

Sri Lanka
at the
19th session of the
HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL

A media briefing from Sri Lankan civil society
and Non-Governmental Organisations

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Background

The civil war in Sri Lanka ended in May of 2009. On the 25th of April 2011 an independent panel of experts report, commissioned by UN Secretary General Ban ki-Moon was made public. In summary their report found:

- That both the Government of Sri Lanka and their opponents (the LTTE) committed the worst kinds of war crimes.
- That up to 40,000 civilians were killed - mostly by the Government of Sri Lanka deliberately shelling so-called "safe areas".
- That the Sri Lankan army deliberately shelled hospitals and ICRC centres.
- That the Government of Sri Lanka used kidnapping, murder and torture to silence all those who objected to their strategy.

The report also made a number of recommendations to the Government of Sri Lanka, the UN, and the international community. **The key recommendation was that an "independent international mechanism" be established to monitor the accountability process in Sri Lanka and investigate war crimes and ongoing violations.**

The Panel of Experts also considered mobile phone footage that was transmitted to them. This footage showed soldiers murdering civilians and prisoners, "white flag incidents" (where soldiers who had negotiated a surrender with senior members of the Sri Lankan government were shown alive and captive, and then later found dead), and soldiers stripping and defiling corpses - and making comments that suggest sexual violence took place before the killing.

This footage was transmitted to Christof Heyns, the UN Special Rapporteur on Disappearances. He had the tape examined by forensic video, medical, and ballistics experts and found that the tape was authentic.

Ban ki-Moon transferred this report to the Human Rights Council a few days before the 18th session – on September 9th. Given the lateness of the day there was no attempt made to place it on the HRC agenda.

In the meantime the Government of Sri Lanka produced its own report, the Lessons Learnt and Reconciliation Commission Report (LLRC), which was finally tabled before parliament on December 16th. The LLRC is discussed later but in brief it acknowledged that there were significant numbers of civilian casualties caused by governmental action, but it did not suggest any credible accountability mechanism.

Canada initially tabled a motion under item 10 of HRC18 for an interactive dialogue on the LLRC at HRC19. However they withdrew the motion before it came to a vote. The stage is therefore set for accountability and war crimes issues in Sri Lanka to come before the Human Rights Council – although the exact form is to be determined.

Why this matters

The new UN mechanisms for human rights, including the HRC, are now 7 years old. In that time the (possibly up to 40,000) people killed in just a matter of days in Sri Lanka ranks as the most significant failure of the international community to safeguard civilian populations from their governments. As such Sri Lanka is arguably the stiffest test the Human Rights Council has yet faced.

This debate also comes at a vital time for the global debate over accountability and reconciliation. On the one hand we see countries like Bangladesh, Uruguay, and Argentina taking a new approach – accepting the need for accountability as part of the reconciliation process – and establishing commissions of enquiry. On the other hand you see Sri Lanka touting its “model” of reconciliation without truth, based upon economic development and military force.

Sri Lanka have been actively promoting this model to Burma, Bangladesh, Nepal, Turkey, Indonesia, the Philippines and beyond. If there is no negative consequence to the clear violations of international human rights norms that the Sri Lanka model requires then there will be no hindrance to its further spread.

All this means that Sri Lanka is the battle at the centre of a broader war of ideas over human rights. The government of Sri Lanka talks of Human Rights as a “western” imposition – and uses state sovereignty arguments to support its position. The President's brother and Defence Secretary has actually said “they talk of defending democracy and human rights. As far as I am concerned, democracy and human rights are western values. They are not for us.”

However the split over human rights is no longer north vs south – as the Arab Spring, Latin America’s recent rack record on accountability, and the strong African support for action in the Cote d’Ivoire demonstrated.

A lot of countries around the world are watching what happens in Sri Lanka very closely indeed. If the international community does nothing and Sri Lanka continues down its current track, then many will be encouraged to follow their example.

The situation in Sri Lanka – an unsigned statement from Sri Lankan civil society

This statement may be quoted from but is left unsigned to protect the authors from retaliation.

Human Rights Violations and Impunity in Sri Lanka an update since the 18th session of the UN Human Rights Council

There is wide-spread concern in Sri Lankan civil society about the most egregious human rights violations that continue to take place in our country.

