

### **Apologies heal emotional wounds**

"In conclusion, healing can be achieved only by acknowledging the Truth. In South Africa, President Nelson Mandela established a Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) with a mandate to collect and investigate accounts from all affected parties and offer amnesty, where required to those who confess their part in atrocities and to make recommendations on reparations for the victims. The purpose was to use the healing power of Truth. We must put to rest brute power. I agree, the South African TRC, denied the necessary time and resources, could not satisfy everybody's need for justice but it helped many victims and their families. Apologies, sincerely offered play a vital role in healing emotional wounds and restore injured relationships. African Bushman, for example, place great importance on apologies in their dispute resolution. I thank you for your patient hearing."

247. Dr. Godfrey Gunatillake, Chairman Human Rights Commission of Sri Lanka made a detailed presentation. He said:

"I must at the very outset, emphasise a point. Truth Commissions are not only concerned with making recommendations for national unity and reconciliation. What they do is to make the Truth Commission itself a process of reconciliation leading to national unity. It would be important to bear this in mind, for ourselves as citizens - who not only look to you for the findings of the Commission but also look at the process which the Commission will set in motion when it meets. I also realize, when I reflected on it, that the PTC is undertaking a momentous task, in fact a historic responsibility. The PTC will be looking into events which were the most traumatic we experienced since independence. Events which had such far reaching consequences, nationally and internationally, which changed the history of our country. I view the deliberations of the PTC as historic as setting a process in motion, not just a once and for all Commission but an enduring process which will go on. We want not one Truth Commission, but Truth Commissions, which will continue, until the process of reconciliation is complete."

### **Promoting reconciliation an onerous task**

Let us try to apply the experience of the South African TRC to the Sri Lankan Truth Commission. How do these criteria apply to the work that our own Truth Commission has undertaken? The Commission is required to investigate in to gross violations of human rights and the destruction and damage to property that was part of the ethnic violence within a relatively short period of 1981 - 84 with special attention to the events and crimes of July 1983. The Commission's work is therefore focused on a particular set of events, within a long - standing conflict which is still on going. Therefore by the very nature and scope of its work, the Sri Lankan Truth Commission is quite different from the other Commissions, those that have been established following a peaceful settlement of an on - going conflict where all parties have committed themselves, politically, to a process of co - existence and reconciliation which has to be achieved. The Sri Lanka Truth Commission has the much more onerous task of really promoting the process of reconciliation and

co existence. One of the elements, which forms part of a Truth Commission, provided in its terms of reference, is dealing with perpetrators and granting them amnesty. The Sri Lanka Truth Commission is not entitled to grant amnesty. If such a provision were present it could have provided a motive for full disclosure by perpetrators, an example being for those officers controlling the riots in 1983.

The South African TRC was able to get a detailed testimony of victims who were named and which pointed to the perpetrators and also named them. There was motivation for them to come forward and give their account. The real point which again I wish to emphasise, is that the South African TRC was a process of reconciliation. It did not just inquire and recommend measures. We have to convert our own Commission to a process of reconciliation to a process of healing. I wish to re - draw attention to two aspects of it, that is having this Commission when the country is in a deep political crisis with all kinds of party rivalries exacerbated and deep antagonisms coming to the surface. Yet, I would still argue that, although the Sri Lankan Truth Commission has not been established with the same conditions essential for a classically created Truth Commission, it does not prevent the Sri Lanka Truth Commission from fulfilling some of the functions of a classical Truth Commission. In this difficult situation I can assure you and convey to you. Honourable Commissioners, that many, in the community of civil society here composed of eminent persons of proven integrity, are sure that you given the freedom, will probably make the Commission the kind of Truth Commission it should become and which the process for reconciliation would I become entrenched.

#### **Political parties, media and individuals have inflamed communal passions**

If the whole truth were to be obtained, it would be necessary to also get at the other actors. Important among them are the political parties media and individuals, who by their speech and writing indulged in advocacy which inflamed communal passions. A process of truth and reconciliation must encompass all these elements. What was most disturbing was the failure of most political parties to come out strongly against the violence and mobilize their supporters to prevent these actions.

To my mind it would be easier for the Commission to deal with the reconciliation part rather than the Truth part. What I mean by it is that in an on-going conflict you may not have the perpetrator coming forward, willingly, as they would do when the conflict has ended. Therefore, the Commission may not be able to get the whole Truth. Take an example the Thinnaveli incident; this was an important incident because it triggered off a whole course of events. There is another party to that incident, probably from whom you may never be able to get evidence. It is possible to try, it forms part of the terms of reference of the Commission but success would be unlikely. But in the way the Commission looks at emerging evidence, it could fix the responsibility of different parties. If the responsibility of the state is determined for that should cease from the killing of innocent civilians, the Commission would set in motion the process of reconciliation. There would be an acceptance that the norms of human justice have been recognized. This is important for a Truth Commission the affirmation that there is a body to, even

belatedly, upholds the norms of justice. the Truth Commission could do so by examining every incident. I do not think that the type of reconciliation which would come at the very end of a conflict, would emerge from the proceedings of a Truth Commission”.

248. **Rev. Fr. Mervyn Fernando** in his presentation said:

“When I see the situation today in the light of what I had known earlier, I feel so sad. I specially feel sad for the younger generation, because I work very closely with them. They do not have the experience of being Sri Lankan, the way it was 30-40 years ago. But being an optimist, I feel that we will get over this crisis and come out of it stronger, sometime in the future, with a better socio - political condition, where all the religions and races could live again, peacefully in a united way. But very much will also depend on what we do today for the emergence of a new Sri Lanka in the future. What we are doing here, in this Truth Commission today is one major step in that direction, because we can build a solid nation or a solid country only on the basis of Truth. In other words, we must look at the Truth in its totality, namely the truth of the past the Truth of the present and what truth will be in the future.

#### **Violence have caused deep hurts**

I am not an expert in politics but I want to emphasise the need to look at the psychological aspects of this problem. It is no secret that the violence and the harsh conflicts that have taken place since 1958, the destruction of property and violence to the people on both sides - have caused deep hurts and have alienated, psychologically and emotionally the two major communities and also to some extent the Muslim community. I have seen for myself, how these Sinhalese-Tamil conflagrations have literally killed people and burnt houses. I myself was involved in trying to throw water to douse those fires. There were several occasions when the psyche of both the Sinhalese and Tamil people have been deeply injured and hurt. And I know very close friends of mine who are Tamils who are really well intentioned who are very patriotic and love Sri Lanka having been very badly alienated through these hurts. They feel they are not wanted, as they are second class citizens. Therefore my strong conviction is that while we look for a political solution, through the constitution, other legal structures and arrangements, which will bring about justice to our people, we must also address the emotional and psychological needs for reconciliation of the two alienated communities. Therefore the first step is to recognize that there is a situation like this and bring it out into the open.

On the other hand we cannot simply say lets forget the past. Some people take that stand. But that is not humanly possible. When there have been deep hurts is not possible psychologically, to just forget them. Therefore, I think it is very important, first of all, for each side to acknowledge that each had made mistakes has committed offences and have been in the wrong, not merely to justify what the Sinhalese have done to the Tamils or the Tamils have done to the Sinhalese, not to just justify but say, yes we have made mistakes, we have wronged the

other side. It has to be acknowledged, not only privately but also in some public way, in some public forum perhaps, at least symbolically. I do not think that kind of gesture has been attempted up to now."

249. **Dr. Uvais Ahamed**, Principal Zahira College Colombo made submissions to the Commission upon invitation. He said;

"In my experience, I have known a similar Commission at an international level. It was an international investigation commission, appointed by the UN to investigate the damage done by the atomic bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. This Commission was appointed in 1977, 32 years after the bombing. I am happy to say that I was a member of this 11 member Commission, which included two Nobel Prize Winners. The point that I am trying to make is that although it was 32 years later still there was a report to discuss, fully and comprehensively, the question of the Atomic bombing. The report was to be submitted to the Disarmament Commission of the UN. The investigation and its outcome showed very well that although it was late, it was useful. We can conclude that this Commission is never too late.

