pandemic at global level
- ◆ Vaccination drive
- ◆ Bilateral exchange programmes
- ◆ Training modules

25.09.2021: **Indonesia** - In a meeting between the Foreign Minister of Indonesia Retno Lestari Priansari Marsudi and Peiris, it was emphasised that there were no bilateral issues between the two countries and hence the priority of the two Foreign Ministers is to strengthen bilateral relations with a special focus on economic cooperation, reports Colombo Gazette.

23.09.2021: **Egypt** - The Ambassador of the Arab Republic of Egypt for SL, HE Hussein El Saharty arrived at the SL Army Headquarters on 23.09.2021 in order to pay courtesies to Shavendra Silva, reports army.lk.

24.09.2021: **South Africa** - A bilateral meeting was held between South Africa and SL at the Permanent Mission of South Africa in New York on the sidelines of the UN sessions, reports Colombo Page. South Africa's Minister for International Relations and Cooperation, Dr. Naledi Pandor and SL's Peiris met on 24.09.2021. Reports indicate that cooperation on the basis of reconciliation was discussed.

24.09.2021: **EU/South Asia** - The second phase of the EU - South Asia Aviation Partnership Project II was launched on 24.09.2021 with participation from 7 countries, reports Colombo Page. Reports indicate that Mahmood Raze represented the European Union Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) in SL for the meeting. Countries attending include:

- ◆ Afghanistan
- ◆ Bangladesh
- ◆ Bhutan
- ◆ India
- ◆ Maldives

- ♦ Nepal
- ♦ Pakistan
- ♦ Sri Lanka

25.09.2021: **Indonesia** - Indonesia and SL held talks as members of the Non-aligned Movement (NAM) on the sidelines of the UN session in New York, reports Colombo Page. The Foreign Minister of Indonesia, Retno Lestari Priansari Marsudi and SL's Peiris met at the Mission of Indonesia in New York. During the discussions they emphasised the necessity to strengthen economic cooperation to ensure security within the Indian Ocean.

25.09.2021: **Bangladesh** - SL's Governor of the Central Bank, Nivard Cabraal met with Bangladesh's High Commissioner to SL, Tareq Md Ariful Islam on 24.09.2021, reports Colombo Page. They discussed areas of economic cooperation - especially regarding the usage of the Colombo Port for Bangladeshi exports

26.09.2021: **Iran** - During a meeting with SL's new Ambassador to Tehran, Wishwanatha Aponsu, Iran's President mentioned that there were no obstacles to strengthening ties with SL, reports Colombo Page. According to the Tehran Times, the Governor of the Central Bank of Iran, Akbar Komeijani had mentioned that they are prepared to provide financial mechanisms required to finance trade transactions between Iran and SL. Areas outlined for cooperation include:

- ♦ Energy
- ♦ Trade
- ♦ Economic

27.09.2021: **Diaspora** - Sri Lanka and the UK have discussed relations with the Tamil diaspora based in the UK. After the Sri Lankan President recently said he is willing to have talks with Tamil diaspora, the Foreign Minister Prof. G. L. Peiris and British Minister of State for South Asia, United Nations and the Commonwealth Lord Ahmad of Wimbledon had discussions at the Sri Lanka Mission in New York, reports Colombo Gazette. <https://colombogazette.com/2021/09/27/sri-lanka-and-uk-discuss-relations-with-the-diaspora/>

27.09.2021: **Bangladesh** - Governor of Central Bank Cabraal and High Commissioner Tareq Md Ariful discussed the "strengthening economic ties and better use of Colombo port for Bangladeshi exports". Bangladesh granted SL a swap deal worth USD 200 million, Economy Next reports.

27.09.2021: **Britain** - SL's Peiris and the British Minister of State for South Asia, UN and the Commonwealth, Lord Ahmad of Wimbledon met for discussions at the SL Mission in New York. Areas of discussion include:

- ♦ Trade
- ♦ Investment opportunities
- ♦ Resumption of tourism
- ♦ Reconciliation - especially in reference to the diaspora

28.09.2021: **Thailand** - The Embassy and Permanent Mission of SL in Bangkok, the Board of Investment of SL and the China Harbor Engineering Company (CHEC) Port City Colombo (Pvt) Ltd, co-hosted a dialogue with high level agencies of Thailand to expand investment and cooperation avenues between SL and

Thailand reports Colombo Page. Thai dignitaries from the following sectors participated:

- ◆ Thai - SL Chamber of Commerce
- ◆ Thailand Board of Investment
- ◆ Thai Chamber of Commerce & Board of Trade Thailand
- ◆ Federation of Thai Industries
- ◆ Department of South Asian, Middle East & African Affairs
- ◆ Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Thailand
- ◆ Department of International Economic Affairs

28.09.2021: **Korea** - The Korean Ambassador to SL met with SL's Education minister at SL's Education Ministry on 28.09.2021 to discuss the development of higher education opportunities in SL, reports Colombo Page. Many initiatives have been reported to be developed through the "Building a Better Physical Environment for Primary and Secondary Education" project. Initiatives include:

- ◆ Implementation of 04 Model Colleges for Teacher Training and Extra Curricular Activities for the Kilinochchi District
- ◆ Classroom renovation and construction
- ◆ Provision of necessary equipment for special education units in schools
- ◆ Provision of audio-visual equipment to schools and teachers
- ◆ Implementation of programs for capacity building of teachers and principals
- ◆ Provision of necessary facilities to promote social cohesion

- ◆ Construction of new National College of Education for Technical Education

28.09.2021: **Bursa** - According to Colombo Page, the Ambassador of SL to Turkey met with members of the Bursa Chamber of Commerce on 24.09.2021 to discuss investment opportunities available in SL.

28.09.2021: **EU Delegation** - An EU delegation which arrived in SL on 27.09.2021 to review SL's GSP+ concessions met with SL's Justice Minister, Ali Sabry at SL's Ministry of Justice on 28.09.2021, reports Colombo Page.

29.09.2021: **EU Delegation** - The TNA met with the EU delegation and called for the repeal of the PTA, reports Colombo Page.

30.09.2021: **UK** - British High Commissioner and Peiris discussed future bilateral relations between the two countries at a meeting. Discussions covered recent initiatives by the GoSL to promote and develop domestic reconciliation measures, reports Economy Next. Reconciliation measures discussed:

- ◆ Missing persons
- ◆ Accountability
- ◆ Reparations

30.09.2021: **India** - Indian Foreign Minister, Harsh Vardhan Shringla will visit SL ahead of a ground breaking ceremony at the Chinese-backed port city. China's multi-billion-dollar Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) will play an important role for the port city, he said, Economy Next reports.

Obituary

கண்ணீர் அஞ்சலி

DATE OF DEMISE: 02.09.2021



PRAGAS GNANAPRAGASAM

TAMIL JOURNALIST AND YOUTH WHO PERISHED DUE TO A PREVENTION OF ACCESS TO COVID-19 VACCINATIONS DESPITE HIS MEDICAL CONDITION.

TAMIL EELAM

DATE OF DEMISE: 11.09.2021



CHEPAMALAI RAJADURAI

FATHER OF RAJADURAI VIJI WHO WAS FORCIBLY DISAPPEARED AFTER BEING ARRESTED BY OCCUPATIONAL ARMY OFFICIALS AT THE OMANTHAI CHECKPOST ON 24.05.2009, PASSED AWAY AT THE AGE OF 73 AFTER ENGAGING IN PROTESTS FOR 1,668 DAYS.

VAVUNIYA, TAMIL EELAM

DATE OF DEMISE: 25.09.2021



RAM MASTER

RENOWNED EELAM TAMIL MUSICIAN AND ARTIST AND THE VOICE OF COUNTLESS ELUCHI TAMIL SONGS. VARNA RAMESWARAN ALIAS RAM MASTER PASSED AWAY DUE TO COVID-19.

CANADA



Military News

02.09.2021: **Training exercise** - The eleventh joint Tri-service Mega Field Training Exercise (FTX) 'Exercise - Cormorant Strike XI - 2021' was organised by the SL Army with the participation of foreign military representatives at Minneriya Infantry Training Center, reports army.lk.

07.09.2021: **New Recruits** - According to army.lk, the first batch of 213 new recruits, trained at the 9th SL Sinha Regiment camp of the 57th Division under Course No 1 in Paranthan. The training was conducted under the close supervision and direction of the 57th Division where the 571st Brigade passed out on 01.09.2021 during a ceremony.

10.09.2021: **Biological Warfare** - According to Lanka Files, Kamal Gunaratne had justified SL's militarised response to COVID-19 as a response to biological warfare. Translation attached:

"A part of their responsibilities is facing nuclear, biological and chemical warfare. When we speak about facing, saving the public from the threat of nuclear, biological and chemical warfare, and doing everything to stop them from its side effects is part of the duties of the military. So, when you take this COVID virus, we regard it as a biological agent or a type of virus that is used in biological warfare. Therefore, when it is spread rampantly ... these are the things that are used for biological warfare. This didn't come from such a war. But when it is spreading like that, we

are using the methodology that contributes to this."