The systematic failure of investigation, prosecution, redress, and reparation for human rights violations over many years and for the massive violations of human rights and international humanitarian law during the last stages of the war in 2009 has created a terrible climate of impunity. The collapse of the rule of law allows, indeed encourages, the perpetrators of violence who operate throughout the country and against persons belonging to all communities.

In the post-war period, persons alleged to have committed violations of human rights include the military, the police, para-militaries associated with political parties including those who form part of the governing coalition. The climate of impunity creates a context in which criminal gangs are able to operate, often with the collusion of state agencies. The Prevention of Terrorism Act remains in place enabling arbitrary arrest and detention, including in unidentified places of detention, for extended periods. National mechanisms mandated to protect the human rights of citizens and to provide access to justice do not act in accordance with their mandate. Arbitrary appointments to the National Human Rights Commission by the President have undermined its credibility and its capacity to act independently.

Many in Sri Lankan civil society were profoundly disappointed by the failure of the UN Human Rights Council, at its 18th session, to agree to a formal process through which the UN and its member-states could consider steps to monitor, enhance and support efforts to obtain accountability, justice and human rights protection in Sri Lanka, including through the establishment of an independent international mechanism as recommended in the report of the Secretary General's Panel of Experts.

Extra-judicial Killings

Extrajudicial killings continue to take place in Sri Lanka - including since the 18th session of the human rights council in September 2011. There is no evidence of proper investigations into any of these cases.

- The Sri Lankan Police Force are alleged to have been directly involved in the extra-judicial killing of Sri Skandaraja Sumanan (28), Mr. Kamaranga Hannadige Lalith Susantha Peiris (32), Mr. Ganearachchi Appuhamilage Gayan Saranga (29), Mr. Sanchiarachchige Thushara, and Mr. Garusinhage Priyantha (45). Most of these took place in broad daylight and with credible witnesses.
- On 22 August 2011 human rights defender Mr. Perumal Sivakumara (32) died after being tortured in public by officers attached to the Special Task Force of the Sri Lanka Police.
- Nuwarapakshage Madushanka, a soldier attached to the Special Forces of the Sri Lanka Army was tortured and killed on 9 September 2010 after complaining about sexual harassment by a major. It is believed that he was tortured to death by that major.
- An Assistant Superintendent of Police Mr Sisira Kumara Muttetuwegama, was allegedly murdered by a Chief Inspector attached to the Special Task Force on 25 September 2011.

Two recent high profile cases highlight the concern that murder is becoming an accepted part of the post-war political culture in Sri Lanka and the sense of impunity that is prevalent amongst those with political power:

- On 8 October 2011, Bharatha Lakshman Premachandra, an adviser on trade union affairs to the Sri Lankan President, and two aides, were killed in broad daylight during a shoot-out with a group led by

MP Duminda Silva who is closely associated with the President's brother, the Defence Secretary. Despite recorded eye-witness testimony accusing Silva of the killing, he was allowed to leave to Singapore for medical treatment with full armed protection and without being questioned by the relevant authorities.

- On 25 December 2011, Kuram Shaikh Zaman (32), a British citizen and ICRC staff member on leave in Sri Lanka was murdered following a brutal attack. His friend Victoria Alexandrovna (23) was assaulted and sustained serious injuries requiring a prolonged period of intensive care. The chair of Tangalle municipal council and senior representative of the governing party in the area (where the MP is the President's son) Sampath Vidanapathirana was arrested for leading the assault. It later emerged that in 2010 he had previously been arrested for the murder of an elderly woman while campaigning in the General Election. He was not charged for that prior killing nor was he prevented from holding elected office.

Abduction and Disappearance

Since September 2011 there have been 35 reported cases of disappearance. This includes:

- Dinesh Buddhika Charitananda, a 25-year-old ethnic Sinhalese, was abducted on January 3rd 2012. His body was found near a river in a Colombo suburb the following morning.
- Mohamed Niyas, a Muslim astrologer, was taken away in a white van by a group of gun-toting men on 27th Oct 2011. Three weeks later he, too, was found dead.
- Hewage Chandana Rohan Lilantha Dabare of Thalawatugoda, Colombo was abducted and found dead on 1st Jan 2012
- Mohamed Nisthar of Sankutikulama, Puttalam was abducted and found dead on 2nd Jan 2012
- Rajgopal of Trincomalee was abducted and found dead on 3rd Jan 2012
- Dinesh Buddhika of Grandpass was abducted and found dead on 4th Jan 2012
- Lalith Kumar Weeraju and Kugan Murugan disappeared on December 10th 2011, while working on preparations for Human Rights day. Lalith and a number of others had been previously beaten by an armed mob during a protest against disappearances.
- Sathyaseelan Pakiaraj, a parliamentary Sinhala-to-Tamil translator was abducted in Trincomalee by a group that came in a white Van early morning, 22nd January 2012.
- Mr. Arnold, Tamil political activist of the Ilangkai Thamizh Arasuck Kadchi (ITAK) in Jaffna and a former representative of Jaffna University Student Union was reported missing on 21 Jan 2012.
- Maligawatte Donald was reportedly abducted by a group of unidentified persons on 7th Jan 2012 morning. He had been abducted in Moratuwa while traveling to Colombo from Panadura. Upon released he left the country.
- 'Christopher' a 55 year old businessman in Kotahena was abducted on 5th Dec 2011.
- Lalith Gunaratne, Chairman of the Dematagoda Traders' Union, was abducted on 24th Nov 2011. He was released later.
- Kapila Chaminda Bandara, the owner of Millenium bookshop, who was abducted on 13th Nov 2011 He was released later.

Torture

In November 2011, the UN Committee against Torture published its Concluding Observations following the review of Sri Lanka (**CAT/C/LKA/CO/3-4, 8 December 2011**). It concluded that torture remains widespread throughout the country.

The report indicates that torture is routinely used by the police against suspects regardless of ethnic background and is frequently used against critical journalists and human rights defenders. Substantial evidence of post-conflict torture submitted to the Committee indicates that Tamil political activists and those with actual or perceived associations with the LTTE remain at particular risk of detention and torture by military personnel and the police.

The law enforcement and justice systems have failed to abide by national and international law to ensure that torture does not take place. The persistent involvement of the Police in particular in cases of torture undermines public confidence in the institution. Frequently, the torture causes severe scarring, suggesting both that perpetrators have no fear of prosecution and that it is intended as deliberate 'branding'.

There have been only three convictions for torture related offences since 1994.

There were 96 cases of torture reported by Sri Lankan NGOs in 2011. This is almost certainly a significant underestimate, given survivors' fear of persecution if they speak out. The following cases are merely illustrative. Due to fear of reprisals against victims and families, real names and precise details of cases cannot be used:

- "Rohan" was arrested by two officers from Criminal Investigation Department and interrogated about his brother's links to the LTTE. He was tortured for two days with burning irons before his family secured his release with a bribe.
- "Kabhilan" was displaced towards the end of the conflict, separated from his family and taken to a camp where he was detained and tortured by army officers for more than a month. After establishing that he had provided some limited support to a family member with an association to the LTTE, the army turned him over to CID who interrogated and tortured him further. He was detained in a camp for more than six months before a relative paid a bribe.
- Narahenpita Gamage Sisil Weerasinghe, a retired, disabled army officer, was approached by police officers on 30 December 2011 who accused him of planning to commit a house break in. When he denied this, he was taken into custody and severely beaten for several days causing a fracture to his hand. He was later brought before a Magistrate with his torturers beside him. He plead guilty to an alcohol related charge despite not being intoxicated.

In the Committee Against Torture's Concluding Observations in November 2011, the Committee states that it:

- Remains seriously concerned about the continued and consistent allegations of the widespread use of torture, perpetrated by state actors both the military and the police, which has continued in many parts of the country after the conflict ended in May 2009 and is still occurring in 2011
- Remains concerned about the prevailing climate of impunity in the State party and the apparent failure to investigate promptly and impartially whenever there is reasonable ground to believe that an act of torture has been committed
- Regrets the apparent limited mandate of the LLRC and its alleged lack of independence
- Notes the State party's 'failure in practice to afford all detainees, including those detained under anti-terrorist laws, with all fundamental safeguards from the very outset of their detention' and requires that prompt & effective measures 'in law and in practice' are employed to remedy this

In its final recommendations, the Committee calls on Sri Lanka to:

- Unambiguously reaffirm the absolute prohibition of torture and publicly condemn practices of torture
- Issue a clear warning that anyone committing such acts or otherwise complicit or participating in torture will be held personally responsible before the law' and prosecuted
- Launch impartial and effective investigations into all allegations of violations of the Convention which occurred during the last stages of the conflict and in the post-conflict phase, with a view to holding accountable those responsible and providing effective redress for victims of such violations.
- Consider accepting "an international investigatory body, which would address past concerns over the lack of credibility of previous investigations"

Violence Against Women

Based on credible evidence submitted to the Committee Against Torture, in its concluding observations the Committee stated its concern regarding 'reported cases of rape and other acts of sexual violence that occurred **following the end of the conflict**, in particular in military-controlled refugee camps. This echoes the concerns of the UN Committee against Discrimination against Women in January 2011 about 'of sexual violence allegedly perpetrated also by the armed forces, the police and militant groups'.