#### **Compartmentalisation - an unfortunate trend**

The unfortunate trend in Sri Lanka, ever since we received independence from the British, is one of compartmentalisation. The people of this country, who had been mixing freely with each other, irrespective - of the community to which they belonged who were able to close ranks to wage a struggle against the British to win freedom, began to withdraw into their private enclaves of communal living, fully cloistered from other interactions. They began to develop parochial and not national interests, which were uppermost in their minds. Today we see a proliferation of Muslim Associations, Hindu Associations, Christian Associations, Buddhist Associations etc., in this country. I am not, in anyway, decrying the importance of these organizations which have done yeoman service to their respective religio - cultural entitees. But what is lamentable is that not many people have taken the initiative to develop organizations, which could forge bridges between various ethnic and cultural groups. It is the absence of such bridges that have made the different communities easy prey when contentious disruptive issues come to the fore. They become easily manipulated by unscrupulous self - seeking individuals and parties. In the present context when the country is being torn apart what is important is building bridges.

It is indeed important to take cognisance of the fact that what is of primary importance, are organizations which could transcend cultural boundaries in this country. I was very happy to see in the Daily News a photograph of students and teachers from Jaffna standing with the President of this country at the Presidential Palace. This is what is important in this country.

### Missed opportunities

Another matter I like to stress is of not missing opportunities that come our way, to solve the ethnic problem. Opportunities do not come all the time but when they do come one must grab them and see the best is got from those opportunities. Whatever the antecedents of the conflict may be, Sri Lanka as a whole, will for a long time repent the missed opportunities of 1977. In 1977, the UNP was elected to Parliament with a 4/5 th majority that could have strengthened the elbow of any regime. Such a regime would fearlessly have addressed the disillusionment of the Tamil youth and resolved the conflict, finally and comprehensively. While the disaffection and the frustration of the Tamil, especially that of the youth of that community were real and lying dormant with all signs of blowing up at any time, the regime that came into being, without using this marvellous opportunity to marshal its resources and resolve the conflict, once and for all, began to preoccupy themselves with other issues on which the government spent its entire time.

It has, of course been to the credit of that regime to set in motion a vast economic recovery programme, which gained momentum in 1988 and is going on unfettered, even to this day, though rather tentatively and haltingly, despite the total mismanagement of the social problem, the ethnic problem. Politicians were, unfortunately not sensitive or not sensitive enough to understand that for any form of development to take place there should be first, and foremost, peace and harmony in the country.

In Malaysia the conflict between the Malays and the Chinese was very, very bad. But they took a hard look at them and found out ways and means of solving them without allowing them to fester. One of the things that they did was to appoint Peace Committees in every village and every town. These committees were composed of three nationalities. Open discussions on certain subjects were taboo, not allowed. They could not talk about their race; they could not even talk about the existence of their king. And very soon all fell into line. Perhaps the leadership of Malaysia knew the importance of peace and peaceful - co - existence, as being of paramount importance for bringing about economic development."

250. **Mr. Subramaniam Sivananthan**, a former Government Agent and who retired as Additional Secretary, Ministry of Public Administration, gave evidence. He said :

"The ethnic violence has, no doubt left an indelible mark in the minds of the victims. The normal tendency for a victim who is denied justice is to harbour a lifelong grievance and if the wounds are left unattended, they tend to fester. In dealing with this type of a situation, the usual practise has been to institute a probe through a Commission with little or no impact, often ending up as an academic exercise. Due to this unpalatable experience, people have by and large lost confidence in such probes.

It appears that this Commission is entrusted with a unique task. Unlike past Commissions it is not a fault-finding one meant to mete out punishment to anyone but aimed at ascertaining the truth, make recommendations for creating an atmosphere for reconciliation between the different ethnic groups and recommend relief to those affected. In a sense it may be considered as having a religious flavour.

### Violence as a means of solving problems

Violence has been increasingly used as an instrument to solve problems in Sri Lanka on a number of occasions. Several instances of mass violence have occurred during the past, some of them ethnic whereas others are non-ethnic in character. Events of this nature if not curtailed, can create a tendency towards extra-judicial mass punishment. This is a serious indictment on our society. In order to prescribe a remedy to this recurring problem it is important that the nature of this violence is diagnosed thoroughly. In doing so, it may be useful to ask a few questions. Firstly is this violence spontaneous or pre-meditated and organized? In what manner does it differ from earlier instances such as the ethnic violence of 1958 and the post-election violence that took place in the past?

The manner in which such instances of violence were handled bespeak a lot. In the past, it is evident that invariably little or no overt action was taken by the authorities to track down the culprits and deal with them. This tantamount to condoning such action and has given wrong signals to perpetrators paving the way for recurrence. Besides, it also erodes the citizen's confidence on the state which is responsible for the protection of his life and property regardless of his ethnic affiliation."

### Ten point programme for National Reconciliation

251. Mr. Sivananthan suggested the following for promoting national reconciliation:

- \* There is also an urgent need for moral re-armament at both individual and society level. Democratic values have to be reinforced and strictly adhered to. Resolution of conflicts through peaceful means has to be encouraged. Religious institutions have to play an active role in this task;
- \* The role of the press, the fourth estate, which is the guardian of society, is very vital in this regard. It has to actively participate in surfacing instances of violence and human rights violations and mobilise public opinion against the perpetrators;
- \* Fortunately, we live at a time where there is a fund of new knowledge emerging in fields such as Emotional Intelligence which throw new light on management of emotions in human beings. These have to be incorporated into the school curriculum so that future generations will imbibe those new values;

- \* As far as the ethnic groups are concerned affirmative legislation has to be enacted enshrining the rights of citizens and to provide legal remedies to affected parties. Such measures have been adopted in countries such as Australia in overcoming racial discrimination;
- \* A large number of affected people lost not only their properties and employment, but also their income security. Several of them have left the shores of this country in disgust being deprived of their rights to their retirement benefits. No doubt most of them are bitter about the shabby manner in which they were treated. As a gesture of goodwill such lost rights should be restored to them regardless of their place of stay.
- \* As a confidence building measure, we should extend dual citizenship to all Sri Lankans living abroad by entering into agreements with governments of countries where such a facility is not available at present. This will enable those who wish to maintain contact with their mother country to do so honourably. This will also demonstrate to them our Sincerity of purpose.
- \* At the political level, it is imperative that an understanding is reached between the contending parties. In the meantime, opportunities have to be afforded to the public through creation of a common forum for promotion of inter - ethnic understanding and amity. Creation of Voluntary friendship associations with Sinhala, Tamil and Muslims "SI THA MU" as members if actively encouraged would serve such a purpose. The state may have to support them financially to undertake programmes. The Australian government assists similar bodies formed by ethnic communities with success.
- \* At the level of the Administravive Service it is considered desirable to encourage officers to serve in a cross - cultural environment for at least two years before such an officer is promoted from the basic grade to the next grade.
- \* At the level of the public service creation of a bi -lingual clerical service drawing from serving officers fluent in all three languages would help to bridge the gap between communities.
- \* The Official Languages Act is amended to provide avenues for aggrieved individuals to seek legal remedy would enable speedy implementation of the provisions."

252. **Mr. D. E. W. Gunesekera**, General Secretary of the Sri Lanka Communist Party and a former Member of Parliament gave a very exhaustive analysis of the background to the incidents of July, 1983. He said:

"I would say the most unjust and the most barbarous event in post independence history of Sri Lanka was the 1983, 'Black July.'" Such an event should not be

allowed to recur. I believe that the people at large are not aware adequately and sufficiently, as to what really happened and what forces were behind them. They have not been sufficiently exposed to the truth.

### **“Black July” 1983 caused virtual division of country**

“Black July”, in 1983, signalled the outbreak of the on going civil war. In my judgement, it caused the virtual division of the country. It created a massive refugee problem, unprecedented in the history of our country. A number, in excess of over a million and a half, of all three communities - Sinhalese, Tamils and Muslims - had to flee the country. For the last 18-20 years they continue to be refugees. It had a terrible psychological effect on society: we still suffer the consequences of this turbulence.

We tarnished our international image. It made our economy unsustainable. Our defence budget had risen from less than Rs. 1 billion to Rs. 83 billion by the year 2000. It made the Executive more authoritarian. It paved the way for draconian laws to be passed of which the worst was the Sixth Amendment to the Constitution. It pushed the moderate Tamil People into the clutches of the terrorists. It alienated our traditional neighbour, India. In 1983 we had an army of only 14-15,000. Today, we have over a lakh. No one can estimate the loss of life and property.