14.09.2021: **Medal Parade** - The United Nation Service Medal Awarding Parade of the 6th SL Aviation Contingent was held in Bria, Central African Republic. The 6th SL Aviation Contingent is part of the Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic (MINUSCA), a UN peacekeeping mission. The chief guest was Deputy Force Commander, Major General Paulo Maia Pereira. According to airforce.lk, the SL Aviation Contingent is the first Aviation Contingent in the MINUSCA.

16.09.2021: **Foreign Trainees** - According to airforce.lk, six Foreign Trainees completed the No 02 Jungle Warfare and Heli Borne Operations Course at the Sri Lankan Air Force (SLAF) Station in Morawewa. This course occurred between 31.08.2021-16.09.2021. The Foreign Trainees were from Pakistan, Maldives and Bangladesh. Training aspects include:

- ◆ Combat Search and Rescue
- ◆ Special Operations
- ◆ Methods, techniques and procedures when working with aircraft
- ◆ Aircraft familiarisation
- ◆ Heli marshalling
- ◆ Insertion
- ◆ Extraction
- ◆ Rappelling
- ◆ Abseiling
- ◆ Stabilized Body (STABO)
- ◆ Special Petrol Insertion and Extraction (SPIE)
- ◆ Drop Zone selection

- ◆ Pickup Zone Selection
- ◆ Aircraft Emergency Procedures

17.09.2021: **Appointment** - According to army.lk, Brigadier Anil Illangakoon of the SL Corps of Military Police (SLCMP) assumed duties on 15.09.2021 as the new SL Commander, Forward Maintenance Area (FMA) - Mullaitivu during a formal ceremony.

20.09.2021: **US** - Commander of the SL Navy, Nishantha Ulugetenne attended the 24th International Seapower Symposium (ISS) organised by the US Navy, at the US Naval War College, Newport, Rhode Island between 14.09.2021-17.09.2021, reports navy.lk.

24.09.2021: **Cormorant Strike Exercise XI** - According to airforce.lk, the SLAF Special Regiment Force conducted a Combat Search and Rescue (CSAR) training exercise during Cormorant Strike Exercise XI for the first time. Cormorant Strike Exercise is SL's largest Special Forces Training Exercise conducted jointly by SL's Triforces. Many of SL's friendly foreign nations annually participated in the training exercise. This exercise ended on

29.09.2021 at the Kuchchaveli Beach. Shavendra Silva, the High Commissioner for Bangladesh in SL, High Commissioner for Maldives in SL and defence attachés attended the final phase of this exercise.

29.09.2021: **Combat Airborne and Pathfinder** - According to army.lk, the SL army added more teeth to airborne skills of tri-servicemen among Special Operation Forces by graduating 74 more parachutists upon completion of their special training in Combat Airborne & Pathfinder Course No 2 and Basic Airborne Course No 86A on 29.09.2021.

29.09.2021: **Firing training** - A group of 15 Officers & 130 Other Ranks who followed courses during the years of 2020 and 2021 after absence of more than 12 years had the chance of resuming residential field firing sessions for two days (21.09.2021-22.09.2021) at the SLAF field firing range in Kalpitiya, reports army.lk. Courses include:

- ◆ Armoured Young Officers' Course
- ◆ Professional Armoured Fighting Vehicle Gunner Operator Course
- ◆ Basic Gunner Operator Course

WHAM

22.09.2021: **Dry Ration** - According to navy.lk, the 23rd SL Sinha Regiment (SLSR) troops of the 242nd Brigade, organised a programme to distribute dry ration packs among 50 needy families in Panama and Pottuvil areas on 22.09.2021 with sponsorship provided by a private donor.

28.09.2021: **Plantation** - 15 Sri Lanka Light Infantry (SLLI) troops under command of the 223rd Brigade of the 22nd Division under SL's Security Force HQ-East launched a project to plant 200 mangrove saplings covering the swamp along Nadathivu lagoon, Muttur on 25.09.2021, reports army.lk.

SC Phoenix's Football Tournament - Switzerland

NITHARSAN

Editor's note: the four goals scored by SC Phoenix were completed by Arshiny - the captain of SC Phoenix.

In September, 2021, the SC Phoenix Women Football team participated at the football tournament in remembrance of Col Shanker. This tournament took place in Bern, Switzerland. It is noteworthy that this tournament was the second tournament that the SC Phoenix Women Football team had participated in. Arshiny, the captain of the SC Phoenix Women Football team, told us about preparation and the tournament.



"The preparation for this tournament was difficult because of certain circumstances. But the spirit of our team grew under these obstacles and we went to the tournament. When we reached the tournament, we became nervous. The reason was that this was our second tournament and for some it was even their first tournament. The whole Corona Situation was also a contributing factor to the nervosity.



In our first match, we played very well and scored two goals. The result of our first match was a 2:2 draw. We were surprised at how well we played and went with a strengthened feeling to the next match. Even though we tried, we did not win the second match. The result was 1:3 in the end. After that our final match was going to decide, which team will be joining the finals. Also this match's outcome was not favorable to us and the score was 1:4 in the end.

However, the fact that participation in the finals was very close to us, is a motivation for our team. We know where we have to make improvements and adjustments. We are going to work on it and will come back stronger the next time."

Domestic News

Tamil Eelam

06.09.2021: **Hospital** - The handing over of the navy-renovated female ward of the Divisional Hospital on Nainativu Island was held under the auspices of the occupational Commander Northern Naval Area, reports navy.lk

07.09.2021: **Seal** - Granaries across Trincomalee storing 4,5000 tonnes of paddy bags across 3 warehouses were sealed, reports Virakesari.

08.09.2021: **Surveillance** - According to Virakesari, Douglas Devananda handed over 4,200 Vessel Monitoring Systems (VMS) devices which were provided through an initiative undertaken by the Australian government. The boat tracking equipment was presented to boat owners at an event in Colombo where Douglas Devananda claimed to ensure that all boat owners received the equipment.

09.09.2021: **Logs** - According to SL's Wildlife Department, 3 individuals were arrested for smuggling logs from Oddusuddan to Biyagama without permission, reports Virakesari.

09.09.2021: **Drugs** - According to Bandara - Batticaloa's CID Officer-in-Charge - 3 were arrested in Eravur on 09.09.2021 by occupational police for smuggling 16,000 milligrams of Kerala Cannabis and 400 milligrams of Ice. The drugs and the individuals' motorcycle were seized during the raid under SL's Isolation Curfew Act, reports Virakesari.

10.09.2021: **Prawn** - Mannar's Socio-Economic Development Corporation released 40,000 prawns into the Mannar Periyamaduru Pond to promote local freshwater fishing. According to Virakesari, the prawn was sourced from SL's National Aquaculture Development Authority.

20.09.2021: **Oil survey** - UK-based BellGeospace has completed 60% of an airborne magnetic gravity survey in the Mannar and Cauvery basins. Lacking information on subsurface structure to the north, seismic surveys have been conducted from ships in Tamil Eelam's occupied waters, Economy Next reports.

25.09.2021: **Fishermen attacked** - Three Indian fishermen from Nagapattinam, India have sustained injuries in an alleged attack by SL fishermen off the coast of Kodikkarai. The SL fishermen had reportedly arrived in three boats and attacked the Indian fishermen using iron rods and stole their catch, fishing nets, phones and GPS equipment, reports Colombo Gazette.

25.09.2021: **Explosives** - SL's occupational Navy's Vijayaba conducted a special joint-operation with the Nilaveli SL police to arrest a cache of explosives from a 28-year-old resident of Nilaveli on 24.09.2021 near the local 08th Mile Post, reports Colombo Page. Cache includes:

- ◆ 27 water gel sticks
- ◆ 500 non-electric detonators

Sri Lanka

07.09.2021: **Mannar** - According to Virakesari, SL's Energy Minister Udaya Gammanpila had advised SL's Parliamentary Advisory Council on Energy Affairs that USD 267 million worth of oil and gas resources near Mannar could generate triple the amount of SL's total debt.

Appointments

10.09.2021: **Change of office** - SL Minister of State for Monetary and Capital Markets, Nivard Cabraal, is likely to be appointed as the Governor of the Central Bank of SL. He had provided monetary stability in 2008-2009 during the height of the war and the collapse of the Greenspan-Bernanke housing bubble, Economy Next reports.

10.09.2021: **Central Bank** - Central Bank of SL's Governor W.D. Lakshman is to resign from his post on 14.09.2021. He was appointed as the governor by G. Rajapaksa in December 2019, Economy Next reports.

11.09.2021: **Central Bank** - Following SL's Foreign Minister, Ajith Nivard Cabraal's decision to resign from his parliamentary position, he is due to assume duties as the 16th Governor of the Central Bank of SL from 16.09.2021, reports Virakesari. According to Economy Next Cabraal intends to work for stability in SL's financial sector through prioritising the clarification on how SL's macroeconomic fundamentals are moving in the desired direction.

18.09.2021: **Assignment** - Mahinda Samarasinghe has decided to accept the ambassadorship to the US. He was a deputy of the ruling Sri Lanka Podujana Peramuna (SLPP) party and signed the agreement on the USD 1.5 billion Hambantota port built by China, Economy Next reports.