2011 saw a significant upsurge in reported cases of violence against women. Amongst those accused of violence are members of the security forces, police, army deserters and para-militaries. Women activists

suggest that the pattern of violence is linked to militarization; the 'grease devil' phenomenon¹ that heightened women's sense of insecurity in many parts of the island in the second half of 2011, was understood by some women's groups as a manifestation of a deliberate policy aimed to create a climate of fear and control over the population of the country, especially women, and especially in the north and east.

Freedom of Expression

Over the past 4 years 34 media professionals have been murdered in Sri Lanka. There have been no convictions, few prosecutions and in most cases no serious investigations in cases involving media personnel. The man arrested for the murder of newspaper editor Lasantha Wickrematunga in January 2009, died in October last year while in custody.

The Government of Sri Lanka continue to exercise control over media freedom in a variety of ways, including violence, threats of violence and using its own media to attack those who demand greater freedom of expression and access to information. According to the World Press Freedom Index compiled by Reporters without Borders (RSF), Sri Lanka ranks 136 in the world in terms of lack of media freedom.

- The wife of cartoonist and political analyst Prageeth Eknaligoda, who disappeared on 24 January 2010 continues to be subject to harassment by the police, as a consequence of her campaign for an investigation.
- Editor of Jaffna-based Tamil newspaper 'Uthayan', Mr. Gnanasundaram Kuganathan (59) was severely assaulted by a group of unidentified persons on 29 July 2011. Although several investigations were initiated, there have been no arrests. When questioned about the investigation, the Media Minister Keheliya Rambukwella laughed and said there is nothing that he can do except to take fruit to Mr. Kuganathan in hospital.
- In November 2011, the Government of Sri Lanka permanently blocked five websites including Lanka e-news, a popular citizen platform, which has been subjected to a relentless assault from governmental forces.
- A further 30 news sites were blocked in January 2012

Human rights defenders

The freedom of expression and association of human rights defenders is particularly curtailed:

- In the second week of January the Sri Lanka Government launched a new round of attacks on Press freedom activists and human rights defenders on its main TV channel. Showing visuals of activists who live in exile with a voice-over stating "*Those who betrayed the motherland for gold and titles even killed in time of kings. Their decedents live on today*" The programme was ended with the prediction that "*They do no good to this country, some day they will also face no good.*"
- A human rights defender, whose name appeared in print after a list of attendees of a training workshop was leaked, was repeatedly called for questioning by military and intelligence officers throughout September and October 2011. He was severely beaten and tortured during interrogation. The HRD is currently seeking protection overseas due to the increased threats.
- A note issued by the Sri Lankan Security Forces threatening student activists was posted in the University in Jaffna; the note names individual activists
- Thushara Jayarathna a law student who had complained about malpractices by the Law College with regard to the President's son, Namal Rajapaksa, was assaulted for a second time on 1 December 2011 by unidentified men
- The gay-rights organisation Companions of a Journey (COJ) was subject to intense attack by some private media organizations in October 2011,; this led to their offices being visited by the Criminal Investigation Department (CID) and sensitive information removed. The organization has since had to shut down its offices.

¹ Cases in which men covered with grease (so that they could not be caught or restrained) entered homes and committed, or attempted to commit, various acts of sexual abuse and molestation of women

50 people were arrested at protests throughout the country on Human Rights Day in December 2011

Conclusion and recommendations

In light of the above, it is clear that the human rights situation in Sri Lanka continues to deteriorate. National mechanisms for investigation and prosecution do not act credibly and independently and the rule of law does not prevail. Human rights defenders cannot operate freely. Access to redress, and reparation for human rights violations is often denied to citizens. The lack of accountability of the government to its international obligations is grave, particularly with respect to the many credible allegations of violations of international human rights and humanitarian law in the closing months of the war in 2009.