Just a few months prior to “Black July”, in October, 1982 about eight months prior to “Black July”, we saw how the Tamil people used the secret ballot, voted in the North and the East. Despite a boycott campaign of the Tamil United Liberation Front (TULF) and other Tamil groups, over 50-80% of the Tamil people of the North and East went to the polls. Even in Jaffna, over 50% cast their votes. This is the most significant, that 60% of the people, out of those who voted, cast their votes to Sinhalese candidates. Our candidate, Hector Kobbekaduwa, coming from a feudal family in Kandy, secured the highest vote. That is remarkable. In Vavuniya over 85% voted for Sinhalese candidates. Trincomalee 89% Batticaloa 60%, Digamadulla 95%. This was the response of the people of the North and East to the Sinhalese leaders, just eight months prior to 1983. Let the people on the South note this stark fact of history. All this goodwill evaporated after “Black July”. The entirety of the Tamil people was pushed, nay driven, into the clutches of the LTTE.

### **Role of Media during black July**

Another important aspect concerns the role of the media during this “Black July” period. There was a lot of disinformation, distortions, exaggerations, inflammatory bloating of events: they all led to an escalation of domestic violence. I would specially refer to a newspaper that is no longer in print, that of the Dawasa Gruop. Much before “Black July” on 17 July 1983, there was a headline, “Uthure Thrasthawadaya madinna Thawath Thrasthawadayak”, (Translation: Top Counter Northern Terrorism, there is going to emerge another Terrorism). It was a banner headline. This newspaper went to the extent of stating that after the 22nd of July a very strong course of action will be taken to exterminate or to defeat terrorism. It significantly mentions the date, “after 22nd and 23rd”.



There should be a proper balance between freedom and responsibility. This was observed in the breach, particularly by the Sinhalese editorialists. It is my position that, as much as the politicians in this country, both sides, the media too, are responsible for the present position in this country. If you do some research work from 1947 to 2001, on the media, you will come to the correct conclusion that the media too contributed to the present problem.

### **Ordinary people are not communalist**

I wish to make one more observation Ordinary people, in our country, either Sinhalese, Tamil or Muslim, are not chauvinistic or communalist. Acts of ethnic violence, even a semblance of it cannot take place, unless there had been some political leadership or sponsorship at some level.

Ours is the only country in the world where there is no Broadcasting Authority and a Broadcasting Act imposed. As far as the private sector is concerned, there is nothing to govern them. There are no guidelines, there are no standards, there are no criteria, there are no regulations. There is complete freedom with little or no responsibility. In a multi-cultural society like ours, if the media is not going to behave in conformity with those concepts, you will not be able to expect what really is sought from them in maintaining national unity or national integration. You will not succeed. That's why I say that it is absolutely necessary to ensure the cultural security of the country and it can be done. The biggest role can be played by the media.

I am happy, that at least now, all the political parties have realised the need for some political solution. There is only one party, out of 49 parties in the country, which does not. There is only one party, which says that we must have a military solution, a pure military solution. All the other parties take up the position that they accept there is an ethnic question, they accept the fact that a solution should be found and it must be a political solution. Terrorism, you can curtail through military means, to some extent, but the problem cannot be solved. In the case of international terrorism it is also the same."

Unless a Palestinian State is set up there won't be peace in the Middle East. Israel was set up in 1948. Simultaneously a decision was taken to set up a Palestinian state. 58 years have gone. Palestinians are without a state and Israel is a very big, a very wealthy country today. Unless you tackle that problem, you won't be able to solve it, though militarily, you can have all the sophisticated equipment. I apply that argument to our country. You have to find a solution and through that can you win over the Tamil people, the Tamil speaking people onto our side. There is no other solution.

### **Media should not incite people in a multi-ethnic country**

My view my personal conviction is that the media contributed to a great extent to committing crime, not only in this country, but in the whole world. That is why I am taking the position that media is yet another industry. It could be another

industry but we cannot allow it run like another chocolate factory or a biscuit factory. We are dealing with communicating with people. Radio stations have 20 odd channels. We are dealing with 18 million population daily, round the clock. The government is unable to control them, they are more powerful than the government. In a multi-ethnic country they should behave in a way to promote national unity, promote national integration, and not to incite the people.

I shall give an example in Sinhala. "*Pathareta dhaanawa Muslim minihek ahuwuna horek. Dhan, Muslim kiyalla vadak na ne. Ayee ehemea hiyanne? Ayee Dravida Thradhavadiyek kiyanne.*" (Trans: The papers report that a Muslim thief had been caught. It is of no use to report that a Muslim thief had been caught. It is of no use to report that he is a Muslim man. Why is such a report made? Why say that an arrested man is a Tamil terrorist?) When you say a Tamil terrorist, the connotation, the meaning sent in the message is that fellow is a Tamil. Whether he is a Tamil or Sinhalese that fellow is a thief but you don't say *Sinhala horek. Ahuwuna. Paththere kohewath kiyala ne. Kohewath liyala ne. Sinhala Thrasthewadeyek ahuwuna?* (Trans: No where is it said a Sinhalese robber was caught. No where do the papers report that a Sinhala terrorist was caught.) Then JVP *kale Sinhala Thrasthawadi Kiyala dhamme ne.* They did not say Sinhalese terrorists did it when the JVP was caught. That was reported as an unknown man or various other terms were used. That is why I am speaking of responsibility.

No regulations are necessary really: the media proprietors, the media barons, if they want to do it, they can. But they never want to do it. They will never do it unless some standard criteria are set up by an authority, a Broadcasting Authority. In the United Kingdom there is a Broadcasting Authority. Sri Lanka is the only country in the whole world where there is no Broadcasting Authority. There is a free movement, full freedom of the wild ass is available for the media. They may behave but not as far as ethnic relations are concerned. We should not allow the media to tamper with that. This is what we are proposing. This is my point of view. The media can come out against the government, it can topple the government but it should not do anything to disturb ethnic relations. That is my point.

#### **Federal Party was created after the Citizenship Act**

If you examine the political scene in the North and East in the post independence period of Sri Lanka, you will observe along with the straining of ethnic relations the growth of a tendency amongst the Tamil - and even the Tamil speaking peoples - to sway from the mainstream of politics. From 1947 onwards you find this gradual moving away. Take the birth of the Tamil congress the birth of the Federal party. The federal party was created immediately after the Citizenship act the following day. Its creation was very important and very relevant.

The historical development was due to the failure on the part of the ruling parties to understand the genuine grievances of the Tamil people. In 1977, when the Jayawardena government was returned to power with a 5/6th majority, the people and the minorities reposed confidence in him. I quote from the same book under the heading "Problems of Tamil speaking people" page 296, that is, the manifesto

of the UNP, presented to the people in 1977. What does this manifesto say? It says, 'We shall strengthen the democratic institutions, we shall establish the rule of law, we shall see that the Members of Parliament, and the bureaucracy, will not be allowed to victimise the people for political reasons.' Wasn't the Sixth Amendment an action by which they have victimised the Tamil MP's for holding political beliefs, for political reasons. They were politically victimized.

It is after 'Black July', after the Sixth Amendment, that the TULE, the moderate Tamil party lost its base in the North. It is these conditions that created a man like Prabakaran. I think Prabakaran should be eternally grateful to Mr. J. R. Jayawardena for having passed that legislation, having created all these conditions. Prabakaran must erect a statue for J. R. in the North to respect and worship him day and night.

### **Cultural fears must be erased**

It is my understanding that there is a gross injustice done to the country, a gross historical injustice. I'll enumerate the failures. We have had the B- C Pact a failure. The Dudley Senenayake - Chelvanayagam Agreement - a failure because we did not address the genuine grievances of the Tamil speaking people. We are also a party to it, self - critically. I'll say the 1978 constitution was a failure with all the promises given in the Manifesto, the Thirteenth Amendment had to be imposed from the outside, by Rajiv Gandhi. The collapse of the North - Eastern administration, we tried an experiment but under President Premadasa they chased away and it collapsed. The collapse of the LTTE - Premadasa talks, the collapse of the PA - LTTE talks. There is mutual fear. Mutual suspicion. We have to erase cultural fears. this distrust between the Sinhalese and Tamil, the Tamils and Muslims, and the Sinhalese and Muslims. Unless this is eradicated, you will not be able to find peace with these conditions. These conditions should be created by the ruling party.

Finally, I'll say that I am more concerned with the appalling silence of the good people than the misdeeds of the wicked. I expect the Truth Commission to bring sanity to the good people, inquire why they are keeping silent, get them to come out, wake them up and try to solve the problem.

