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May 18, 2019

Dear Tamil Americans:

I sincerely appreciate your kind invitation to attend the Mullivaikkal Remembrance Day observation. I regret that I am unable to be with you personally, but I want to add my voice to those who have gathered at this important event.

Today, thousands of people around the world gather to mark the tenth anniversary of one of the most horrific massacres of the 21st century. The Sri Lankan military's final offensive against the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) left hundreds of thousands of civilians – most of them Tamils – dislocated, deprived of basic necessities, and without effective legal or political recourse.

The United States has played a critical role in promoting human rights, accountability and reconciliation in Sri Lanka, including the passage of Resolution 30/1 at the U.N. Human Rights Council. We continue to encourage and press the Government of Sri Lanka to take the difficult steps required to honor its commitment to ensure peace and security for all the island's communities.

There is still much work to be done, as Chair of the House Democracy Partnership, I look forward to continuing to engage the Sri Lankan Parliament in its ongoing efforts toward justice, peace and a lasting reconciliation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "David Price".

DAVID E. PRICE  
Member of Congress