07.09.2021: **Enabling Act** - Eran Wickremaratne compares the Enabling Act used by Hitler to the Emergency Rule in SL. Under the Emergency Regulations, a Major General was appointed Commissioner General and may seize and take over food supplies and warehouses. In addition, SL's president can restrict freedoms and arbitrarily imprison citizens through this regulation, Economy Next reports.

Drugs

04.09.2021: **Vessel intercepted** - SL's Navy intercepts foreign fishing vessels carrying large quantities of narcotics following intelligence from the SLP, SLN Intelligence and SLN ships. They conducted special operations resulting in the detainment of 7 crew members onboard the transporting vehicle, reports Colombo Page. According to Colombo Gazette the vessel was carrying a large stock of heroin.

11.09.2021: **Vessel Detained** - Colombo Gazette reports that another foreign vessel with 9 crew members including 7 from Pakistan has been detained by the SL Navy south of Batticaloa. The vessel was found to contain a large

stock of heroin and is currently under investigation.

09.09.2021: **Human Rights** - The Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders says the work of the detained human rights lawyer, Hejaaz Hizbullah is linked to terrorism. His detention could prevent him from further engaging in ongoing human rights cases, Economy Next reports.

10.09.2021: **Extremism** - According to Virakesari, the Bodu Bala Sena's Gnasara Thero had written a letter to G. Rajapaksa for the eradication of Islamic Terrorism to be enacted similar to how "LTTE Terrorism" was eradicated. Reports indicate that the Thero had called for the strengthening of SL's national security forces to enable eradication.

15.09.2021: **Grenade** - Colombo Gazette reports that a grenade was found in a toilet in Lanka Hospital, Colombo. One suspect has been arrested and further investigations are taking place.

Food

05.09.2021: **Food** - As some traders' hoard commodities such as rice and sugar, there is a food shortage in SL. The reason for the hoarding is the price controls which have been introduced due to the shortage of foreign currency which has resulted from money printing, Economy Next reports.

05.09.2021: **Food mafia** - SL's emergency decree was put in force because with it, the food mafia should be combatted. In the last growing season 800,000 hectares of rice were

grown and after processing about 3.2 tonnes of rice are available. However, prices have increased due to SL's import ban, Economy Next reports.

06.09.2021: **Rice mills** - SL's Agricultural minister mentioned that SL's main rice mills made LKR 50 billion profit in a single season. Four to five large millers were mafias and bought cheap rice from farmers and sold it more expensively. According to the minister, the millers were close supporters of the current SL government and some were related to a sitting member of SL parliament hence indicative of corruption, Economy Next reports.

07.09.2021: **State of Emergency** - SL's state of emergency was called due to the food situation as a temporary measure. There would be no need to fear authoritarianism, Economy Next reports.

12.09.2021: **Food Crisis** - SL's ruling party MP, Jagath Kumara mentioned that the public may need to reduce one meal per day by cutting down three meals a day to two as a result of the ongoing food crisis. He has been reported to have mentioned that even parliamentarians have sacrificed their salaries for one month and sacrifices should be made to survive, reports Colombo Gazette.

12.09.2021: **Seizure** - On 08.09.2021, 807,375 kilograms of rice was seized from private traders and millers. This rice will be sold through Sathosa - a network of state-owned retail stores, Economy Next reports.

16.09.2021: **Control** - Tighter security is being implemented at SL's Bandaranaike International Airport (BIA) after a suspicious email warned officials of an impending attack. Speculation is that it could be Bangladeshi forces or a Trojan horse, Economy Next reports.

UN

03.09.2021: **UN briefing** - SL briefed the UN on progress made through domestic mechanisms on human rights and their ongoing efforts to contain the COVID-19 pandemic, reports Economy Next.

03.09.2021: **UNHRC** - SL's Foreign Minister meets UN representatives ahead of UNHRC meetings to prepare for United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC) meetings scheduled for 12.09.2021. The UNHRC intends to cooperate in all of SL's peace and development efforts, Economy Next reports.

10.09.2021: **HRW** - Human Rights Watch (HRW) urges the UNHRC to maintain strict scrutiny of SL's deteriorating human rights situation and press for real improvements. There has been limited progress since G. Rajapaksa assumed office in 2019. A UK report on human rights and democracy as well as the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Department's 2020 report noted the deteriorating human rights situation, Economy Next reports.

16.09.2021: **Foreign Secretary** - According to PMD News, during a virtual media briefing, SL's Foreign Secretary also pointed out that the UNHRC has not been given the power to set up such a mechanism, adding

that solutions are available for all the problems of the country within SL's domestic legal system. He also added that Michelle Bachelet had commended the measures taken by the GoSL on a number of issues, including compensation for missing persons, the release of LTTE prisoners and the steps taken to amend the PTA. Reports indicate that she had mentioned the above in her oral update to the UNHRC session, as a positive sign.

14.09.2021: **Human Rights** - SL's Foreign Minister rejects a proposal for external initiatives to address human rights violations in SL. He suggested that external initiatives would not achieve the goals set by the world organisation and such a move could lead to polarisation in the island, Economy Next reports.

17.09.2021: **UN** - UN expert Fabian Salvioli has notified the UNHRC in Geneva that a significant deterioration in the human rights situation in SL has been witnessed. He also mentioned that there has been very limited progress in relation to searching for the truth and holding accountability for actions, reports Colombo Gazette.

18.09.2021: **UN General Assembly** - G. Rajapaksa left SL on 18.09.2021 to attend the 76th Session of the UN General Assembly in New York, United States. G. Rajapaksa is expected to address the General Assembly on 22.09.2021 and he is also expected to hold bilateral discussions with several heads of state during the session.

22.09.2021: **General Assembly** - At the 76th session of the UN General Assembly in New York, SL focused on investment and bilateral relations and sought discussions with a few countries, reports Economy Next.

Kuwait - Kuwaiti investors were invited to new investments in the Chinese-backed port city, solar energy and oil refining sectors. In addition, food security, education, information technology and cyber security were discussed.

Latvia - SL and Latvia also focused on expanding cooperation between the two countries in education and digital technology.

Australia - SL intends to receive support from Australia in the field of vocational education.

22.09.2021: **General Assembly** - G. Rajapaksa says a lasting solution to reconciliation can only be achieved

through indigenous institutions that reflect the aspirations of the people. Michelle Bachelet mentioned that successive governments neither dealt with past human rights violations nor prevented human rights violations, Economy Next reports.

24.09.2021: **Preferential agreements** - At the UN General Assembly, SL requested the United Arab Emirates (UAE) for preferential agreements to purchase oil. The reason is that its state oil trader Ceylon Petroleum Corporation (CPC) is struggling to pay its dollar debt and SL is facing a foreign exchange shortage, Economy Next reports.

30.09.2021: **UN** - UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres has documented allegations of reprisals and intimidation against around 240 individual members of civil society, activists and journalists in 45 countries, including SL for cooperating with the UN.

State of Emergency – Economic Analysis

RANJINI

On 30.08.2021, SL President Gotabaya Rajapaksa declared a state of emergency. The trigger for this decree is the food shortage. This is because massive money printing has created a shortage of foreign currency. Due to this, price controls were introduced.

What is the Emergency Act?

This law allows the authorities to do the following:

- ♦ Arrest people without a warrant
- ♦ Seize property

- ◆ Enter and search any premises
- ◆ Suspend laws and issue orders that cannot be challenged in court
- ◆ Immunity of officials issuing such orders

Thus, the emergency order is another tool to justify arbitrary detention of people. This mirrors the Prevention of Terrorism Act (PTA), where people can be arrested without a warrant for up to 18 months. The search of premises and seizure of property also encroaches on citizens' fundamental rights. Thus, the emergency rule takes over the role of the controversial PTA law, which has been criticized by international organisations. It can be concluded that the state of emergency is a threat to the Eelam Tamils.

According to a former law teacher, the state of emergency was imposed not because there is a shortage of essential products, but as some traders are hoarding these goods. By hoarding rice and sugar, an artificial shortage is created even though there are enough commodities. SL Foreign Minister GL Pieris thus blames the profit-oriented traders for the food shortage.

The state of emergency made it possible to confiscate the goods of such traders. As a result, 29,000 tonnes of sugar was seized by an SL military major general. Furthermore, 807,375 kilograms of rice from Nipuna, Lathpandura, Araliya, Hiru, New Rathna and Suriya mills in Polonnaruwa district were seized by SL's Commissioner General of Vital Services and Price Control Authority. Reports indicate that the confiscated rice will be transported to Sathosa state-owned retail stores for sale at controlled prices.

Scarce commodities include:

- ◆ rice
- ◆ sugar
- ◆ milk
- ◆ lentils
- ◆ canned fish
- ◆ kerosene oil
- ◆ cooking gas

Why is food being hoarded?

One important reason is money printing. To keep interest rates low, large amounts of money have been printed. By increasing the money supply, a shortage of foreign exchange is triggered. Due to the devaluation of the rupee, import demand increased, outstripping dollar inflows. As a result of the foreign exchange shortage, Sri Lanka imposed import bans on a large number of goods. As a result, the quantity of goods on offer decreased and prices increased. Therefore, price controls were introduced, which reduced the supply or pushed it underground, leading to shortages and black markets.