### **Unscientific history is being taught**

I believe the reality, as it exists now, you can't unmake things you have made earlier. Who knows who came first whether Tamil or Sinhalese? That is immaterial. We are all living here, at least from the Thirteenth Century. We are all living here. At least that fact is correct. We all know it. Most of this suspicion, distrust, misconception, all have arisen from unscientific history that has been taught to our people. Yes, unscientific history.

There is so much confusion, so much of misconception and distrust here. It has been built over generations and generations. It is also so among the Tamil community, it is so among the Muslim community. We are in a multi - ethnic society. That

is why, at least among the intellectuals, the educated people, among the good people, there should be sanity. But my impression is the ordinary Sinhalese and Tamil man, are not chauvinistic. It is the middle - class the upper class of all three communities, who are arousing communalism and trying to destroy this country, not the ordinary worker, the ordinary Sinhalese and Tamil worker. They live together nothing happens to them. It is the so called upper and middle classes who are rousing others for greener pastures, they are the people doing it, that is my understanding."

253. Mr. A. Ramiah, General Secretary, Ceylon Plantations Union gave evidence. He said :

"During the July 1983 riots, his wife's sister's husband, an assistant Lecturer at the Moratuwa University was killed at Kalubowila, Dehiwala. In Badulla, meanwhile his father-in-law's house was burnt and his father-in-law Dr. Jesudason Nadarajasingham died. His mother-in-law died the following year consequent to the shock. His eldest son who was studying at St. Thomas College, Bandarawela, was moved out to a temporary camp, following the attacks on the house. His second son, a three - year - old child, staying with his grand parents lost an eye due to the attack on the house. His wife had two brothers. Both lost all their properties due to the riots. One died and the other brother left the country for good. He said, that like in Germany where the Nazi ideology caused catastrophe, in Sri Lanka too, there was an "ideology' behind these riots."

He referred to a visit to a refugee camp in the area with Mr. Sarath Muttetuwegama, MP. Thereafter they also visited a Buddhist monk in the area. After these visits, Mr. Sarath Muthettuwegama asked me,

"Do you know what they were telling me in Sinhala? If the Tamil Community wants, they can live as second class citizens. Otherwise, you cannot live peacefully."

I told him that, "I understood the message. This is the ideology behind the riots."

254. Mr. Ramiah further said:

"Whereas in Germany, after the 2nd World War, there was concerted effort to fight "racism and the "super - nation theory" in Sri Lanka, these theories are allowed to spread. Riots can take place even in the future, because sections of the population are told that riots are justified. Those who take the law into their own hands also gain financially."

"The government is morally bound to protect the people and their property. However, there is no way to compensate when a life is lost. But at least, the economic motivations behind the riots such as wrongful gain, must be eliminated. The government must pay full compensation as a means of preventing riots in the future, Mr. Ramiah asserted.

### Sections of the then ruling party and Sinhala media behind riots

There are large sections of the Sinhalese who wish to live in peace. The Sinhalese and others have helped a number of Tamils in distress during the riots. It is a small minority amongst them, who engineer these riots. The engineers might not have anticipated the magnitude of the final outcome.

Sections of the then ruling party were behind the riots. The Sinhala media is also guilty of this. It is important to not only fight for compensation but also against racial superiority inferiority and discrimination", he concluded.

255. **Mr. Kandiah Neelakandan**, Attorney -at-Law, General Secretary of the All Ceylon Hindu Congress gave evidence. He said, 'successive governments discriminated against the minorities.' He highlighted the main issues, namely:

1. Language Policy ;
2. Deprivation of Citizenship to Plantation families ;
3. Colonization of the North - east provinces by the Sinhalese ;
4. Standardization for admission to Universities ;
5. Attitude of government servants and politicians towards minorities.

He analysed these issues in greater detail. He referred in addition to the extensive damage and destruction caused to Hindu Temples in the country and urged the Commission to consider adequate compensation. He also submitted the need to enact legislation that will debar anyone including the police and armed force personnel from violating the sanctity of the Temples by entering with their boots or shoes on thereby desecrating the temple. The cost of cleaning and purifying the Temple by conducting "Kumbabishekam" is very high Mr. Neelakandan said.

### Media whipping-up anti-minority feelings

He also referred to the damning role of the media in whipping up anti - minority feelings in the country and the need to legislate to prevent such acts.

256. The following further remedies have been recommended by the All Ceylon Hindu Congress in their written representations dated 12 November, 2001:

- \* There should be a political solution to satisfy the aspirations of the Tamils, a majority of whom are Hindus;
- \* Any type of propaganda on racial or religious basis should be banned;
- \* Sri Lanka should be a secular country giving freedom and equal rights to all religions;
- \* Equal opportunities to all irrespective of race of religion should be assured.

- \* Recruitment to all public and semi - public institutions should be guaranteed in proportion to the ethnic ratio;
- \* Tamil remains an official language only on the statute books. Tamils should be able to carry out work in government departments and the courts in the Tamil language;
- \* Suitable legislative and administrative measures should be introduced to arrest violations of human rights based on racial or religious basis.

#### **Remove human right violators from public office**

257. We now wish to refer to a report of the TRC of El Salvador. The Truth Commission of El Salvador in its report (15.03.1993) to the United Nations on the violations of human rights in El Salvador between 1980 and 1991, have made wide ranging recommendations aimed at removing human right violators from public offices, reforming the justice system and the armed forces as well as to promote human rights democracy, the rule of law and national reconciliation.

258. On national reconciliation, the El Salvador Truth Commission has recommended as follows:

*"The Commission believes that justice also demands that the victims of human rights violations by all sides in the war be publicly recognized and given material compensation. The report lists the names of more than 18,000 victims it received testimony on. The report calls for a special fund to be established for this purpose. It will be given resources by the government and be supported by a recommendation that one per cent of all foreign aid be directed to the fund. the Commission expresses the hope that the international community will assist the government of El - Salvador to carry out this recommendation. A national monument should be erected, listing the names of all victims of the war. A national annual holiday should be declared to remember the dead and celebrate reconciliation".*

#### **Convince Security Forces - No secrecy, no cover-up**

259. Justice Albie Sachs, Judge of the Constitutional Court of South Africa, in a recent address (30.01.2000) on the South African Truth Commission had this to say:

*"How do we prevent these things from recurring in the future? Part of the answer is to convince the security forces that they cannot expect secrecy and cover - up in the future. The security forces must never feel that they can rely on being protected by the state, come what may. The TRC has achieved this at least for our generation.*

*Another part of the answer is to develop a new culture in the country at large. The TRC process has sunk into the consciousness of the nation. Hopefully the report will be integrated into school curricula and its conclusions will*

*radiate South african thinking generally. Evil and cruelty must be seen for what they are; protecting the state against some imagined terrible evil from outside cannot justify it violating all moral norms and committing greater evils itself.*

*A third safeguard comes from having strong institutions in place dedicated to defending Fundamental Human Rights. Our constitution gives great significance to such institutions, One of them is the Constitutional Court, of which I have the honour to be a member."*

260. In August 1983, within a month of the communal violence of July 1983, the **International Commission of Jurists** republished a report on "Ethnic Conflict and Violence in Sri Lanka" by Prof. Virginia A. Leary after her mission to Sri Lanka for the ICJ following the communal clashes of July - August 1981.

