



COUNCIL OF N.G.O.O MULLAITIVU.

புனித குசையப்பர் வீதி
10ம் வட்டாரம்
புதுக்குடியிருப்பு

முல்லை மாவட்ட அரசு சார்பற்ற நிறுவனங்களின் இணைய COUNCIL OF N.G.O.O MULLAITIVU DISTRICT

ST. JOSEPH STREET
WARD NO 10
PUTHUKKUDIYIUPPU

13th February 2009

His Excellency
Mr. Ban Ki-moon
Secretary General
United Nations Headquarters
New York, NY
USA

Your Excellency,

An appeal to take immediate steps to stop the deteriorating situation culminating in a catastrophic humanitarian disaster in Vanni mainland, Sri Lanka

We wish to bring to your Excellency's kind notice the degenerating conditions in Vanni mainland, Sri Lanka with the hope that urgent steps would be taken to stop the human catastrophe.

In recent times, the deaths and serious injuries caused by artillery and aerial attacks have increased many fold. Up to now (13th Feb. 2009) in 18 days since 27th January 2009, over 1400 civilians from all age groups of people have been killed and over 7,000 injured with minor and serious injuries. Over 1000 pregnant women waiting for delivery in 2 or 3 weeks time have been traumatized by tension and fear of being injured or killed by shell attacks.

Among the dead persons there is a significant amount of pregnant women. Several injured pregnant women have lost large amounts of blood and also have been affected by anemic conditions, as there is not enough blood in the blood banks in the displaced hospitals. Shortage of food items and high cost to the available food has caused severe malnutrition to children and pregnant women. Continuous shell attacks have seriously affected their mental wellbeing. When children are born they are going to be mentally and physically handicapped and malnourished due to improper pre-natal care. The current situation would definitely violate the principles enunciated by the UN conventions to safeguard the rights of vulnerable people like children and pregnant women. We kindly request your Excellency to appreciate earnestly the plight of the suffering Vanni population.

For the last 2 weeks no food convoy, including WFP food supplies, has arrived in Vanni. Last month only 14 lorries of dry rations were brought from the South while the need of the Vanni population is at least 210 lorries of food per month. In view of the fact that there is no food stock available in Vanni there is a possibility of hundreds of thousands of people dying by starvation. If no food is brought to Vanni within 2 weeks time the situation will worsen further leading to famine conditions.

The restrictions on medicines have been tightened leading to speculation no more medical items will arrive from the South. Already medical items have been depleted due to the fact that the quota of medicine and medical supplies for the 4th quarter of the 2008 and 1st quarter of 2009 have not come to Vanni yet. Nearly 3,500 severely injured people have been treated in the hospitals, which have exhausted the available stocks

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செயலாளர் :-
திருமதி. து.கலைவாணி

பொருளாளர் :-
திருமதி.செ.துஸ்யந்தி

உபதலைவர் :-
திரு.சி. கதிரவேல்

ஒன்றிணைவோம் சேவை செய்வோம்
We unite and serve



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புதுக்குடியிருப்பு

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in hand. Blood banks have dried up with huge usage of blood. Dwindling supplies of anesthesia have resulted in a situation where limbs have to be surgically amputated without anesthesia.

This is the time for UN to intervene when a situation warrants outside intervention immediately to prevent a great human tragedy unfolding in Vanni.

Last week, 625 sick and wounded patients were taken by ship to the South for treatment by the ICRC. While we appreciate this magnanimous endeavor we appeal to your Excellency to ensure that food and medicines vitally needed for Vanni be brought in the same manner as the injured were evacuated.

While we appreciate the great humanitarian assistance by the coordinated efforts of ICRC and UN agencies to safeguard the injured and sick people in Vanni we are alarmed by the fact that the Sri Lankan government has unveiled a ruthless stratagem of killing and maiming the civilian population through aerial bombardments, artillery shelling, including cluster bombing, preventing medicines being brought from the South for the sick and injured civilians (so that they can be treated immediately after the attacks in the local hospital), and by starving and emaciating the whole population in Vanni by stopping all food convoys, including the WFP dry rations.

We appeal to your Excellency on behalf of all humanitarian organizations functioning in Vanni to intervene immediately and stop the carnage that is taking place in Vanni, Sri Lanka.

Thank you,

Yours truly,

PRESIDENT
COUNCIL OF NON GOVT.
ORGANIZATION
MULLAITIVU DISTRICT

- Copies to: 1. US President His Excellency, Mr. Barack Obama
2. British Prime Minister, His Excellency, Mr. Gordon Brown
3. Her Excellency Ms. Navaneethampillai, High Commissioner for Human Rights, Human Rights Council, Geneva

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