

# PHOENIX

Monthly Newsletter

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Akkinip Parabaikal

“*Progression, not  
perfection.*”

Phoenix TNG

## Uluru – Statement from The Heart

In solidarity with Indigenous Australians in ascertaining that sovereignty remains unceded in light of the upcoming “Voice Referendum.”

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# ULURU - STATEMENT OF THE HEART

**Editor's Note** *The "Uluru – Statement of the Heart" (2017) is being reproduced as a part of our ongoing campaign encouraging Eelam Tamils and allied communities in Australia to vote in favour of ascertaining the Indigenous Australians' right to sovereignty and a "First Nations Voice" through the upcoming Australian "Voice Referendum."*

We, gathered at the 2017 National Constitutional Convention, coming from all points of the southern sky, make this statement from the heart:

Our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander tribes were the first sovereign Nations of the Australian continent and its adjacent islands, and possessed it under our own laws and customs. This our ancestors did, according to the reckoning of our culture, from the Creation, according to the common law from 'time immemorial', and according to science more than 60,000 years ago.

This sovereignty is a *spiritual notion: the ancestral tie between the land, or 'mother nature' and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples who were born therefrom, remain attached thereto, and must one day return thither to be united with our ancestors. This link is the basis of the ownership of the soil, or better, of sovereignty.* It has never been ceded or extinguished, and co-exists with the sovereignty of the Crown.

How could it be otherwise? That peoples possessed a land for sixty millennia and this sacred link disappears from world history in merely the last two hundred years?

With substantive constitutional change and structural reform, we believe this ancient sovereignty can shine through as a fuller expression of Australia's nationhood.

Proportionally, we are the most incarcerated people on the planet. We are not an innately criminal people. Our children are alienated from their families at unprecedented rates. This cannot be

because we have no love for them. And our youth languish in detention in obscene numbers. They should be our hope for the future.

These dimensions of our crisis tell plainly the structural nature of our problem. This is *the torment of our powerlessness.*

We seek constitutional reforms to empower our people and take a *rightful place* in our own country. When we have power over our destiny our children will flourish. They will walk in two worlds and their culture will be a gift to their country.

We call for the establishment of a First Nations Voice enshrined in the Constitution.

Makkarata is the culmination of our agenda: *the coming together after a struggle.* It captures our aspirations for a fair and truthful relationship with the people of Australia and a better future for our children based on justice and self-determination.

We seek a Makkarata Commission to supervise a process of agreement-making between governments and First Nations and truth-telling about our history.

In 1967 we were counted, in 2017 we seek to be heard. We leave base camp and start our trek across this vast country. We invite you to walk with us in a movement of the Australian people for a better future.

02.06.2023: **TRC** - According to Economy Next, a new draft for SL's Truth Reconciliation Commission (TRC) has failed to meet minimum expectations in addressing the concerns of the Tamils who lost their loved ones to alleged enforced disappearances in the final stages of the liberation war. Tamils residing in Western countries, through their respective governments, have urged the United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC) to address enforced disappearances in a resolution.

08.06.2023: **Protest** - The Tamil mothers of forcibly disappeared persons in Vavuniya called for the resignation of the IMF's Managing Director Georgieva, reports Lanka Files. The mothers who have been protesting for over 4,500 consecutive days in search of their relatives demand the resignation for the IMF's support for SL with a bailout package of USD 03 billion.

09.06.2023: **Wikileaks** - According to Declassified UK, Julian

Assange's appeal against extradition was rejected by the UK High Court on all grounds. As a result, Assange is expected to face a sentence of 175 years in prison for publishing evidence of US war crimes.

15.06.2023: **US** - According to Economy Next, the US Federal Reserve has kept key interest rates on hold at its monetary policy meeting, saying credit conditions have tightened following the collapse of several banks. "The US banking system is healthy and resilient," they mentioned in a statement.

19.06.2023: **Ban** - According to Lanka Files, the Head of the SL Parliament's Sectoral Oversight Committee on National Security had directed SL's Ministry of Foreign Affairs to oppose travel bans imposed against SL military officers. Further reports indicate that they advised the opposition on the grounds of the Geneva Convention and based on alleged findings that no international conflict had occurred in SL.

22.06.2023: **UNHRC** - According to Lanka

Files, UN Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights, Nada Al-Nashif mentioned during the UNHRC session that, "Accountability remains the fundamental gap in attempts to deal with the past. And, as long as impunity prevails, Sri Lanka will achieve neither genuine reconciliation nor sustainable peace."