In republishing, the ICJ updated the report with a Supplement prepared by the ICJ staff, on the ethnic violence of July 1983, in Sri Lanka. The updated ICJ report states as follows:

*"After the general election in which Mr. Jayawardena came to power, the TULF became the main opposition party in the Parliament. In May 1979, the Parliament approved a Bill banning the Liberation Tigers" and empowering the President to proscribe any organization which advocated the use of violence or was engaged in any unlawful activity. The TULF and the Sri Lanka Freedom Party (SLFP) opposed the Bill on the ground that it could be used for suppressing all political opposition. In reply the Prime Minister, Mr. Premadasa, gave assurances that the new law would not be used against democratic and law abiding organizations and that the government did not suspect the TULF of being behind the "Liberation Tigers".*

#### **Sending refugees to North - significant step towards partition**

*Paradoxically, the government's action in threatening to ban the TULF and in sending Tamil refugees to the North is a significant step towards a de facto partition of the country. The implications are very grave for the future.*

*The increase in population in the North due to the influx of the refugees from the south will increase the pressure on resources including land, water, food and employment opportunities. In such a situation it appears that the Tamils will be left without any representatives or any party to negotiate their demands.*

*The communal violence of July 1983, compounded by government ineffectiveness and illegal counter - violence by the armed forces has resulted in the death of hundreds of Tamils, rendered thousands homeless, caused a major refugee movement to the North of the island and devastated the economy of the country.*

*It is clear that animosity between the Sinhalese and Tamil communities has now reached a level which makes the role of the government exceptionally difficult. The actions of the government during the recent violence appear to have been responsive to pressures from the armed forces and the majority Sinhalese community. Yet, the expressed desire of the government to maintain a united country can only be expressed desire of the government to maintain a united country can only be accomplished if the government represents the entire population and affords equal protection to all, not only to the Sinhalese majority”.*

261. According to Christian Tomuschat, the Coordinator of the Guatemala Truth Commission,

*“No one can today ensure that the immense challenge of reconciliation through truth can be met with success. In order to do so, the historic facts must be recognized and assimilated into each individual consciousness and the collective consciousness”.*

(Quoted by Robert I. Rotberg in Truth Commission and the Provision of “Truth, Justice and Reconciliation from “The Atrocity Findings: The Historic Facts Must be Recognized,” New York Times, 26 February 1999)

#### Genuine fears and false misconceptions

262. Apart from recognizing historic facts, there are also inescapable realities that need to be understood. One such reality, which has contributed to the spread of genuine fears as well as false misconceptions is the geographical location of Sri Lanka, a comparatively small island, within close proximity to the vastly huge Indian sub - continent. India has a population ratio of 100 Indians to 2 Sri Lankans, Acutely compounded from Sinhala perspectives by the presence, within a range of two hours by boat across the Palk Straits, of a population of over 50 million Tamils in South India with ethnic Links to the 1.2 million Tamils in North and East Sri Lanka.

263. Another reality is the strategic location of Sri Lanka in the Indian Ocean, which had over the centuries evoked on this Island more than a casual interest amongst the world’s powers of the time. Having been successively ruled by foreign powers namely the Portuguese, the Dutch and the British, the people of this country had to endure many facts of Divide and Rule” policies that best served the interests of foreign powers, contributing to the emergence of communal and at times caste politics from as early as the first half of the 19th century.

264. Prof. K. M. de Silva, in his article titled, “Some Early Pioneers in the Agitation for Elective Representation In the Universal Franchise, 1931 - 1981, the Sri Lankan Experience (Commemorative Volume) states at page 4:

*“ In retrospect, it would appear that Colebrooke’ s concept of the role of the Council was too restrictive. For the really remarkable feature of*



*the Legislative Council established in Sri Lanka in 1883 was not so much the existence of an official majority, as the presence of unofficials.*

*Unofficial representation, as it existed in Sri Lanka in the 19th century, was nominated representation, that is to say, appointment by the Governor. And nomination was on a communal basis. This was natural because the whole point of the Council was to elicit knowledge of local conditions: the ratio was fixed by convention as three Europeans and one each from Sinhalese, Tamils and Burghers though there were quite often deviations from this pattern with regard to the nomination of Sinhalese, Tamils and Burghers on this precise ratio. (Emphasis ours)*

265. **Dr. R. A. Ariyaratne**, (University of Colombo) in his contribution to the Commemorative Volume referred to earlier, has this to say:

‘But the immediate appearance of a serious communal rift in the reform movement was prevented by a number of fortuitous circumstances. For one thing, the subsequent decision of the secretary of state following Mccallum’s recommendation to grant an additional Tamil representative considerably allayed their fears of a possible Sinhalese domination of the unofficial representation. More significant was the totally unexpected result in the election to the educated Ceylonese seat, where the rival candidates were Ponnambalam Ramanathan, a Tamil leader and Marcus Fernando, a Sinhalese. The high educational franchise restricted the electorate to 2,957, of them the majority were Sinhalese. Since those who qualified for the burgher electorate were barred from voting in the educated Ceylonese electorate, the Sinhalese would have had no difficulty in electing their representative had the contest been strictly on communal lines. But on the contrary, Ramanathan was elected with an overwhelming majority.

‘On the face of it, Ramanathan’s victory seemed to testify to the generosity of the Sinhalese and was solid proof of Tamil-Sinhalese harmony. But interpretation differed as to how deep unity ran. No doubt Ramanathan’s distinguished personality had considerable effect in swaying Sinhalese voters from the less prominent Fernando. Equally significant was the caste rivalry that lay not far beneath the surface between the *goyigamas* and *karavas* to which Ramanathan and Fernando belonged respectively. Mccallum had no doubt that the election was fought purely on caste lines, the *goyigama* Sinhalese who loathed to see a *karava* being elevated to a place of political prominence putting their weight behind Ramanathan, a view shared by his colonial Secretary, Hugh Clifford.

“Whatever the motivating factor, communalism was evidently not the predominant issue, as was shown in the next election in 1917 when Ramanathan won again - but this time in a contest with a *goyigama* candidate. If communal sentiments had been uppermost in the minds of the Sinhalese elite, the Sinhalese candidate would not have been subjected to so ignominious a defeat.

“By demonstrating that the Sinhalese were not using their numerical strength for their exclusive benefit to the detriment of the Tamils, the outcome of the

election helped to allay Tamil fears. Nevertheless, there was one unforeseen but deeply significant consequence. Although Ramanathan was elected on a non-communal vote, the number of Tamils in the Legislative Council was in practice raised to three, giving them parity with the Sinhalese. While allowing it to assuage their deeper fears the Tamils seized upon the result as confirmation of their permanent right as confirmation of their permanent to be represented on an equal footing with the Sinhalese despite their numerical inferiority. In their subsequent memoranda they invariably cited the advantageous position they enjoyed between 1911 and 1920 to buttress the demand for maintaining a communal ratio in representation."

266. Prof. K. M. de Silva, in another contribution titled, "*Constitutional Reform and Elective Representation in the 1920's*" published in the same Commemorative Volume states at page 38:

*"The prime beneficiary of the shifts and changes in the political scene was Manning. The initiative was now unmistakably with him and he seized it with unconcealed pleasure to fashion the complete discomfiture of the Congress. In this he had Ramanathan as his collaborator. In mid - November, 1921 two conferences were held in a desperate bid at reconciliation between the Sinhalese and Tamil leadership but these broke down because of one crucial issue - the Tamils were not prepared to relinquish their claim to a special reserved seat in the Western Province. Manning's political instincts were as sharp as ever and throughout 1922 and 1923 he contrived to keep this issue alive with occasional but well timed public expressions of support for the Tamils on it. The support of other minority groups was more easily obtained. Their political survival depended on the continuation of communal representation and they viewed the Congress demand for a legislature in which a clear majority of members were to be representatives of territorial electorates as a threat to their interests."*

267. Throughout this period, communal representation and communal politics in the then available political process had remained a determining factor. In 1931 the Donoughmore Commissioners, nearly a hundred years after the Legislative Council of 1833, made a bold effort to abolish communal representation.

268. The Donoughmore Commissioners stated that "It is our opinion, that only by its abolition will it be possible for the diverse communities to develop together a true national unity. But seventy years after the Donoughmore Constitution, the country is still grappling with the problems on a scale far more serious than ever before. The trend, the tone and the direction in which the country was destined to proceed had already been set.

269. The introduction of universal suffrage in 1931 continued to exacerbate ethnic tensions. According to Prof. K. M. de Silva, 'Throughout the period 1931 to 1946, the voting rights of Indians resident in the island continued to be a highly sensitive political issue. No one was more closely identified with, out lining the Sinhalese attitude on this and in defining their priorities on the Indian question than D. S. Senanayake over the whole period from the late 1920 s to 1948. (page 78 - Commemorative Volume) .

### Leaders of the Nation set in communal moulds

270. As we received independence in 1948, the leaders of the nation were already set in communal moulds, against a background of over a century of communal manoeuvrings.

271. In the very first year of Sri Lanka gaining independence, the Ceylon Citizenship Act became law on 15th November, 1948, followed by the Indian and Pakistani Residents (Citizenship) Act of 1949 prescribing very difficult conditions for acquiring citizenship, while the Ceylon Parliamentary Elections (Amendment) Act of 1949 restricted franchise only to citizens of Ceylon. The vast majority of estate sector Indian Tamils lost the franchise following these laws.