Why is the emergency regulation problematic?

According to SL's opposition, there are already provisions in several existing laws to implement price controls and detect unregistered food warehouses. Therefore, he says, the state of emergency is redundant and unnecessary. Wickremaratne mentioned that there are provisions in SL's Consumer Affairs Authority to crack down on hidden stockpiles. He believes that Gotabaya Rajapaksa will further consolidate his power with the decree. It will also allow the president to "suspend civil liberties, arrest and detain any citizen without a court order, suspend the laws of the land, enter any place without a court order, and seize private property."

Sumanthiran also thinks that regulations can now be enacted that affect and restrict various fundamental rights of the country's citizens. These include freedom of speech, freedom of publication, freedom of association. Under the Emergency Law, Army General MDSP Niwunhella was appointed by the President as the Commissioner General of Vital Services.

In conclusion, it can be said that the emergency regulations were introduced due to the scarcity of resources. Nevertheless, this regulation must be critically questioned, because there would be other provisions that could regulate the situation.

Economic News

Economic Profile – September 2021		
Inflation	July 2021	↑ to 6.0%
	August 2021	↓ to 6.7%
Budget Deficit	June 2021	LKR 781 billion
Government revenue		↑ 8% to LKR 714.5 billion
Current expenditure		↑ 6% to LKR 1311 billion
Foreign currency reserves	July 2021	↓ to USD 2.8 billion
Net Foreign Assets - Government Bonds	July 2021	↓ to LKR 10.3 billion
Maximum rate		↑ by 08 points to 6.05%
Sells		51% of a LKR 64 billion auction
Exchange rate		LKR 238
FOREX Reserves		↑ by USD 744.8 million - USD 3,550 million
SDR payments		about \$100,000 / month.
GDP	June 2021	↑ by 12.3%
	2020	↓ by 16.4 %
Trade	July 2021	
Exports	July 2021	↑ to USD 1,104 million
	August 2021	↑ 12.13% to USD 1,083 million
Imports		↑ to USD 1,710 million
Trade deficit		USD 607 million
BOP Deficit	July 2021	USD 2.755 billion
	2020	USD 2.373 million
Moody Rating	June 2021	Caa1
Money Printing	87 days	LKR 103.5 billion
Interest Rate		6.08%
weighted avg yield		6.13%
Debt	June 2021	104% of GDP
Ext Debt		↑ LKR 6.0 trillion - 6.63 trillion
Total Debt		↑ to LKR 16.56 trillion

SL's economic developments reported within the month of September, 2021.

13.09.2021: **Money printing** - Due to price controls, the auction of SL government bonds failed. As a result, more than LKR 29 billion was printed, Economy Next reports. Earlier reports indicate that due to an inability to sell enough securities to the public at a bond auction, SL had printed LKR 6.0 billion. The liquidity injections may trigger inflation.

14.09.2021: **Renewable Energy** - SL's Cabinet of Ministers approves the state-owned Ceylon Electricity Board to develop a generation plan to meet a 70% renewable energy target by 2030. To achieve this, at least an additional USD 3.7 billion would be required for grid expansion and energy storage solutions, Economy Next reports. Earlier reports indicate that an SL minister had assured that it has enough fuel stocks and there will be no oil shortage. This was indicated after it was reported that SL was seeking to raise USD 2.5 billion from an unsolicited offer from US and European funds, Economy Next reports.

15.09.2021: **Exchange Rate** - To defend the exchange rate peg and ensure convertibility of newly printed rupees, SL has spent USD 225.5 million. This flexible exchange rate causes instability in the system, Economy Next reports.

International

01.09.2021: **Inflows** - Out of the agreed USD 200 million, SL has received USD 150 million from Bangladesh Bank. The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has also granted SL an allocation of Special Drawing Rights of about USD 787 million. These will be used to increase gross reserves, Economy Next reports.

09.09.2021: **Switzerland** - According to Colombo Page, Switzerland has signed an MoU with SL regarding the Implementation of programs to Protect, Promote and Ensure the Rights of SL Migrant Workers and Families in SL. The MoU is being implemented by the Swiss Development and Cooperation Agency and the State Ministry of Foreign Employment Promotion and Market Diversification. Through this MoU, a grant of CHF 4,65 Million will be provided to SL for implementation of this project.

15.09.2021: **Switzerland** - IPEK, a recycling company, based in Lugano, Switzerland, is interested in investing LKR 84 million in a plant to produce tin cans for export. SL's Tess Agro, a food-processing company, is hoping for Swiss money, Economy Next reports.

17.09.2021: **COVID-19** - COVID-19 control measures through vaccination, antigen and PCR testing and all other oxygen requirements, are expected to cost USD 550 million. This was financed by the loans from the World Bank and the Asian Development Bank (ADB), which amounts to USD 400-450 million, Economy Next reports.

17.09.2021: **India** - Under a 160-car contract worth USD 82.6 million with India, 20 rail cars arrived in SL. Construction projects include a 128-kilometre line from Maho to Omathai. The modernisation of signaling systems between Maho and Anuradhapura, and double-tracking of the line from Polgahawela to Kurunegala are included, Economy Next reports.

19.09.2021: **Britain** - To make exploration investment more attractive to oil companies, SL has divided its offshore petroleum exploration blocks from the original 20 to 873. The British company BellGeospace has been contracted to conduct aerial surveys to collect geophysical data, Economy Next reports.

20.09.2021: **Iraq** - SL's Ceylon tea exports increased by 15.7% in August 2021 and revenues amounted to USD 116.5 million. Iraq is the main buyer - acquiring 24.1 million kilograms of tea produce, Economy Next reports.

21.09.2021: **China** - Qingdao Seawin Biotech Group, a Chinese company, has been awarded a USD 63 million contract to supply organic fertilisers to SL, reports Economy Next.

22.09.2021: **World Bank** - To finance COVID-19 emergency assistance and the purchase of 14 million doses of the vaccines from Pfizer-BioNTech, an additional USD 100 million loan will be drawn from the World Bank. This will enable a strategic response to the epidemic, Economy Next reports.

22.09.2021: **US** - New Fortress Energy Inc, a US company, has reached an agreement with the GoSL to supply 1.2 million gallons of liquefied natural gas. This will provide access to cleaner fuels and more reliable, affordable energy, Economy Next reports.

23.09.2021: **China** - The Chinese company, Xiamen King Long United Automotive Industry Co. Ltd intends to pave a bus assembly plant in

Hambantota, SL. This company manufactures large and medium buses, coaches and vans, Economy Next reports.

24.09.2021: **Credit** - SL is in talks with the Indian government for an oil credit facility of around USD 500 million to reduce the burden of oil, Economy Next reports.

26.09.2021: **India** - HCL Technologies, an Indian company, provides IT services and software to enterprises and has hired 1,000 IT staff in SL in its first year. According to the company it has a "global delivery center" in Orion City, Colombo and is expanding into office space in Cinnamon Life as an anchor customer, Economy Next reports.

26.09.2021: **New Zealand** - SL is negotiating a credit line for dairy products from New Zealand. Importing and exporting companies will finalise the contracts, Economy Next reports.

27.09.2021: **EU** - The five-member EU delegation will arrive to review access to GSP+ trade concessions. The withdrawal is being considered because once again under G. Rajapaksa's government, human rights violations against minorities prevail. The suspension of preferential tariffs could hit SL's booming textile industry hard, Economy Next reports.

27.09.2021: **FOREX repatriation** - SL is to introduce a repatriation scheme for export earnings and remittances to tackle foreign exchange shortage. The return policy is usually implemented by central banks in a tightened

Zimbabwean-style manner, Economy Next reports.

29.09.2021: **China** - The import of organic fertiliser from China to SL has been halted as the harmful bacteria *Erwinia* has been detected for the second time. The samples were taken unofficially, so the ministry is not firm on the decision, Economy Next reports.

30.09.2021: **Container terminal** - SL's John Keells Holdings will invest USD 70 million in a container terminal at Colombo port. It will take a 34% stake in a joint-venture with India's Adani Group, Economy Next reports.

17.09.2021: **OTS** - The Colombo Stock Exchange has launched a new over-the-counter OTC platform which allows market participants to conduct REPO transactions using the facilities offered by the CSE as an intermediary at a reasonable fee. This can improve liquidity of the listed corporate debt market, Economy Next reports.

19.09.2021: **Milk powder** - SL's Consumer Affairs Authority intends to relax access of milk powder to the market as price controls have led to shortages of it. If the price increase is accepted, milk powder can be imported and a 400-gram pack of powder can be offered for LKR 458 - an increase by LKR 78, Economy Next reports. Earlier reports indicate that SL had provided 2,771 hectares of government land to five private companies to establish commercial dairy farms. SL hopes that this would increase local milk production and deter the usage of milk powder.

24.09.2021: **Import Restrictions** - Import restrictions on items such as telecommunication goods including cell phones have hit the IT industry. SL's central bank introduced a 100% credit margin on IT products, which is not healthy, Economy Next reports.

28.09.2021: **CPC** - Ceylon Petroleum Corporation (CPC) refinery owes two state-owned banks about USD 2.0 billion and supplier credits of more than USD 1 billion. According to Economy Next, SL's cabinet is not aware of this heavy loan.