22.06.2023: **LTTE** - According to Lanka Files, 13 men including Sinhalese and Muslims from SL have been charged and arrested in Delhi by India's National Intelligence Agency (NIA). Reports indicate that they were arrested for the alleged exploitation of the illegal drugs trade between India and SL for the purpose of funding, amassing and stashing weapons for the revival of the LTTE in both India and SL.

27.06.2023: **Israel** - Eitay Mack a human rights lawyer expressed in an Aljazeera article that Israel's complicity in Tamil genocide should be investigated - especially regarding the sale of weapons to SL.

# Bilateral

05.06.2023: **ADB** - According to Economy Next, SL is selected as a priority country for piloting a new financing approach to conserve and build "natural capital." The Asian Development Bank's (ADB) support will be available in the form of knowledge, capacity development, and financing and scaling up of existing practices.

05.06.2023: **Maldives** - According to Economy Next, SL and Maldives will discuss the promotion of cooperation in trade, tourism and fisheries at a Joint Commission meeting chaired by the 02 countries' foreign ministers. The meeting will also provide an opportunity to discuss education, health, employment, youth, sports and skills development, consular and cultural affairs.

06.06.2023: **China** - According to Economy Next, SL is targeting up to 150,000 tourists from China in 2023. SL was among the first countries selected by China for group tours after the country reopened to tourism following the lifting of restrictions due to the coronavirus pandemic. China will also support the resumption of flights by Chinese airlines, he said.

07.06.2023: **India** - According to Economy Next, SL has invited Indian carrier Alliance Air, which now flies to Jaffna, to also extend its flight to Ratamalana in Colombo. Alliance Air now flies to Jaffna's KKS airport 04 times a week from Madras.

08.06.2023: **US** - According to Economy Next, SL has signed a 20-year contract to import, distribute and sell petroleum products through 150 CPC-assigned service stations with US-based

petroleum company RM Parks. RM Parks will be the fourth supplier to enter the domestic market and will operate under the Shell brand.

08.06.2023: **ADB** - According to Economy Next, the Manila-based Asian Development Bank (ADB) announced that it has approved SL's request for soft loans to help the country emerge from a "severe and unprecedented economic crisis." The ADB is committed to further strengthening its support to the people of SL as it responds to this deep crisis that has severely affected their livelihood and well-being.

10.06.2023: **Maldives** - According to Economy Next, SL plans to assist the Maldivian agricultural sector develop its technical capabilities. For the Maldives to help us grow tourism and export fish, and in return SL will help them develop their agriculture.

14.06.2023: **Debtors** - According to Economy Next, R. Wickremesinghe will meet with creditors in Paris during an overseas visit to discuss debts. Further reports indicate that Wickremesinghe will also visit the United Kingdom.

19.06.2023: **DCTS** - According to Economy Next, the UK's Developing Countries Trading Scheme (DCTS) will be implemented from 19.06.2023. The DCTS replaces the GSP+ trade access granted to SL when the UK was part of the EU. It will allow 92% of traded goods to enter tax-free.

19.06.2023: **UNHRC** - According to Lanka Files, UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (UNHRC) Volker Türk mentioned at the 53rd UNHRC Session, "Accredited human rights advocates

have visited Sri Lanka several times over the past decade. I encourage those in power to implement their recommendations.”

21.06.2023: **US** - According to Economy Next, SL has received a donation of medicines worth USD 39.6 million from Helpline SL, a non-profit organisation based in the United States. The stock of medicines was handed over to SL's Health Minister Keheliya Rambukwella on 20.06.2023 by Julie J. Chung, the US Ambassador to SL.

21.06.2023: **Korea** - According to Economy Next, another group of SL job seekers has been left in the lurch in Korea after a flight delay and efforts are underway to find another route. From 01.01.2023-20.06.2023 3,354 Sri Lankans have left for work in South Korea. There are also plans to resume direct flights by Korean Air.

22.06.2023: **IMF** - IMF's Kristalina Georgieva met with R. Wickremesinghe and expressed the IMF's commitment to support SL's economic reforms to improve its living standards, she mentioned in a tweet.

22.06.2023: **India** - According to Economy Next, India's Petronet has submitted a proposal for liquefied natural gas to power about 600 MW of thermal power plants in SL outside of a long-term generation plan. SL's power grid has several combined-cycle plants that can run on LNG with modifications.