272. Thus ethnicity continued to be the central theme around which the political issues of the newly independent nation began to revolve. Ethnicity continued to pervade political thoughts and influence political actions. This undoubtedly was unfortunate legacy inherited by accidents of history.

273. There existed, a crying need to break away from this historical chain, which years later were to take Sri Lanka towards death, destruction and separation. Regrettably, this nation did not yield statesmen who could have prevented the predicament of a nation in disintegration.

274. The entry of organized parties on the political scene, however minimized the break up of the people upon ethnic lines because political parties began enveloping within their ranks, members of all ethnic groups. Thus national political parties became the common platform for all, uniting everyone together, like in Sports Clubs and similar institutions. But the overriding communal undertones in these very same political parties as well as the resultant emergence of communal groups and ethnic parties continued to destroy all prospects of national unity and amity for a long time more.

275. Notwithstanding these limitations, the need for governments to act justly and fairly by all its citizens remains a universal desideratum. Governments and all those exercising state power must resist the temptation to discriminate amongst citizens based on grounds of race, religion, language or caste indeed on any ground. It must however, advance the backward and disadvantaged groups within its jurisdiction.

### Every citizen must feel that he has nothing to fear from his own government

276. Governments may be elected by a majority of votes but it should remain to the last, the government of every person. Every citizen must feel that he has nothing to fear from his own government and that there would not be any need for him to go in search of other governments for his safety or security. Needless for us to emphasize how paramount it is, for the protection of our own borders that every citizen must feel assured that he is neither a second nor third class citizen.

277. Governments at the helm alone, cannot achieve such desired objectives. The executive, the public service, the police and the armed forces must share these common goals. The truth is that a large number of them, invariably unwittingly, have contributed in no small measure for the divisions in Sri Lanka. They must cease to promote separatism by the process of perpetuating distinctions and discriminations. They should do so without any delay. They must realise that with every act of discrimination they commit a "Sri Lankan" may cease to exist and a communalist may come into existence. They must therefore forthwith cease to contribute to the division of the country, by eschewing all forms of discrimination.

#### **Schools should not perpetrate ethno - religious discriminations**

278. Schools also should not perpetuate ethno-religious discriminations whilst respecting religious and cultural distinctions. They must recognize that distinctions do not justify discrimination.

279. The Media has a singularly unique role in achieving national unity and reconciliation. The media wields enormous power; it can unite as well as divide the people. The media must discipline its ranks to prevent the commission of any mischief in the performance of its role.

280. As we look back over the past five decades or so of independence, the question arises whether our governments, our political parties our leaders our public service, our police, our armed forces, our media, our schools, our universities and each of us have let down our country? Have we not failed to break that vicious historical chain of ethnic confrontations?

#### **Some questions that require honest answers**

281. Should we not answer honestly the questions that are being raised?

Did we handle correctly the problems of citizenship and language?

Did we handle justly and fairly the problems of providing equal educational opportunities in our schools and in our universities to all?

Did we do the right thing in the distribution of state resources without committing any discrimination?

Did we do the right thing in dealing with communal violence that led to deaths and destruction?

Did we promote genuine national unity?

Are we not accountable for failing to answer some of these questions honestly?

Though we have resolved some of these wrongs, several still remain.

282. For national unity and reconciliation to be achieved, many more Truth Commissions need to be established to organize and sustain the process of reconciliation and to pave the way for national unity. Unveiling truth, achieving national unity, ethnic reconciliation, peace, love and justice in a free State must be recognized as an on - going process.

283. It is to be noted that the **The South African Truth Commission** had a working staff of over 750 to assist the Commission. They had specialists and other advisors. The media gave their work nation-wide coverage which enabled the country, as a whole to participate effectively and positively in the process of reconciliation as well as in rebuilding trust confidence and hope amongst the mass of the people.

#### **Need for fresh Truth Commissions**

284. That **The Presidential Truth Commission of Sri Lanka** did not have all the facilities is no reason for diluting the process. But as our mandate comes to a close in end September 2002, one year and one month after the warrant constituting the Commission was issued by Your Excellency, we have to emphasize the necessity to setup fresh Commissions that would continue this mission of healing and sustaining over a period of years in the immediate future, the difficult process of reconciliation and the challenging task of rebuilding national unity.

285. A vital factor that requires to be kept in mind is that the **South African Truth and Reconciliation Commission** was established in 1995, after the "tyranny of apartheid" was removed in 1994, and Nelson Mandela had come out, after 27 years in prison to take over as the first President of South Africa. President Nelson Mandela himself gave leadership to the national healing process with a TRC headed by Bishop Desmond Tutu. It is to be noted that apartheid in South Africa as an organized movement was already dead, when the TRC commenced its work of national reconciliation.

286. In Sri Lanka the situation is entirely different, with ethnic tensions still prevailing. Questions of suspicions are still present. None of the confrontational issues have been, as yet addressed. No effort has been made to create the background in the country essential to promote peace negotiations. For a nation already confounded by political conflicts, ethnic confrontations and constitutional turmoil, the mood for reconciliation can be unnecessarily edged away, by failing to effectively support national reconciliation at the grass root level as an on going process parallel to the peace negotiations.

#### **Negotiations must take people into confidence**

287. We must re-emphasize that the process of negotiations, if it is to succeed, must take the people into confidence. Any break down in trust and confidence amongst the people could result in the process of national reconciliation being jettisoned.

Truth  
recon-  
ditional  
recog-

had a  
other  
ed the  
econ-  
ss of

have  
omes  
arrant  
apha-  
on of  
diffult

frican  
the  
out,  
frica.  
ocess  
id in  
com-

still  
onal  
ack-  
al-  
onal  
ling  
on

s to  
nfi-  
tion

288. We do therefore recommend that :-

1. the President and the Prime Minister must give leadership to a new era of ethnic reconciliation and national unity;
2. the support and participation of the people of the country in the towns and the villages must be obtained and sustained by the country's leaders for the above purpose;
3. legislation similar to the South African, Promotion of National Unity and Reconciliation Act No. 32 of 1995 be enacted to establish the legal framework for sustaining the process of ethnic reconciliation and to provide for the elimination of all forms of racism and ethnic related discriminations;
4. the leadership, support and cooperation of religious leaders, the civil society, the media, the schools the police and the armed forces be ensured in the process of reconciliation and national unity;
5. the national unity and ethnic amity be fostered with due regard and recognition for pluralism and diversity;
6. the establishment of a just and fair governance that will eliminate all forms of racism and discrimination be promoted with perpetrators of discrimination losing the right to hold any public office for specified periods of time;
7. the media be made to recognize that sections from amongst them did contribute to the sustenance of ethnic misgivings and that they have a major responsibility to support and promote national unity and ethnic reconciliation with due regard for pluralism and diversity advertising on media which fail to promote ethnic reconciliation must be discouraged by the State as well as the private sector;
8. the government must pay full compensation to the victims (or their dependents) on the basis of the Commission's Recommendations by publicly recognizing the trauma and sufferings the victims had to endure and as a warning to the perpetrators that economic destruction will be fully compensated: and strongly recommend that the government includes legal interest on the determined compensation as from 1983 till payment in full;
9. an Investigation Division of officers with police powers functioning entirely under the direction of the Human Rights Commission to apprehend and prosecute persons holding public office acting in violation of fundamental rights with particular reference to ethnic related discriminations be established with adequate legal powers;

10. the Human Rights Commission, in all cases on its own or upon complaints of unsatisfactory investigations by Police relating to ethnic violations or issues must take over and conduct investigations through its Investigations Division and ensure appropriate action;
11. the perpetrators of ethnic violence whether they be members of the public the police, the armed forces or the public service be prosecuted whenever any ethnic violence occurs in the future. The government must on the occurrence of any ethnic violence in the future forthwith appoint a high level National Committee reflecting as far as possible an equivalent number of persons of all ethnic groups and comprising the attorney - General, Inspector General of Police Service Commanders, Secretaries to the relevant Ministries, Retired Judges of the Appellate and High Courts Chairman of Human Rights Commission, the Civil Society and the Media charged with the task of ensuring immediate action on all ethnic related violence. The National Committee must ensure that there is no cover - up of prosecutions;
12. Truth Commissions be appointed mandating to cover ethnic violence during the post - 1984 period and to compensate all victims of ethnic violence and to achieve national unity and ethnic reconciliation.