28.09.2021: **Container** - M. Rajapaska plans to provide USD 50 million to clear 800 containers stuck at the port. The containers contain essential goods and some containers in violation of regulations that will be seized and released to Lanka Sathosa, Economy Next reports.

28.09.2021: **Properties** - SL's Colombo Municipal Council (CMC) asked residents to register over 67,000 properties to raise revenue through taxes. This comes at a time when the SL government is identifying land to lease to foreign investors on a long-term basis to raise foreign exchange, Economy Next reports.

28.09.2021: **Rice** - SL approves the import of 100,000 tons of rice that is healthy but not organic due to high domestic rice prices, which have increased due to the ban on agrochemicals and import controls, Economy Next reports.

29.09.2021: **Financial Bills** - SL's Cabinet approved the Appropriation Bill for the financial year of 2022 to be submitted to SL Parliament, reports Colombo Page.

According to reports the decision was made during a cabinet meeting on 27.09.2021. Earlier reports from Virakesari indicate that SL's Finance Bill was passed in SL Parliament.

Outcome:

- ♦ For - 134
- ♦ Against - 44

News about Oppression & Resistance

02.09.2021: **Easter Bombings** - According to JDS Lanka, the 64 Muslims who were arrested in relation to the 2019 Easter Sunday bombings were ordered to be detained further until 16.09.2021 by Batticaloa's District Judge.

02.09.2021: **Police brutality** - Freelance Muslim journalist, Shaeer Khan Farookh from Addalaichenai, Ampara was slapped, kicked and dragged away by occupational police to be detained for around 5 hours without reason, reports JDS Lanka. Reports indicate that his camera worth over LKR 400,000 was broken by the police in the scuffle.

05.09.2021: **Police brutality** - 2 brothers from Vavunikulam, Batticaloa - Mahendrian Keerthiseelan and Mahendrian Anujan - were stopped and beaten by occupational police with assault rifles which caused damage to their eyes, reports JDS Lanka. Reports indicate that locals were enraged by this attack and that the 2 individuals underwent eye surgeries at a local hospital. They were returning home from a petrol station in Thandiyadi when they were attacked.

06.09.2021: **Commemoration** - Maravanpulavu Sachchithanandham

erected a monument in memory of all those who were forcibly disappeared in the Maravanpulavu area of Jaffna. According to Virakesari, he was inquired by occupational SL officials.

06.09.2021: **Commemoration** - The Batticaloa Press Club held a small ceremony in memory of Pragas Gnanam at their office to allow local district journalists an opportunity to pay respects, reports JDS Lanka. Earlier reports indicate that a tribute was also made by the Kilinochchi Media Forum on 03.09.2021.

07.09.2021: **Commemoration** - The 25th memorial of the murder of Krishanthi Kumarasamy, her mother, brother and neighbour were commemorated at the Tamil National Party's office on 07.09.2021, reports JDS Lanka. The commemorations were held near Valvettithurai.

08.09.2021: **Police brutality** - Joseph Mathan from Kokuvil was summoned by occupational police on 05.09.2021 for an inquiry regarding a personal dispute. According to JDS Lanka, Joseph had mentioned that he had been tortured by the police to obtain a confession. The claim was made when Joseph posted a

video from a hospital ward where he was retrieving treatment for his injuries.

08.09.2021: **Namal** - According to Virakesari, N. Rajapaksa is scheduled to visit Jaffna on a monitoring visit from 09.09.2021 to enact his role as SL's Minister of Development Cooperation and Monitoring.

09.09.2021: **Surveillance** - According to JDS Lanka, SL's Police wrote to Divisional Secretaries demanding them to share the personal details of teachers who had participated in the recent trade union protests. Reports indicate that the police were instructed to do so by SL's CID. Information requested:

- ◆ Dates and places of protests
- ◆ Number of participants
- ◆ Details of teachers infected/died due to COVID-19 since July.

09.09.2021: **Commemoration** - According to JDS Lanka, the 31st memorial of the massacre of 186 Tamils in Batticaloa was commemorated before a monument in memory of the massacred individuals. Reports indicate that the massacre was conducted by genocidal SL Army officials and homeguards. The following 4 villages in Batticaloa were targeted in the attack:

- ◆ Chaththurukkondan
- ◆ Panichchayadi
- ◆ Kokkuvil
- ◆ Pillayaradi

12.09.2021: **Land grab** - An attempt to grab 138 acres of agricultural lands in Manalaaru by Sinhala settlers was intercepted and prevented by locals from Poomadukandal, Mullaitivu on 12.09.2021, reports JDS Lanka. Reports

indicate that the locals received assistance from TNPF's S. Gajendran and former NPC member, T. Ravikaran.

14.09.2021: **Journalist** - The Tamil journalist Punniyamoorthy Sasikaran from the Batticaloa District Tamil Journalists Association was questioned for the 3rd time in 3 months by occupational Police in Batticaloa, reports JDS Lanka. Sasikaran had told JDS that he fears arrest due to constant questioning and emphasised how this formed a severe obstacle to free press.

14.09.2021: **KNDU** - According to JDS Lanka, 126 groups and individuals demanded the release of detained student leaders and activists who are infected with COVID-19 in prison. The statement further called for the repeal of the KNDU act. It is notable that the detained individuals remain detained due to their resistance against the KNDU act.

15.09.2021: **Prison** - According to Tamil National People's Front (TNPF) SL's State Minister for Prison Administration, Lohan Ratwatte had summoned Tamil political prisoners in Anuradhapura prisons and made two of them kneel before him. Reports from Economy Next also indicate that he had pointed his personal firearm at them and threatened to kill them on the spot. The detainees were arrested under PTA. Further reports indicate that a retired SL Supreme Court judge will independently investigate the Anuradhapura prison incident and issue a report. In addition, the CID and the Human Rights Commission have independently launched an investigation, Economy Next reports.

According to Colombo Gazette, the Human Rights Commission of SL (HRCSL) has also launched an investigation into the incidents. Ratwatte resigned from his position as SL's State Minister for Prison Management on 15.09.2021.

16.09.2021: **PTA** - A possible amendment to SL's PTA will be ready to be viewed by an EU delegation which will be visiting SL to consider the extension of SL's access to the Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) Plus, concessions amounting to USD 500 million, Economy Next reports.

16.09.2021: **Easter Sunday** - The Batticaloa Magistrate released Mohamed Hilmi who was arrested from Kattankudy in relation to the Easter Sunday attacks of 2019, reports JDS Lanka. It is notable that the 63 other Muslims continue to be remanded in prisons until 30.09.2021.

21.09.2021: **Disappearances** - The families of forcibly disappeared Tamils rejected G. Rajapaksa's offer to present death certificates for those who are missing, reports JDS Lanka. The offer was made by G. Rajapaksa at the UN session in New York.

22.09.2021: **Threats** - According to JDS Lanka, the Eastern Province Secretary of the Ceylon Teachers Union, Ponnuthurai Udayarupan produced receipts to prove that he had received death threats from SLPP members. During a press conference at the Batticaloa Press Club, Udayarupan mentioned that he was threatened due to his role in the recent teachers' strike.

23.09.2021: **Commemoration** - TNPF Parliamentarian S. Kajendran was arrested by occupational police when attempting to light a lamp in memory of Lt. Col. Thileepan. According to JDS Lanka, the lamp was stamped out by the police and 2 female journalists who were filming the incident were intimidated by the police and their phones were confiscated.

27.09.2021: **Strike** - According to JDS Lanka, the Health Employees Trade Union Alliance consisting of 44 unions held a symbolic 5-hour strike. The strike was held to address the needs of frontline healthcare workers during the COVID-19 pandemic.

27.09.2021: **Commemoration** - Restraining orders were served against Batticaloa Mayor T. Saravanabawan, former NPC member, T. Ravikaran, the head of the Mullaitivu District Association of the disappeared, Ms. Mariya Suresh Easwari & 25 others from conducting any memorial events in memory of Lt. Col. Thileepan, reports JDS Lanka. According to Lanka Files, a court order was also issued against the deceased ex-NPC Vice Chair, Antony Jeganathan to prevent him from commemorating Lt. Col. Thileepan. Reports indicate that his son had told officials to deliver the order at the cemetery where Antony Jeganathan lay since 2016.

28.09.2021: **CID** - SL Prime Minister M. Rajapaksa has told the SL Police not to question journalists after attempts were made by SL's CID to question some journalists, reports Colombo Gazette. Earlier reports from Economy Next

indicate that the CID was interested in journalists and MPs who expose the truth.

28.09.2021: **Abduction** - According to JDS Lanka, a 39-year-old Tamil man, Manoharadas Subash was abducted around 6AM local time from his home in Trincomalee. Reports indicate that he was arrested by SL's TID officers who were in mufti. Subash's family has been reported to have contacted the local Human Rights Commission Office regarding the abduction. It is notable

that Subash had been previously released from SL military rehabilitation. Occupational Police have denied any knowledge regarding the abduction.