24.06.2023: **UN** - According to Economy Next, United Nations (UN) Secretary General Antonio Guterres expressed his

and the UN's support for SL's economic recovery and debt sustainability efforts during a meeting with R.

Wickremesinghe. Guterres had also praised SL's progress in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and recognised the efforts SL has made to address pressing social and environmental challenges.

25.06.2023: **Japan** - According to Economy Next, SL has agreed to pay about USD 3.4 million (about LKR 01 billion) to a consulting firm run by Japanese companies after a light rail project was suddenly canceled. SL's former president G. Rajapaksa had suddenly canceled a light rail project that was to be financed with a soft loan from Japan's International Cooperation Agency, damaging relations between the 02 countries.

25.06.2023: **UNDP** - According to Lanka Files, SL received assistance from UNDP-SL and the Michelin Foundation to ease an acute drug shortage in SL.

27.06.2023: **Thailand** - According to Economy Next, SL will seek Thai support to join the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP). SL is making progress in free trade talks with Thailand, which are scheduled to conclude in Colombo on 28.06.2023.

27.06.2023: **UAE** - According to Economy Next, UAE-based Capital Investment LLC had proposed to acquire the land adjacent to Moussakele Reservoir and Island on a long-term basis. The company plans to invest USD 25 million to construct a hotel.

Outdoor Coordinators' Workshop, CH  
03.06.2023



Opening of "For Real" Exhibition, CH  
19.06.2023



# PHOENIX snapshot

Frauenstreik, CH  
14.06.2023





# Military News

01.06.2023:

## **Ammunition** -

According to Economy Next, SL's Army intends to manufacture live ammunition for light weapons in the future in hopes of stemming the outflow of foreign currency in SL. Their light weapons include the T-56 assault rifle (T56), the 09mm pistol and the light machine gun.

02.06.2023: **Pakistan** -

According to SL's MoD's website a Pakistani naval ship arrived at Colombo port.

04.06.2023: **Military** -

According to Sunday Times, R. Wickremesinghe intends to strengthen SL's military and confer more powers to SL's Chief of Defence Staff (CDS), reports Lanka Files.

08.06.2023: **CSA** -

According to SL's MoD's website the Kotelawala Defence University (KDU) has established the Center for Strategic Assessment (CSA). Its intention is to serve as a centre for policy formulation in SL. It is noteworthy that the US Institute for Security

Governance (ISG) is supporting the CSA.

09.06.2023: **France** -

According to SL's MoD's website the French Ambassador to SL met SL's State Minister of Defence in his office. Both sides discussed the possibility of establishing a maritime training school in SL.

09.06.2023: **Swiss** -

According to SL's MoD's website the Swiss Defence attaché to SL met SL's Defence Secretary K. Gunaratne. Both sides discussed the enhancement of military-to-military cooperation and training opportunities for the SL military amongst other topics.

19.06.2023: **Y12IV** -

According to SL's MoD's website SL's Air Force (SLAF) is set to receive 02 Chinese Y12IV airplanes. A ceremony was held for the acceptance of the official document.

19.06.2023:

## **India/Pakistan** -

According to SL's MoD's website a Pakistani naval ship and an Indian submarine have arrived at the Port of Colombo.

21.06.2023: **France** -

According to SL's MoD's website a French naval ship has arrived at the port of Colombo.

26.06.2023: **New**

## **Deployment** -

According to Army LK, SLA is set to send a new deployment of SL soldiers to the UN mission in Mali.

27.06.2023: **Ceremony** -

According to Army LK, SL's occupational 55th Infantry Division organised a ceremony with Tamil and Sinhalese students. These children were participating in English classes organised by the occupational Division.

29.06.2023: **Air Force** -

According to Economy Next, Air Vice Marshal Udeni Rajapaksa was appointed as SL's new Air Force commander on 29.06.2023 after Air Marshal Sudarshana Pathirana resigned from his post. Meanwhile, former Air Force commander Air Marshal Sudarshana Pathirana was promoted to the four-star rank of chief air marshal by R. Wickremesinghe on 29.06.2023.

# Tamil Eelam

## Domestic News

05.06.2023: **Festival** - According to Tamil journalist Kumanan, the Vanni locals' traditional festival celebrating the Tamil literary character, Vattapalai Kannaki Amman has commenced.