289. We need to refer now to another matter of relevance. Following the communal disturbances of August 1977, retired Chief Justice Mr. M. C. Sansoni was appointed as a One - man Commission. In the concluding part of the Report (*Sessional Paper No. VII of 1980*) he quoted from the evidence of Rev. Fr. Paul Caspersz S. J.

*"The immediate solution lies in all the leaders of our country, the leaders of all political parties, of all communal and religious groups getting together to provide the climate for the rapid socio - economic development of our country. These leaders today belong to the middle class. They must realise that communal conflicts which since 1956 have been recurring periodically, are inimical to the socio - economic progress of our country. Indeed they are inimical to the interests of the middle class itself. The leaders of the majority community and the majority religious group must realise that the minorities have their rights and that the redress of their grievances need to be given full weight. They must remember that parliamentary democracy is the rule of the majority with the consent of the minorities. The leaders must start their deliberations at a round - table or elsewhere on two unalterable premises. The first is that the country should never again witness events such as those of August 1977, which are a disgrace to a country which professes to live by the ideals of Metta, Karuna, Mudita, premise is that the country should not fritter away its time and its energy in inter - communal violence and conflict while the main task that waits it is the liberation of all our people from poverty, unemployment, hunger ignorance and disease."*

290. Though we have not had the benefit of listening to the evidence of Fr. Caspersz in these proceedings we quote with approval his observations - for it has great relevance to the process of national reconciliation and ethnic harmony.

291. But sadly those and other valuable comments observations and studies have been lying dormant, much to the detriment of this country, which had witnessed many incidents of communal disturbances thereafter including the major communal conflagration of July 1983, which could be rightly termed the watershed in the current history of inter communal relations in this country.

292. Before we conclude we need to quote from the testimony of Dr. Rajan Hoole, (the author of "SRI LANKA: THE ARROGANCE OF POWER - MYTHS DECADENCE AND MURDER" July 2001). He said in simple language -

*"In my view the Sinhalese and the Tamils must live together. If the Tamils cannot live with the Sinhalese then they cannot live with anybody else.*

*At the same time, the Sinhalese must realize that the Tamils have grievances and that these grievances must be resolved."*

2003  
aints  
ns or  
tiga-  
  
public  
hen-  
t on  
high  
num-  
eral,  
the  
courts  
edia  
lated  
- up  
  
dur-  
ethnic  
  
com-  
was  
report  
Paul  
  
rs of  
er to  
ntry.  
that  
are  
are  
ority  
rities  
full  
f the  
de-  
The  
e of  
y the  
ritter  
the  
erty,



## Chapter - 6

### ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

293. Finally, we wish to express our gratitude and appreciation for the contribution the Commission received from Messrs. (1) Dr. A. T. Ariyaratne, Chairman, Sarvodaya Movement, Sri Lanka, (2) Dr. Godfrey Gunatillake, Chairman Human Rights Commission, (3) Dr. Uvais Ahamed, Principal Zahira College, (4) Rev. Fr. Mervyn Fernando. (5) Mr. D. E. W. Gunasekera, ex - Member of Parliament and former Chairman, Official languages Commission, (6) Mr. S. Sivananthan, Retired S. L. A. S. Officer, (7) Mr. Tilak Chandrasekera, Retired S. L. A. S. Officer, (8) Mr. A. Jayaratam, Secretary, Ministry of Rehabilitation, Reconstruction and Resettlement, (9) Ms Suriya Wickramasinghe, Secretary Civil Rights Movement of Sri Lanka, (10) Mr. Desmond Fernando P. C., (11) Prof M. S. L. Salgado. (12) Dr. Rajan Hoole, Mathematics Lecturer, University of Jaffna, (13) Mr. Lalanath de Silva, Attorney - at - Law and (14) Mr. Sabapathy Thillairajah of Bethesda U. S. A.

294. We are also thankful to Mr. S. M. J. Senaratne (*Retired SLAS Officer*) the Secretary to the Commission; Mr M. I. S. Ahamed (*Senior Assistant Secretary, Ministry Assisting Vanni Rehabilitation*) the Assistant Secretary; Mr. M. Somasundram and Mr. Tilak Chandrasekera (*Retired SLAS Officers*) who functioned as Resource Officers. A list of Staff Members is attached to this report.

295. A special word of appreciation is due to Mr. A. H. M. D. Nawaz, State Counsel, representing the Hon. Attorney - General in assisting the Commission by leading the evidence before the Commission.

296. We also extend our thanks to the Field Inquirers who ascertained the truth of the complaints received by the Commission. A list of the Field Inquirers engaged by the Commission is also attached herewith.

297. Thanks are also due to Mrs. D. S. Sakalasuriya, Mr. M. Z. M. Marzook and Mr E. Anandanadarajah the Sworn Interpreters who assisted the Commission in the proceedings; Mr. N. G. A. L. D. S. de Silva Wijesekera and Mr. K. J. A. Perera Editor, Hansard Parliament of Sri Lanka who assisted the Commission in transcribing the recorded proceedings of the Commission; Mr. V. M. Jesuthason (*retired SLAS Officer*) who edited the transcriptions of the proceedings. Thanks are due again to Mr. N. G. A. L. D. S. de Silva Wijesekera and Mr. V. V. Thiruchelvam who assisted the Commission by way of researching and retrieving all relevant news reports from the National Archives.

298. The dedicated role played by Mr. K. S. Shanmugam, Secretarial Assistant and the timely assistance by Miss Jeyagowry Singaram are commendable.

299. Acknowledgement and appreciation are due to the print and electronic media for the coverage and publicity given to the proceedings of the Commission.

300. Our profound respect to Her Excellency the President, Chandrika Bandaranaike Kumaratunga for reposing confidence in us and entrusting us with this task.

Dated this 30th day of September, 2002.

(Sgd.) **S. Sharvananda,**  
*Retired Chief Justice*  
Chairman

(Sgd.) **S. S. Sahabandu,**  
*Prssident's Counsel*  
Member

(Sgd.) **M. M. Zuhair,**  
*President's Counsel*  
Member

tribution  
vodaya  
s Com-  
Mervyn  
former  
. L. A.  
Mr. A.  
lemen,  
Lanka,  
Rajan  
a, At-

er) the  
retary,  
r. M.  
tioned

State  
ission

truth  
uirers

k and  
in the  
erera  
scrib-  
nason  
nanks  
lvam  
evant

stant

Mr. J. Jayatilaka	1
Prof. H. Weerasinghe	2
Mr. M. I. Silva	3
Mr. N. Singarasa	4
Mr. K. D. Fernando	5
Mr. A. A. Somaratne	6
Mr. K. L. B. Perera	7
Mr. R. Wijesekera	8
Mr. S. H. E. Aliver	9
Mr. A. Panchanawa	10
Mr. V. S. Perisavamy	11
Mr. S. Sumantharan	12
Mr. S. Kanapathipillai	13
Mr. M. C. V. Lloyd Cooray	14
Mr. H. S. K. de Silva	15
Mr. S. Kandassamy	16
Mr. A. D. Dharmaratne	17
Mr. W. K. Perera	18
Mr. P. B. Wasakoon	19
Mr. G. W. R. de Silva	20
Mr. S. Jayaman	21
Mr. S. S. Pathakota	22
Mr. H. H. Kumbura	23
Mr. R. C. de A. Weerasinghe	24
Mr. D. M. M. Meechan	25
Mr. H. H. M. M. M. M.	26
Mr. C. S. Silva	27
Mr. A. Jayawardena	28

**List of Staff Members**

<i>Name</i>	<i>Position</i>
1. Mr. S. M. J. Senaratne	Secretary to the Commission
2. Mr. M. Somasundram	Resource Officer (Documentation)
3. Mr. M. I. S. Ahamed	Asst. Secretary
4. Mr. Tilak Chandrasekera	Resource Officer (Compensation/ Solatium)
5. Mrs. W. M. R. A. Weerawarna	Administrative Officer
6. Mr. K. V. G. Wijegunaratna	Finance Assistant
7. Mr. K. S. Shanmugam	Secretarial Assistant
8. Mr. T. Thuraisingham	Public Relations Officer
9. Mr. P. Senaka Weerasinghe	Computer Operator
10. Mr. K. P. Weeraratna	Asst. Resource Officer (Compensation)
11. Miss Jeyagowry Singaram	Computer Operator
12. Mr. S. M. Chandrapala	Office Helper