29.09.2021: **Strike** - The SL Trade Union Alliance (SLTUA) - a trade union collective, supports the strike of teachers and school principals. They threaten to join unions in the parastatal, government and private sectors, Economy Next reports.

Signs of Structural Genocide

02.09.2021 - **Pragas Gnanapragasam** - According to Tamil Guardian, Pragas Gnanapragasam, an independent Tamil journalist from the homeland, had died from COVID-19. He was a muscular dystrophy patient and was not vaccinated. It is notable that even after requesting for a vaccination, he was denied access.

09.09.2021: **Forestry** - SL's Forestry Department had demarcated agricultural lands in Kilinochchi, reports Virakesari. Reports indicate that more than 200 farming families were engaged in large scale and small scale cultivation across 602 acres of land in the Pramanthanaru Pond area - an area which has been demarcated.

21.09.2021: **Sand mining** - Illegal sand mining was being conducted in the Kanjikudichchiyaaru, Amparai with dire environmental impacts. According to JDS Lanka, the sand mining activities

were being conducted with the assistance of the SLPP ruling party. Further reports from 23.09.2021 indicate that Janaka Samarasekara who claims to be a close associate of M. Rajapaksa's family and the SLPP was involved in large scale illegal sand mining in the Palamadu area in Batticaloa which causes severe ecological damage. Both instances are an example of the disruption of the Tamils' territorial integrity.

30.09.2021: **War monument** - According to navy.lk, the commander of the occupational SL Navy unveiled the newly-erected war monument at the 4th Fast Attack Flotilla (4 FAF) Headquarters in the Naval Dockyard, Trincomalee on 30.09.2021. This War Monument will remain to be a symbol of the noble sacrifice of the fallen war veterans of the 4th Fast Attack Flotilla, the teeth-arm of the SLN fleet.

HFT2021 – Five Years of Hunger-strike for Thileepan

PHOENIX TNG

Hunger strike for Thileepan or HFT was launched by Phoenix TNG in 2017 in Switzerland as a 30-hour symbolic hunger strike in memory of Lt. Col. Thileepan. This is now held annually with 2021 marking the 5th such year of HFT which has expanded to be an international campaign. The growth of this campaign across 5 countries, 3 continents and 5 years is indicative of the decisive shift in struggles for liberation. Events were organised and held across Australia, New Zealand, Switzerland, France and Canada where a total of 36 demands were formulated. Further, the expansive events which occurred between 15.09.2021-26.09.2021 and concluded with a 30-hour symbolic dry hunger strike between 25.09.2021-26.09.2021 emphasise a turning point in the trajectory of Phoenix TNG and the progression of the Tamils' struggle for liberation.

15.09.2021-17.09.2021 Art Exhibition, Switzerland

An art exhibition featuring the works of local and international Tamil artists was conducted in memory of Lt. Col. Thileepan as the first event of HFT at Varasithy Mahall in Zurich.

Works featured are as follows:

- ◆ திலீபனின் புதுமைப் பெண் - Shaumya
- ◆ Thileepan Anna and Thalaivar Prabhakaran - Abirshana Thayalakuru
- ◆ வேங்கையின் கண்கள் வழியாக - Sanjeev
- ◆ The Speech - Shawmya
- ◆ Thiagatin Adayalam - Samjugtha Sasikumar
- ◆ திலீபனின் அகிம்சை போராட்டம் - Hamshika Uthayakumar
- ◆ Portrait of Thileepan Anna - Gayathri Albert
- ◆ உடலும் ஜனநாயகமும் - Ilavenil Vasuky Jayapalan
- ◆ The Spirit of Thileepan Anna - House of Thulasi
- ◆ Where Thousands of People were Mobilised to Resist - Sagi
- ◆ சுதந்திரப் பறவை - Aarabi Kugabalan



18.09.2021 HFT2021 Convention Day 1

The first day of the HFT2021 Convention was conducted virtually as organised by the Australia Division of Phoenix TNG alongside New Zealand members. The event was a Tamil Trivia which featured various topics - focussing on the legacy of Lt. Col. Thileepan and Tamil. Winners of the Trivia are as follows:

1st - Paviththiran
2nd - Sweta
3rd - Luxan

Prizes were sponsored by Phoenix TNG and Eelam Wear.

19.09.2021 HFT2021 Convention Day 2

The second day of the HFT2021 Convention was conducted virtually as an E-book Release. The event officially launched an E-book created by the Australia and New Zealand Divisions of Phoenix TNG. This E-book is a second modified edition of the first such booklet published in light of HFT2020 by the group, compiling rare information pertaining to the legacy of Lt. Col. Thileepan. The E-book elaborated upon the political doctrine of "Thileepam " within the context of facilitating the International Revolution. The launch release featured:

- ◆ Dance performance from Divassini Ramesh
- ◆ Presentation on Lt. Col. Thileepan & International Revolution
- ◆ Presentation on HFT2021 Demands

The E-book is now available for purchase from [Kindle](#).

HFT - Schooling, Switzerland**19.09.2021-20.09.2021 HFT - Schooling, Online**

The first day of the HFT2021 schooling was conducted by the Swiss division of Phoenix TNG in a small restaurant hall in Niederbipp, Switzerland. At this event, a presentation was conducted in German by Nitharsan, covering the following topics:

- ◆ Lt. Col. Thileepan
- ◆ Internal Revolution
- ◆ Geopolitics
- ◆ The hunger strike
- ◆ Today's Relevance
- ◆ Responsibility

Afterwards, there was an aperitif where Phoenix members and participants could exchange their views. A heated topic of discussion was equality between men and women.

The second day of the HFT2021 schooling was conducted virtually on 19.09.2021. The presentation was conducted in English by Nitharsan. This online workshop was available to the global audience. The topics discussed were the same as the previous day.



21.09.2021-22.09.2021 HFT Meet & Discuss

Both HFT Meet & Discuss sessions were conducted online and were curated by Phoenix TNG's Young Phoenix division. On the first day, the discussion circled around the topic of responsibility. The core message which was extracted on the first day of Meet & Discuss was that responsibility is something you take rather than something that is given to you.

On the second day, a former female cadre joined the HFT Meet & Discuss. She shared her experience of working with Lt. Col. Thileepan and her experience in working with the Suthanthirap Paravaikal. It is noteworthy that intergenerational discussions were fostered through the Meet & Discuss space.



23.09.2021-25.09.2021 Phoenix Exhibition, Switzerland

An exhibition was curated by Phoenix TNG at the Saivanerikoodam in Bern, Switzerland between 23.09.2021-25.09.2021 as a part of the HFT2021 campaign. The exhibition featured the organisation's achievements since its inception in March, 2014 including correspondence with government institutions. This space remains unique and crucial following 2009 in the context of a self-generated and sufficient political space primarily developed by second and third generation Eelam Tamils - the next generation.

Features of the exhibition include:

- ◆ Video displays
- ◆ Uniformed Mannequins
- ◆ Artefact spreads
- ◆ Photo displays

25.09.2021

HFT2021 Convention Day 3

The 3rd day of the HFT2021 Convention was conducted virtually. A workshop was conducted by Professor Jude Lal Fernando who currently resides in Dublin. The workshop addressed the topic of "Lt. Col. Thileepan and the Irish Struggle." Through drawing parallels to the struggles of Bobby Sands and Lt. Col. Thileepan, Professor Jude Lal Fernando established the need for internationally struggling communities to collaborate together to further struggles for liberation.

Notably he mentioned, "So you could see how the moments of humiliation - moments of powerlessness - in fact are not moments of humiliation and powerlessness. They are moments of power - immense power for those who have courage and creativity and the right political stand."

HFT2021 France

For the first time HFT 2021 event was held in France as organised by the France Division of Phoenix TNG alongside Association Jeunes Tamouls de Cergy (AJTC) members. The event was held on Saturday 25.09.2021 in Cergy with the commence of the symbolic 30-hour hunger strike at 3 pm local time. AJTC assisted with arrangements and organisation on the day of the event. Around 60 individuals attended the event with a large presence of youth.



Several performances were made by young students including:

- ◆ Song - S. Sona
- ◆ Speeches - L. Shankavi, J. Geberan, J. Aghaniya
- ◆ Poem - T. Karthikeyan
- ◆ Dance - Cergy Tamoulcholaï students

- ◆ Presentation of Thileepan anna and of HFT2021 Demands in French and Tamil - K. Ragulan and Banugobhan

At the end of the event, the individual responsible for the Association Franco-Tamoul de Cergy (AFTC) - a branch of Tamoulcholaï in Cergy made a speech to wish all the youngsters who had organised this event and encouraged parents to let their children participate and conduct such events - specially to let them learn their history to know our struggle. It is notable that AJTC functions under the supervision of AFTC.

26.09.2021

HFT2021 Canada

The inaugural HFT memorial event launched in Canada by Phoenix TNG opened with the unveiling of a 4-metre replica of Lt. Col. Thileepan's Memorial Monument. The replica reflected that of the destroyed monument by SL's occupational forces in Jaffna on 21.03.2010. In an act of resistance, the replica was built through the will to fight against the unitary state agenda and to remind state-aligned geopolitical allies of the pressure masses can apply.