13.06.2023: **Buddhism** - According to Economy Next, R. Wickremesinghe mentioned that recognising Tamil Buddhism as a historical fact is "the key to many impasses." In addition, SL's Minister of Buddhasana, Religious and Cultural Affairs, Vidura Wickremanayake, submitted his resignation. The minister did not provide any reasons for his resignation. However, the resignation came after SL's President publicly took officials from SL's Ministry of Archaeology to task over land acquisition in the occupied Tamil homeland under the pretext of protecting cultural relics.

13.06.2023: **Airlines** - According to Economy Next, the SL Aviation College (the training arm of Sri Lankan Airlines), has launched aviation programs in Jaffna following a partnership with the

British College of Applied Studies (BCAS). Several Aviation College programs are currently being offered through BCAS campuses in Jaffna and Kalmunai. They will be delivered by SLAC's own experts.

13.06.2023: **History** - According to Economy Next, Prof. G. P. V. Somaratne, (the former head of the Department of History and Political Science at the University of Colombo), believes that the ancient history of Buddhism among Tamils is tainted with prejudice related to the more recent ethnic strife between Sinhalese and Tamils. He noted in a paper that a number of Buddhist archaeological sites in the Tamil homeland have given rise to controversial claims and have been subjected to politicised interpretation as the conflict has escalated. There are authors who claim that the entire island is the heritage of the Tamils, while others refer to it as Sinhala-Buddhist heritage rather than addressing the overlap.

17.06.2023: **Ferry** - According to Lanka Files, the first passenger ferry service from Tamil Nadu to occupied Tamil Eelam had arrived at the

Kankesanthurai Port from the Karaikal Port of Pondicherry.

20.06.2023: **Tanks** - According to Economy Next, SL's Indian Oil Corporation (LIOC) said that technical suitability testing has been completed and nine out of ten tanks have been identified as suitable for Phase 1 development. LIOC have already started ground clearance work around three tanks and expect some tanks to be operational by the end of 2023. LIOC already has tanks in Trincomalee on a long-term lease.

22.06.2023: **Ferry** - According to Lanka Files, the Kumuthini ferry boat has been refurbished following the Kumuthini Boat Massacre of 1985 and has been relaunched.

24.06.2023: **Culture** - According to Economy Next, SL currently has 24 sites of historical and cultural significance, but only 16 of them are recognised and marketed. The ruins of the pre-colonial settlement of Sri Jayewardenepura Kotte and the Raja Maha Viharaya are not considered tourist attractions, according to

the Central Cultural Fund.

24.06.2023:

**Development**

**Initiatives** - According to Economy Next, SL's future development initiatives, including highway construction, will be in line with SL's National Spatial Plan, which has already been drafted and will be

reviewed by the public before being submitted to SL's Cabinet.

Implementation of the program will begin as a 02-year pilot project in the Northern and Eastern provinces and in the districts of Kandy and Nuwara Eliya, the minister said.

06.06.2023: **Diaspora** - According to Virakesari, SL's Justice Minister mentioned that several Tamil diaspora organisations from Canada, UK, Germany and Australia agreed to the SL's Truth and Reconciliation commission.

06.06.2023: **Corruption** - According to Economy Next, SL's Supreme Court has found that several clauses of a recently drafted anti-corruption bill are inconsistent with SL's Constitution. The bill was challenged under Article 121(1) of their Constitution.

13.06.2023:

**Broadcasters** -

According to Economy Next, SL's proposed new Broadcasting Regulatory Commission law will require broadcasters to renew their licenses

once a year, which will hinder their business and force them to follow the government. Former parliamentarian and executive director of Samagi Jana Balawegaya (SJB) Ajith P Perera says this is not good for business because if the license is not granted for the next year, the business will have to close down.

13.06.2023: **Media** -

According to Economy Next, SL is planning a new law to take legal action against candidates who violate a "code of conduct" and news organisations that violate "media guidelines." The law will also allow for the establishment of special polling stations for selected voters who are unable to vote in their respective constituencies.

# Sri Lanka

15.06.2023: **Labor**

**Laws** - According to Economy Next, SL's Lawyers for Democracy has responded to a call for input on reforming SL's labour laws, mentioning that while changes are necessary, they should not be made hastily. After all, an unprecedented economic crisis should not be the context in which permanent legal reforms are made.

17.06.2023: **Monks** - SL

submits decision limiting powers of top ranking Buddhist monks from ordaining child monks - restricting the minimum age, reports Lanka Files.

18.06.2023:

**Hambantota** -

According to Economy Next, SL's Hambantota International Port Group, operated by China's CMPorts, will

invest USD 08 million to expand the parking area for its vehicle handling business. The yard will be expanded by 68,000 square meters, adding 5,000 parking spaces to the existing 28,000.