In this context, Sri Lankan Civil Society calls for:

- UN member-states to act at the upcoming session of the UN Human Rights Council in March to place concerns with regard to the human rights situation in Sri Lanka on the Council's formal agenda for discussion. The aim would be the establishment of an international, independent mechanism, with an explicit mandate to monitor the extent to which the Government of Sri Lanka is pursuing accountability in line with international standards and pursuant to domestic efforts to investigate allegations of violations of international humanitarian and human rights law;
- UN member states to urge the government of Sri Lanka to comply with its obligations with regard to the promotion and protection of human rights in Sri Lanka. Among the actions sought would be:
 - implementation of the recommendations set out in the Concluding Observations of 4 treaty body Committees over the past 2 years – the Child Rights Committee, the Economic, Social and Cultural Rights Committee, the Committee for the Elimination of Discrimination against Women and the Committee against Torture;
 - honouring invitations extended to Special Procedures of the UN human rights system such as the Special Rapporteur on Extrajudicial, Summary or Arbitrary Executions, the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances and the Special Representative on Sexual Violence in Conflict, as well as the new Special Rapporteur on the Promotion of Truth, Justice, Reparation and Guarantees of Non-Recurrence of Serious Crimes and Gross Violations of Human Rights.

The LLRC – an unsigned statement from Sri Lankan civil society

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The Sri Lankan Lessons Learnt and Reconciliation Commission

A Short Commentary

Following the end of the war in Sri Lanka in May 2009, a joint statement by the Government of Sri Lanka and the United Nations Secretary General, committed to a process of accountability for violations of international humanitarian and human rights law and to take measures to address those grievances. The eventual outcome of that commitment was the “Lessons Learnt and Reconciliation Commission” (LLRC) appointed by the President of Sri Lanka one year later. Its final report was made public in December 2011.

1. The LLRC report highlighted some important findings and recommendations:

- a. Identification of the root causes of the conflict;
- b. Recognition of joint responsibility by GoSL and LTTE for civilian casualties;
- c. Recognition that significant numbers of civilians were killed;
- d. Unacceptable control of the media and attacks on freedom of expression;
- e. The militarisation of the Northern Province;
- f. The adoption of a non-participatory approach to the reconstruction and development of the former war zones;
- g. The lack of implementation of recommendations made by earlier domestic investigations into disappearances and political killings.
- h. Recommendations for investigations into on-going human rights violations,
- i. Recommendations on land, governance and devolution of significant powers to the north and east.

For many observers the most notable outcome was the many thousands of witnesses, in particular women, who came forward to provide their personal testimonies to the LLRC despite the obvious risks to their security. This provides a clear message that many Sri Lankans, particular Tamils who lived through the conflict, need truth and accountability to be able to move on and for any meaningful reconciliation to take place.

2. The LLRC report fell far short of international standards :

- a. The LLRC was appointed by the President without public consultation;
- b. It was composed largely of former government officials, some of whom had been entrusted with responsibility for defending the conduct of the war;
- c. There was limited Tamil representation;
- d. There was under-representation of women;
- e. A lack of victim centred approach;
- f. Lack of witness protection;
- g. Witnesses subjected to hostile treatment by LLRC;
- h. By contrast, the LLRC accepted with little critical questioning the reports of those witnesses representing the government and the armed forces;
- i. No sign the LLRC requested or received from the GOSL the full range of information and evidence in its possession: e.g., video of the warzone by unmanned drone vehicles, etc.

- j. No sign the LLRC requested or received from UN and other international agencies the full range of information and evidence in its possession (e.g., UN data on civilian deaths, UN and other Satellite images...

3. On accountability the LLRC report is deeply flawed:

- a. There is no serious investigation of serious allegations;
- b. All GoSL actions are presented as a necessary response to LTTE;
- c. Food and medical shortages are put down to logistics problems when in fact there is evidence in the public domain of deliberate attempts to limit delivery of essential items to the north;
- d. There is no review of the conditions in the camps;
- e. Any misconduct by government agents is dismissed as accidental, with the possible exception of a few isolated incidents of individual misbehaviour.

4. The treatment of IHL is unacceptable:

- a. It suggests that there are legal grey areas in the case of conflict involving non-state actors;
- b. This is not the case; IHL is clear in the definition of responsibilities in this area; this has not previously been discredited;
- c. Allegations of IHL violations by the Government are credible.