The multi-feature open event curated a space for young Tamil activists and the general public to gather in remembrance of Lt. Col. Thileepan's martyrdom and to reflect on the progression of the liberation struggle for Tamil Eelam. Included within this event, special attention was paid to the hoisting of the flag of Tamil Eelam, lighting the pothuchchudar, eekachchudar

and garlanding the images of the Maaveerar, Lt. Col. Thileepan and Col. Shankar by the next generation. During the event, Lt. Col. Thileepan's speech was heard as a reminder and call to action for the next generation to proactively realign and recommit oneself within the struggle for the liberation of our people and our homeland. Simultaneously, members participated in a 30-hour dry hunger-strike that began on 25.09.2021 at 9.00 and was concluded on 26.09.2021 at 15.00.

Significantly, the flag of Canada was not hoisted during the event to stand in solidarity with the Indigenous Peoples' of Canada, whose lives and lands have been stolen, pillaged and altered in the name of Canadian nation-building. It is with great stress that as Eelam Tamil settlers, Phoenix TNG stands in solidarity with Indigenous People in Canada and revokes the raising of the genocidal flag of Canada - the same flag under which violent acts of genocide continue to be perpetuated. Further, this symbolic act

will be carried forward in every Phoenix TNG event until appropriate Indigenous community-led reparations, truth and reconciliation efforts are undertaken and applied. Until the thirst of their nation is met, we will stand in solidarity with our sisters and brothers. Refer to HFT2021 Demands 19-21 for further context of our stance.

In collaboration with Tamil Canadian Centre Civic Action (TCCCA), Phoenix TNG's event held a drop site for the public to donate non-perishable food items under TCCCA's 2nd Annual Thiyagi Thileepan Memorial Food Drive. The initiative aimed to collect 15,918 pounds of non-perishable food items, for every minute of Lt. Col. Thileepan 15,918-minute hunger-strike. With the support of the broader community, the event was able to bring in a collection total of 1,172 pounds. Phoenix TNG will continue to support this initiative on a global scale in the future.



Phoenix TNG is committed to continuing to shift restrictive practices and will proactively curate a space for Tamils and allies alike to collaborate in the fight for our people and our nation's liberation. As we progress in these spaces we will continue to uphold our uncompromising stance on Tamil sovereignty, the maintenance of the Nanthikadal Principle and our four cornerstones: Tamil Eelam, National Flag of Tamil Eelam, Maaveerar and the National Leader of Tamil Eelam, Hon. V. Prabhakaran.



HFT2021 Switzerland

The HFT memorial event in Switzerland organised by Phoenix TNG was held in Zurich. The event commenced with ceremonial rituals which included Pothuchchudar, Eekachchudar, Kodivanakkam, Malarvanakkam and Ahavanakkam. Following the completion of the rituals, the 7-metre replica of Lt. Col. Thileepan's Memorial Monument was unveiled. Soon afterwards Lt. Col Thileepan's historic speech, which was held in front of the Jaffna Fort, was played in full. It is noteworthy that the technical set-up was installed in a way that it appeared as if Lt. Col. Thileepan's voice was echoing from the monument itself.

"If we do not receive the desired and rightful responses, our struggle will definitely continue...Today we have conducted this protest in a symbolic manner - but in time, we demand that we receive a clear response."

The memorial event continued until 21.00 local time. During this time, several performances took place. Musical performances were conducted by Shankeeth, Dalmin, Anishka, Tharzhi featuring GVI, GVI, Adrian, Prethega, Ramya, Malathi, Raghavi Kannan, and Pirasanth. Poems were also read by T. Mathy and Sarvaganthesenay. Between the cultural events speeches were held by Avinash and Biranavan - HFT2021's coordinators. In their speeches they spoke of the importance of HFT as a space for the struggle. Following this Nitharsan spoke about the inception of HFT and its development across five years into a global phenomenon where Tamil youth dispersed around the globe have united under one banner.

Later LOTTA held a speech, where they shared their experience of working with Phoenix TNG. They also emphasised the connectivity of the Tamil struggle with the global struggle. As the last act Kathiravan, a Tamil rapper, held a live performance. The climax of his act was the song "We want Tamil Eelam", which was performed twice and evoked the crowds deeply. The event was concluded with a speech by Jathuram, the coordinator of Phoenix TNG.

In the same location where the event was held, the HFT art exhibition Phoenix TNG exhibition which were conducted earlier in HFT2021 were also re-displayed due to popular request. As a team, the clean up was done very quickly and efficiently as a team and everyone broke the fast together. Despite breaking the fast together, the process of lifting up the monument strengthened the internal cohesion within the Phoenix team.

After the end of the twelve days of HFT2021, the Tamil community and the enemies of it have witnessed the emergence of the next generation of the Tamil struggle as a formidable force.



HFT2021 Convention Day 4

The 2nd Annual HFT Convention was concluded with the launch of a virtual photo gallery through the combined efforts of the New Zealand division of Phoenix TNG and the Tamil Youth Organisation, New Zealand. This gallery compiles rare and well-known photographs and media clippings regarding Lt. Col. Thileepan in a Virtual Reality space through the [HFT website](#) which was also launched through this campaign.

It is notable that a virtual hunger strike space was facilitated by Phoenix TNG's Australia and New Zealand teams for the duration of the 30-hour hunger strike. This space provided members to discuss and reflect upon their knowledge of Lt. Col. Thileepan and the trajectory of the struggle. It functioned as a space for Phoenix TNG's international members to complete the dry-hunger strike together and strengthen team cohesion and spirit.

HFT2021 Demands

HFT is not only a campaign which commemorates Lt. Col. Thileepan implements his vision through acts of resistance. As such, demands have been posed by Phoenix TNG since the inception of the campaign in 2017. The demands include the adoption of Lt. Col. Thileepan's demands, demands directed collectively towards the international community and demands addressing host countries from which the HFT campaign is launched. These demands are sent to relevant government institutions annually. This year a total of 36 demands were formulated and have been attached with this issue for further contextualisation of HFT and its goals.

Lt. Col. Thileepan's Demands

Demand 1

All of the Eelam Tamil political prisoners who were arrested under the draconian PTA must be released.

Demand 2

The Sinhalese colonisation and occupation of the Tamils' homeland, Tamil Eelam should be terminated.

Switzerland

Demand 3

The Swiss government should cease to engage in any form of migration partnerships with the Sri Lankan government and should withdraw from any such existing agreements. Further, all deportations of Eelam Tamils asylum seekers must be ceased.

Demand 4

The Swiss government must recognise Tamil Eelam as the sovereign traditional homeland of the Eelam Tamils.

International Community

Demand 5

An international investigation must be initiated by the international community regarding all missing and forcibly disappeared persons who were deemed as missing as a result of all of the conflicts between Tamil Eelam and Sri Lanka. Such an investigation should especially focus upon the systematic actions of the Sri Lankan government regarding such matters.

Demand 6

The international community must pressure the Sri Lankan state to release the Eelam Tamils' expropriated private properties. Moreover, representatives of the international community must contact the Eelam Tamils protesting before the Sri Lankan Army's camps.

Demand 7

The international community must recognise the Sri Lankan armed officials stationed within Tamil Eelam as an invasive force enacting the agenda of militarisation.

Demand 8

An independent international investigation should be launched to address the issues of contention arising across all of the conflicts which occurred between the Eelam Tamils and the Sri Lankan state. Such an indictment should be identified as genocide. The inquiry must examine the influence of the intentions and actions of; British colonial powers, the *Mahavamsa* ideology and the geopolitical significance of the island of Sri Lanka must be closely examined. Furthermore, this investigation must expose the inhumane conspiracy enacted through the 2009 *Mullivaikkal* genocide by; the USA, Great Britain, India, China and the European Union.

Demand 9

An international referendum regarding the independence of Tamil Eelam must be initiated. This referendum must be based upon the *Vaddukoddai* resolution. Furthermore, the referendum must facilitate credible mechanisms whereby Eelam Tamils who reside within and outside of their traditional homeland may vote for or against the establishment of Tamil Eelam as an independent, sovereign state.

New Zealand

Demand 10

The New Zealand government must recognise Tamil Eelam as the sovereign traditional homeland of the Eelam Tamils.

Demand 11

The New Zealand government should recognise Tamil genocide and pressure the Sri Lankan government for their involvement in continuing Tamil genocide at the next Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM).

Demand 12

The New Zealand government must retreat from any existing or future trade relationships or agreements with Sri Lanka.

Australia

Demand 13

The Australian government must recognise the ongoing Tamil genocide through erecting genocide memorial sites across local councils.

Demand 14

The Australian government must retreat from any existing or future military relationships or agreements with Sri Lanka and refrain from donations and joint-exercises.

Demand 15

The Australian government must recognise Tamil Eelam as the sovereign traditional homeland of the Eelam Tamils.

Demand 16

The Australian government must recognise the sovereignty of the Indigenous Australian community and the genocide perpetrated against them.

Demand 17

The Australian government must prevent any Australian companies from engaging in any sand mining activities in the Tamil homeland.

Demand 18

The Australian government must immediately release all indefinitely detained Tamils.