22.06.2023: **Corruption Law** - According to Economy Next, an MP from SL's largest opposition party Samagi Jana Balawegaya (SJB) claims that SL's new anti-corruption law was introduced in bad faith to merely appease the IMF. The MP also suggested that the provisions on asset forfeiture and retroactive punishment of those convicted of corruption should be included.

29.06.2023: **World Bank** - According to Economy Next, the Washington-based World Bank announced that it has approved USD 700 million in loans from its International Development Association (IDA) concessional window for SL. A new Country Partnership Framework (a package of assistance) for 2024-2027 was also approved. The CPF also includes additional support from the World Bank, the International Finance Corporation,

and the Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency.

29.06.2023:

**Commission** -

According to Economy Next, R.

Wickremesinghe has appointed key members of SL's National Election Commission and Human Rights Commission.

Lalith Dehideniya, a former Supreme Court judge, was appointed chairman of the Human Rights Commission of Sri Lanka (HRCSL) on 29.06.2023. After

Dehideniya's

appointment,

Nimalasena Gardier Pundihewa,

Thaiyamuttu Thanaraj,

Fathima Farzana Hanifa and Gehan Dinuk

Gunatillake were also

appointed members of the commission.

Meanwhile, R.M.A.L

Rathnayake, a former Additional

Commissioner General

for Elections, was

appointed as the

Chairman of SL Election Commission.

30.06.2023: **COPF** -

According to Economy Next, SL's parliamentary

Committee on Public

Finance (COPF)

approved a proposal to

restructure the

domestic debt (DDR) by

a majority, although

members of the

opposition Samagi Jana Balawegaya (SJB) voted against it. The chairman himself had abstained from the vote.



Protest against Police Control, CH  
17.06.2023



Tamil Youth Association Formation, AU  
24.06.2023

# PHOENIX snapshot



Kathiravan's "Varalaaru" Album Launch, CH  
24.06.2023

**ECONOMIC PROFILE – June 2023**

<b>FOREX Reserves</b>	May 2023	↑ by USD 722 million to USD 3,483 million
<b>Salary Budgets</b>	2023	(%) of SL's State Salary Budget
Defense & Security		48
Defense Salaries		32
Dept. & Public Safety Costs		16
Health Care		17
Education		09
<b>Credit</b>		
Private Credit	April 2023	(-) ve by LKR 43 billion
Loans to SOEs		↓ by LKR 516 billion to LKR 1,130 billion
Commercial Bank Loans		↑ to LKR 4,876 billion from LKR 4,358 billion
<b>Remittances</b>	May 2023	
Foreign		↑ 57.5% to USD 479 million
<b>Debt</b>		
to CG, SOEs & CB	March 2023	↑ to USD 91.5 billion
Gross Central Bank		↓ to USD 5.06 billion from USD 5.12 billion
USD	December 2022	↓ to USD 58.7 billion from USD 58.9 billion
Dept. & Public Safety Costs		16
Health Care		17
Education		09
<b>Inflation</b>	June 2023	↓ to 12% from 25.2%
Merchandise	May 2023	↓ 5.59% to USD 989.7 billion
<b>Exports</b>	April 2023	↓ 12.6% to USD 849 million
Merchandise	May 2023	↓ 5.59% to USD 989.7 billion
<b>Imports</b>		↓ 15.8% to USD 1,431 million

**RANJINI**  
AP Economic Analyst  
& Coordinator

02.06.2023: **Imports** - According to Economy Next, SL plans to remove import controls on 300 to 400 items. The strengthening of the LKR has enabled the removal of import controls.

02.06.2023: **LKR** - According to Economy Next, SL's Rupee has appreciated on around 360 to the US Dollar to below 300 to the US dollar in 2023. This is due to the SL Central Bank's complementary monetary and exchange rate policies creating a positive policy cycle.

10.06.2023: **Import Restrictions** - According to Economy Next, SL eased import restrictions on 286 items (HS codes), including electronics, food, wood materials, sanitary ware, and other items, effective 09.06.2023. SL Finance Minister Shehan Semasinghe tweeted on the morning of 10.06.2023 that the easing of the restriction will send a strong signal that SL's economy is open for business and that the country is "back on track."