5. Proposals for further investigation:

- a. The report rejects the need for a systematic investigation of allegations – recommending only further attention to isolated cases;
- b. Even for these, the proposed special commission would report to the AG, whose lack of commitment to accountability is manifest;
- c. There is no suggestion that higher authorities might be responsible for the behaviour of the armed forces;

6. Credibility of the proposed actions

- a. There has been no progress towards accountability over three years, despite the systematic urging of the UN SG, senior UN officials, international governmental and diplomatic visitors etc.
- b. The LLRC interim recommendations made in September 2010 have not been implemented despite the establishment of an Inter Agency Advisory Committee being mandated to take a lead;
- c. There has been no time-lines,
- d. No mechanism is proposed to undertake an exhaustive independent domestic investigation to deal with accountability for war-time conduct;
- e. For political reasons even the more minimal recommendations of the LLRC are unlikely to be heeded.
- f. There is a long history of failed, ignored and/or politicised commissions of inquiry;
- g. There is an established history of interference in commissions of inquiry by the Attorney General's Department (c.f. IIGEP experience);

- h. The proposed Special Commission of Investigation of Disappearances does not cover killings;
- i. The independence of the judiciary is in doubt;
- j. Others activities such as National Human Rights Action plan are weak, completed without civil society participation;
- k. The mandate, composition and performance of the National Human Rights Commission are not considered adequate for it to assume responsibility for independent domestic monitoring;
- l. All actions remain at the behest of the Executive in law and in practice;

7. Responsibility to investigate:

- a. The alleged crimes are international in nature;
- b. It is the primary responsibility of Government of Sri Lanka to organise independent investigations;
- c. Political and moral responsibility resides with the international community to ensure that Government takes appropriate action or, if it fails do to so, to take action itself;
- d. Given that there has been no progress on the part of Government, the international community now has the obligation to initiate a process, within the framework of the UN;
- e. The LLRC process and report have not changed that obligation;
- f. 25 years' experience with transitional justice demonstrates that processes that do not place victims' rights at the centre are not viable;
- g. Victims' rights are a key element in reconciliation;
- h. True reconciliation requires accountability.

8. Conclusions and Recommendations

In light of the above and on-going egregious human rights violations in Sri Lanka as highlighted in recent reports, including CAT etc, it is unacceptable that the UN and its member-states have not been provided with the opportunity to have a formal discussion within the HRC on how to support and enhance accountability, justice, address impunity and strengthen protection in Sri Lanka. This failure puts into question the very credibility and raison-d'être of the HRC.

It is therefore recommended that:

UN member-states should agree a mechanism at the upcoming session of the HRC in March that places these issues firmly on its formal agenda for dialogue through thorough consideration of available reports including the LLRC and the UN Panel of Experts reports to make a determination thereon:

That dialogue and determination should be the first step towards the establishment of an international, independent mechanism, under the auspices of the UN, with the mandate to monitor the extent to which the Government of Sri Lanka is pursuing accountability in line with international standards and investigate allegations of violations of international humanitarian and human rights law.

Media resources

Photos

Some stock photographs of life in the IDP camps are available from info@srilankacampaign.org



Video

The video footage of Sri Lankan soldiers executing prisoners is currently owned by the UK's Channel 4. Marion Bentley is their media and marketing liaison MJBentley@channel4.co.uk

The UN office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights' Youtube Channel has various videos including Christof Heyns discussing the validity of the C4 tapes: <http://bit.ly/ze4Mx2>

Further reading

The United Nations Panel of Experts Report	http://bit.ly/eq3uZb
The Lessons Learnt and Reconciliation Commission Report	http://bit.ly/rqSMH0
Amnesty International's Report on the LLRC	http://bit.ly/p0tbB4
Freedom from Torture's evidence of ongoing torture	http://bit.ly/yMpZfE
ICG's report on violence against women	http://bit.ly/vGXbam
The Sri Lanka Campaign's report on Media Freedom	http://scr.bi/nJw97q

Links

Amnesty International	http://www.amnesty.org/en/sri-lanka
CPA (a Sri Lankan research organisation)	http://cpalanka.org
Forum Asia	http://www.forum-asia.org/?countries=sri-lanka
Groundviews (Sri Lankan citizen media)	http://groundviews.org
Human Rights Watch	http://www.hrw.org/asia/sri-lanka
International Crisis Group	http://www.crisisgroup.org/en/regions/asia/south-asia/sri-lanka.aspx
Minority Rights Group	http://www.minorityrights.org/
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