Canada

Demand 19

Canada must actively hold itself accountable for the ongoing genocide of the Indigenous population. They must also be accountable for the state's historical and ongoing failure in protecting the lives of children, youth and families during the notorious

residential school program implementation, "Sixties Scoop", ecocide and encroachment among other horrific acts of genocide.

Demand 20

Canada must act to ensure reparations are delivered to this community through meaningful collaboration and Indigenous community-guided Truth and Reconciliation efforts.

Demand 21

The preservation and protection of Indigenous lands must be upheld by Canada in ongoing collaboration efforts with the Eelam Tamil refugee-settler community.

Demand 22

All Canadian institutions must incorporate a comprehensive history of the Tamil Struggle within their educational structure. This educational material should be developed and delivered by Tamils living in said host nation.

Demand 23

Canada must act independent in relation to concerns brought forth by Eelam Tamils with regards to the ongoing genocide carried out by the Sri Lankan state. Canada must see to the protection of; Tamil and Tamil-speaking activists, organizations and allies operating within Canada. They must also ensure the safety and security of all citizens of this host nation and said persons when travelling abroad to the island of Sri Lanka.

Demand 24

Canada must ensure that the Sri Lankan state and its representing bodies in Canada do not interfere in the Eelam Tamil narrative. Further such initiatives conducted under the guise of counter terrorism rhetoric should not be adopted to further repress the voices, experiences, dignity and right to self-determination of the Eelam Tamil people. This includes the right to identify as Eelam Tamil and uphold the Tamil Nation and its symbols:

- ◆ The National Flag of Tamil Eelam
- ◆ The National Leader of Tamil Eelam
- ◆ Maaveerar (Martyrs)
- ◆ Tamil Eelam

Demand 25

Canada must see to the effective removal of the LTTE from its "Listed Terrorist Entities" ban in relation to National and Public Safety. They must also take meaningful strides to effectively understand the movement and its fight for Tamil people's liberation and nationhood.

Demand 26

Canada must develop an action-oriented apology to hold itself accountable for the collective harm perpetuated on the Eelam Tamil citizens of its host nation in 2008-2009.

They must also apologise for their failure to respond to the ongoing Genocide of Tamils which continues to be implemented by the Sri Lankan state.

Demand 27

Canada must invest in the social welfare of its Eelam Tamil citizens following the nation's failure in responding to the ongoing genocide and contributing to the victim-survivor community's collective trauma.

Demand 28

Canada must implement measures to ensure unbiased and comprehensive media reporting of issues related to the Tamil community. Particular attention to communal concerns, immigration status and the plight and existence of Eelam Tamils must be made. Further, Canada is to ensure that this reporting is nuanced and verified by members of the Tamil community in the host nation.

Demand 29

Canada must see to a strengthened collaborative approach with the Tamil community to continue to address the ongoing genocide being perpetuated by the Sri Lankan state in the Tamil homeland and see to meaningful intervention.

Demand 30

Canada must cease deportation of Eelam Tamil asylum seekers whose cases remain in the backlog due to failed immigration policies and procedures. It must also ensure due process to those who sought and seek asylum irrespective of mode of arrival. Further, Canada must work towards ensuring the safety and protection of all non-status individuals.

France

Demand 31

The French government must recognise Tamil Eelam as the sovereign traditional homeland of the Eelam Tamils.

Demand 32

The French government must retreat from any existing or future trade relationships or agreements with Sri Lanka.

UK

Demand 33

The British government must de-proscribe the LTTE which has been labelled a terrorist organisation in the past on an unfounded basis.

Demand 34

The British government must take responsibility and apologise for their complicity on the ongoing Tamil genocide which has continued since British colonial Ceylon was deemed independent.

Demand 35

The British government must not evaluate any future trade agreements with Sri Lanka until it commits to an unbiased transparent international investigation towards the end of the civil war.

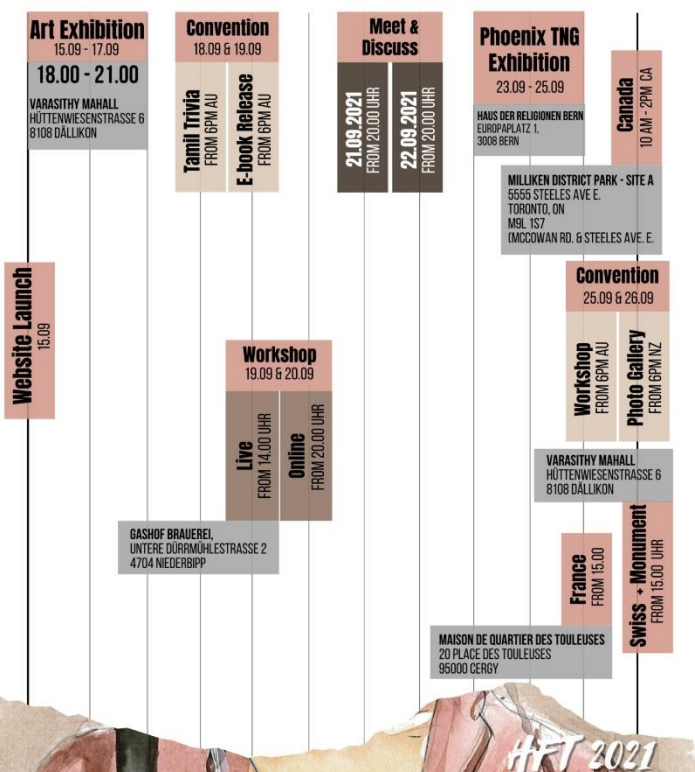
Demand 36

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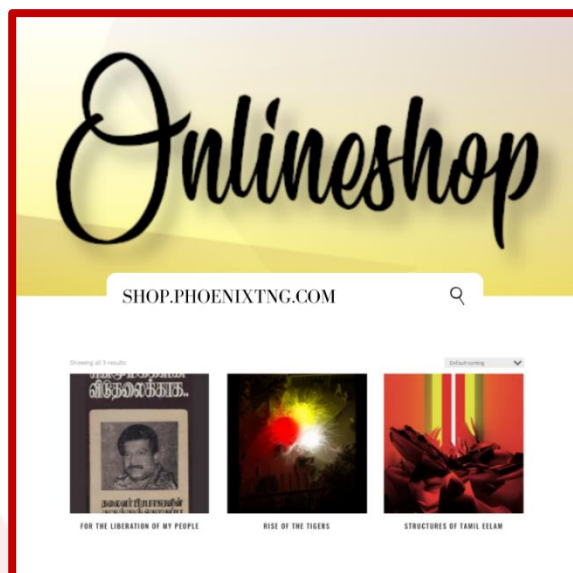
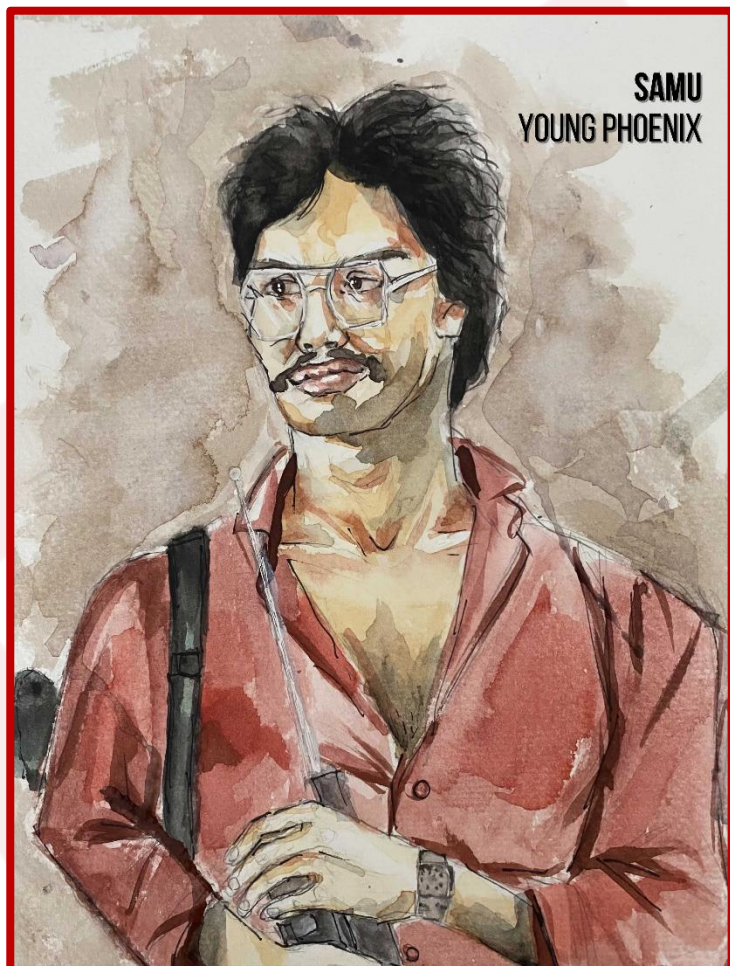


HFT 2021 Event Schedule

SEPT 15 SEPT 16 SEPT 17 SEPT 18 SEPT 19 SEPT 20 SEPT 21 SEPT 22 SEPT 23 SEPT 24 SEPT 25 SEPT 26



HFT 2021



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