19.06.2023: **SLBA** - According to Economy Next, SL Banks' Association (SLBA), which represents all commercial banks, have called for an effective insolvency system and discussions with SL's Central Bank before amending existing debt recovery laws as bad loans increase in the banking system. Non-performing loans in SL are rising due to their currency crisis triggered by liquidity injections to distort interest rates, as well as the COVID-19 crisis.

21.06.2023: **Budget Offices** - According to Economy Next, SL's Parliament passed a Bill to establish an independent budget office to monitor and forecast budgets and estimate election manifesto costs upon request. The Parliamentary Budget Office Bill passed without a vote with amendments.

23.06.2023: **Debt Negotiations** - According to Economy Next, SL has made progress in bilateral debt negotiations by talking to individual

creditors. What helped SL was that SL is negotiating with Japan, India and China separately on further trade integration and also on some of the development programs for the future.

26.06.2023: **COPF** - According to Economy Next, SL's Committee of Public Finance (COPF) is expected to discuss a domestic debt restructuring plan between 29.06.2023-30.06.2023. SL must restructure its domestic debt to comply with the IMF's limits on borrowing and debt rollover (gross financing requirement) set in a debt sustainability analysis.

27.06.2023: **Investment** - According to Economy Next, SL's First Capital Holdings will hold an investor forum on 04.07.2023, covering topics such as investment strategies, economic outlook, and privatisation. The forum is themed "Investing with Impact, Seizing Capital Market Opportunities" and is scheduled to be held at Shangri-La in Colombo.

# MASS GRAVES

*“Secrets turn powerless in  
the open air.”*

“Anil’s Ghost” (2000) Michael Ondaatje

Workers digging to lay water supply lines to Kokkuthoduvai Central locality in Mullaitivu, Tamil Eelam came across skeletal remains and clothes after R. Wickremesinghe rejected allegations on mass graves. The Mullaitivu Magistrate has ordered exhumations to commence at the site from 06.07.2023.



01.06.2023:

**Commemoration** -

According to Lanka Files, the relatives of the forcibly disappeared in Vavuniya commemorated the 42nd commemoration of the Jaffna Library Burning. It is notable that the commemoration coincided with the 2,992nd day of ongoing protest demanding justice for their forcibly disappeared relatives. Further reports indicate that a commemoration was led by the Jaffna Librarian Rajinee natural at the renewed library premises.

01.06.2023: **Arrest** -

According to Economy Next, a stand-up comedian, Natasha Edirisooriya, who had made a controversial remark about the young Bodhisatva during a recent performance, was taken into custody on 28.05.2023. She had allegedly "insulted" Buddhism, SL's most widely held faith. The Centre for Policy Alternatives (CPA) mentioned Edirisooriya's arrest is an attempt to suppress free speech under the guise of protecting religious harmony.

01.06.2023: **Thaiyiddi** - According to Eelanadu, TNPF is staging a protest against the erection of the Vihara at Thaiyiddi on private Tamil land.

02.06.2023: **Canada** -

According to SL's MoD's website a SL team of officers of the Border Risk Assessment Centre (BRAC) is scheduled to visit Canada for a Training of Trainers programme. It is noteworthy that this delegation received instructions prior to the visit from SL's Chief of National Intelligence (CNI) Maj. Gen. Ruwan Kulatunga.

06.06.2023: **Arrest** -

TNPF's Gajendrakumar Ponnambalam was summoned to appear before the occupational Maruthankerni Police Station by 10.00 local time on 08.06.2023. According to Ponnambalam, Kolpeti Police had arrived at his residence in Colombo on 06.06.2023 and had presented a summons in the Sinhala language to him - which he refused to accept. Consequently, they had read the summons to him in Sinhala claiming that they merely had a legal obligation to inform him - his comprehension of

the information was disregarded. The police had also made an application to the Kilinochchi Magistrate to impose a foreign travel ban upon him until he had produced himself before the occupational police. Further reports indicate that the Magistrate ruled that a ban could not be issued until Ponnambalam had made an official statement regarding the issue. On 08.06.2023 at 20.30 local time SL Police had presented Ponnambalam with a translation of the summons. Ponnambalam mentioned that he had submitted a written statement to SL's Speaker of raising a breach of privilege matter this morning. He further mentioned that he had notified the SL Police that he would produce himself before the Maruthankerni Police station to record his statement on 12.06.2023 after he had attended an SL Parliamentary sitting to speak on a crucial matter. SL Police arrived at the residence of Ponnambalam on the morning of 07.06.2023 at 06.30 local time and insisted on arresting him. Whilst SL's speaker had assured

Ponnambalam that he could speak at SL Parliament and then present himself at the occupational police station on 12.06.2023 regarding the “breach of privilege” issue and that he would notify SL’s IGP regarding this assurance, the SL Police remained committed to arresting Ponnambalam. Later reports from TNPF indicate that Ponnambalam had been taken by SL Police to Kolpiti Police Station. S. Gajendran who visited the site confirmed that “Police are desperate to prevent G.G. Ponnambalam speaking in Parliament regarding the assault on him, and threats to his life.” JDS Lanka reports that G. G. Ponnambalam was released on bail from SL Police custody by the Kilinochchi Magistrate and the travel ban imposed on him was also lifted upon the basis of contradictory and insufficient evidence provided by SL Police. The Magistrate further emphasised that a DIG probe would be launched if the evidence proved unsatisfactory.

08.06.2023: **Strike** - According to Economy Next, unions and trade associations are threatening to strike again if the tax issue is

not resolved. They have called on R. Wickremesinghe to release a proposed amendment to the government's progressive income tax policy before a June deadline.

09.06.2023: **Talks** - The TNA has broken talks with GoSL, reports Lanka Files. R. Sampanthan mentioned, “no fair inquiry into genocide, no solutions in exhaustive talks for over 14 years, so no point in talking further.”

09.06.2023: **Report** - A final report of a probe conducted by SL’s High Court Judge Kusala Sarojini Weerawardena into former SL Minister Lohan Ratwatte has been released, reports Lanka Files. The report finds that Weerawardena had stormed the Welikada and Anuradhapura prisons in 2021 that he had threatened Tamil political prisoners with a pistol with death.

12.06.2023: **Commemoration** - The 25th memorial of the Suthanthirapuram Massacre was held in Mullaitivu by the Homeland Remembrance Committee, reports Lanka Files.

12.06.2023: **Land** - According to Lanka Files, occupational SL Army vacated 31 of 3,124 acres of private land occupied by SL military. The land releases is privately-owned land around the premises of Mangollai Vairavar Temple in Kankesanthurai, Jaffna.

14.06.2023: **Protest** - Tamils and Muslims of the East staged a protest in solidarity with Pride Month whilst condemning the militarisation of the Tamil homeland, reports Lanka Files.

15.06.2023: **Militarisation** - During a media conference, genocidaire Sarath Fonseka opposes the withdrawal of SL’s occupational troops from the occupied Tamil homeland, reports Lanka Files.

15.06.2023: **Arrest** - 03 TNPF members who had been arrested by occupational Kilinochchi Police had been released on bail, reports Lanka Files. According to TNPF, the following were arrested after their statements regarding the Maruthenkerni incident has been recorded:

- Head of Women's Wing - Vasuki Sudhakaran
- Secretary of Women's Wing - Kiruba Giritharan
- Jaffna District Organiser - Theeban Dileshan

15.06.2023: **PTA** - According to Eelanadu, 2,793 persons were detained under PTA from 31.12.2009-31.12.2022.

20.06.2023: **Land** - According to Lanka Files, TNPF's S. Gajendran mentioned the following during SL's Parliamentary Session, the "Tamils living in the Mullaitivu-Manalatu region were displaced in 1984, so that they could not resettle, Sinhalese who were involved in criminal activities in South Lanka were resettled in that area after the 90s."

21.06.2023: **Human Remains** - According to Lanka Files, an area of Allaipiddy, Jaffna was cordoned off by occupational SL Police after alleged human remains were found in the area. Further reports indicate that 27 human teeth were found amongst the excavations.

21.06.2023: **Protest** - Locals protested the visit of SL MP Udaya Gammanpila with Buddhist monks and journalists to Kurunthurmalai following an SL Archaeological Department's attempt to further appropriate 229 acres, reports Lanka Files.

21.06.2023: **Protest** - A rally was held in Hutton demanding the rights of the plantation Tamils, reports Lanka Files. The protest was organised by the Malayaka Land Rights Movement.

22.06.2023: **ITJPSL** - The ITJPSL's "In Plain Sight - Searching for Truth Behind Sri Lanka's Mass Graves" was screened at Bandaranaike Centre for International Studies alongside the launch of their new trilingual report mass graves and failed exhumations.

22.06.2023: **Expression** - According to Lanka Files, a joint statement by civil societies condemning the abuse of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights Act to violate freedom of expression in SL was released on 22.06.2023.

24.06.2023: **Political Prisoner** - According to Kalaikathir, a Tamil political prisoner named Devadas has been granted SL's presidential pardon. This occurred after talks were held between the Federal Party and SL's President.

24.06.2023: **WhatsApp groups** - According to Kalaikathir, SL's occupational Police stationed in Jaffna has announced to all Girls' colleges to create a WhatsApp group with the parents of their students. In this WhatsApp group, the teachers should share their observations on the behaviour of the girls in their classes.

25.06.2023: **Interrogation** - Occupational SL Police's Special Crimes Unit interrogated 02 Tamil journalists for 02 hours on 21.06.2023 to extract the sources of their coverage of the Maruthankerni incident of 02.06.2023, reports Lanka Files.

29.06.2023: **Protest** - According to Eelanadu, residents of Keppapulavu staged a protest opposite the Mullaitivu District Secretariat. The reason for the protest is that

the land of Keppapulavu is still occupied by SL's occupying soldiers and that the residents were removed from SL's beneficiary schemes.

30.06.2023: **World Bank** - According to

Lanka Files, on the day World Bank approved USD 200 million for welfare support in SL, a senior officer of the occupational Paraiyanalakulam Police Station for the mistreatment of

differently abled Tamil elderly from Ganeshapuram in Vavuniya while protesting GoSL's denying relief from the 'Aswesuma' welfare benefit.

# SIGNS OF STRUCTURAL GENOCIDE

*Any occurrence which reflects the implementation of Tamil genocidal ideology in a structural manner.*

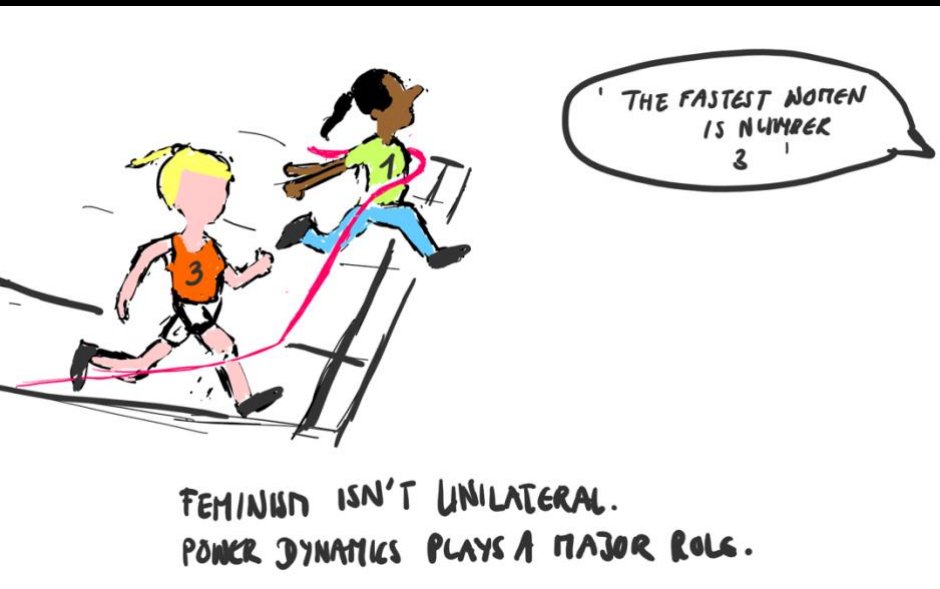
17.06.2023: **Archaeology** - According to Lanka Files, R. Wickremesinghe had replied to a letter from Sinhala Buddhist extremist monk Ellawalla Medhananda Thero ensuring that lands surrounding archaeological sites would be protected. He had made this statement in relation to the monks' concerns that lands surrounding Kurunthormalai would be returned to Tamils.

17.06.2023: **Vavuniya** - According to Kalaikathir, the borders of the Vavuniya province are set to be redefined for better administrative purposes. 04 Sinhalese villages are expected to be integrated under the local authority of Vavuniya North Pradeshiya Sabha through this scheme.

22.06.2023: **Buddhicisation** - Sinhala nationalist monk Ellawalla Medananda mentioned that "Buddhist monks have arbitrarily appropriated archaeological sites in SL's north and east leading to hostilities in the region and damage to artefacts," when writing to the top

leadership of SL's 03 Buddhist sect, reports Lanka Files.

29.06.2023: **Vedukkunaari** - According to Kalaikathir, the case of Vedukkunaari, where buddhist monks are appealing that now one can enter the Vedukkunaari temple premises, has been postponed to the 30th of october.



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