**List of Inquirers engaged to assist the Commission in Field Inquiries**

1. Mr. L. D. Justion	Ganemulla
2. Prof. H. Weerasinghe	Nugegoda
3. Mr. M. L. Silva	Waskaduwa
4. Mr. M. Singarasa	Mount Lavinia
5. Mr. K. D. Fernando	Dehiwela
6. Mr. A.A. Somawardena	Dambadeniya
7. Mr. K. L. P. Perera	Moratuwa
8. Mr. R. Wijsekera	Bentota
9. Mr. S. H. L. Aliyar	Dehiwela
10. Mr. A. Punchihewa	Matugama
11. Mr. V. S. Periyasamy	Kandy
12. Mr. S. Sinnathurai	Colombo 04
13. Mr. S. Kanapathipillai	Dehiwela
14. Mr. M. C. V. Lloyde Cooray	Moratuwa
15. Mr. H. S. K. de Silva	Kandy
16. Mr. S. Kandasamy	Colombo 05
17. Mr. A. D. Dharmasena	Colombo 05
18. Mr. W. K. Perera	Avissawella
19. Mr. D. B. Warsakoon	Colombo 08
20. Mr. G. W. R. de Silva	Ambalangoda
21. Ms P. Narayanan	Colombo 13
22. Ms S. S. Palihakkara	Mulleriyawa New Town
23. Mr. Hemasiri Kuruppu	Tumbowila - Piliyandala
24. Mr. S. C. de A. Weerasiriwardena	Hanwella
25. Mr. D.M. M. Meegodage	Wattala
26. Mr. H. H. Mahroof	Etalai
27. Mr. G. S. Silva	Kalutara North, Kalutara
28. Mr. A. Jayawardena	Kiribathgoda, Kelaniya

- |                                |                          |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 29. Mr. T. M. R. Rasseedin     | Colombo 02               |
| 30. Mr. D. A. L. W. Ranasinghe | Negombo                  |
| 31. Mr. W. H. Dissanayake      | Udugampola               |
| 32. Mr. K. D. L. Nanayakkara   | Kelaniya                 |
| 33. Mr. W. P. Jayawardena      | Nugegoda                 |
| 34. Mr. T. A. Buddhadasa       | Kiribathgoda, Kelaniya   |
| 35. Mrs. S. P. Paramasamy      | Mount Lavinia            |
| 36. Mr. S. Sinniah             | Batticaloa               |
| 37. Mr. Siri Hettige           | Polgampola               |
| 38. Mr. W. Umagiliya           | Kalutara North, Kalutara |
| 39. Mr. D. Ethugala            | Ambepussa                |
| 40. Mr. S. J. Ratnayake        | Makola South, Makola     |
| 41. Mr. A. C. M. Sufian        | Colombo 06               |
| 42. Mr. K. Ragunathan          | Colombo 13               |
| 43. Mr. S. Wijewardena         | Pannipitiya              |
| 44. Capt. M. G. G. Mendis      | Pannipitiya              |
| 45. Mr. S. Sriskantharajah     | Dehiwela                 |
| 46. Capt. R. Dharmaratne       | Boralesgamuwa            |
| 47. Mr. T. Thiyagarajah        | Kalmunai 02              |

*Index**(Reference is to paragraph numbers)*

- Air Force - 101  
 Albie Sacks - 259  
 Alex Boraine - 6  
 Alexi Leo de Silva - 168, 169, 170, 171, 204, 212, 213  
 Alfred Duraiyappah - 59  
 All Ceylon Hindu Congress - 255, 256  
 All Party Conference - 46, 47, 48, 53, 57 to 62  
 Amirthalingam A.- 44, 62, 82, 84  
 Anandatissa de Alwis - 82, 114, 156  
 Ariyaratne, Dr. A. T. 105, 118, 246  
 Ariyaratne, R. A. - 265  
 Balasubramaniam, R. 69- 122  
 Bandaranaike - Chelvanayakam Pact - 32  
 Buddhist Revivalism - 42  
 Canagaratne - PC 2485 - 60  
 Causes - 18, 39, 40, 42, 43, 55, 56, 70 to 79, 81 to 96, 99 to 117, 142, 153 to 156, 174, 179, 184 197 to 212, 237 to 244  
 Censorship - 96, 99, 100, 107  
 Ceylon Workers Congress (CWC) - 37, 95  
 Chandrananda de Silva - 67, 75  
 Chandrika Bandaranaike Kumaratunga - 65  
 Chelvanayakam., S. J. V. - 27  
 Christian Tomuschat - 261  
 Citizenship Act, 1948 - 25  
 Civil Rights Movement (CRM) - 56, 184 to 196  
 Communist Party - 28, 95  
 Compensation - 216 to 228, Annexure iii (Vol II)  
 Compensation with interest - 226  
 Constitution - 1947 - 26  
 Constitution - 1978 (4 th Amendment) - 77  
 Constitution 1978 - 48, 50, 54  
 Constitution 1978 - 6 th Amendment - 116  
 Cuthbert Jansz 170, 177, 204  
 Cyril Mathew - 72, 75  
 Daily Telegraph London - 89, 94  
 Dawasa - 82, 83, 94, 113, 115, 156  
 Death toll - 109, 110  
 Desmond Fernando - 196  
 Disposal of dead bodies - 82, 90, 93, 157  
 District Councils - 35  
 District Development Councils Act, 1980 - 49, 55, 58, 59, 70, 73, 75  
 Douglas Liyanage - 86, 99  
 Dudley Senanayake - Chelvanayakam Pact - 35  
 Duraiswamy S. (Mrs.) - 63  
 Edward Gunawardena - 66, 92  
 Emergency Regulations - 56, 82, 90, 93, 94, 102, 104, 105, 106, 156, 157

*Index**(Reference is to paragraph numbers)*

- Ethnic Violence - 15  
 Ethnic Violence - 1958 - 15,33  
 Ethnic Violence - 1977 - 16, 39  
 Ethnic Violence - 1981 - 17  
 Ethnic Violence - 1983 - 18  
 Fareeda Begum (Ms) - 131  
 Federal Party - 29, 36, 37  
 Festus Perera - 72, 75  
 Fonseka M. S. (Ms) - 135  
 Fr. Paul Caspersz - 292  
 Gamini Dissanayake - 67, 72, 75, 85  
 Glimpses of World History by Pundit Jawaharlal Nehru - 117  
 Godfrey Gunatillake - 119, 247  
 Gopalasundaram M. - 148  
 Gunaratnam J. (Mrs.) - 123 to 127  
 Gunasekera D. E. W. - 142 to 144, 252  
 Hector Kobbekaduwa - 77  
 Historical settings - 23  
 Human Rights - 22, 56, 108, 210, 217  
 India - 42, 97, 107, 112, 113, 115, 262  
 Indian and Pakistani Residents (Citizenship) Act, 1949- 25  
 International Commission of Jurists (ICJ) - 56, 260  
 J. R. Jayawardena - 38, 48, 51, 53, 76,77, 79, 84, 89, 94, 103, 105, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116  
 Jaffna Public Library - 61, 63, to 76, 149  
 Justice K. D. de Silva - Navy Commission -11  
 K. M. de Silva - 264, 266, 269  
 Kanagarajasingham C. S. (Ms) 139  
 Kandiah Neelakandan - 147, 255  
 Kandiah, A. - 128  
 Kaneshamoorthy, K. 134  
 Kodeeswaran - 31  
 Kulathunge G. V. - 175, 176 to 182  
 Kunanayagam R. - 132  
 Kuttimany - 154, 168  
 L. T. T. E. - 76, 79, 81, 87, 149  
 Lalanath de Silva - 168, 172, 173, 174  
 Lanka Sama Samaja Party (LSSP)- 28  
 Leader of the Opposition - 44, 84  
 Mahajana Eksath Perumana (MEP) - 95  
 Mandate - Sri Lanka PTC - (ii) to (x) 19  
 Mudanayake Vs Sivagnanasundaram - 26  
 Muslims - 14, 45, 48, 87, 107  
 Nadarajah K. -138  
 Names of Prisoners killed on 25.7.83 and 27.7.83 - 214 and 215  
 Navy - 101

## Index

*(Reference is to paragraph numbers)*

- Nawa Sama Samaja Party (NSSP) - 114  
 Nawaz, A. H. M. D. - 298  
 Official Languages Act 1956- 30  
 Patricio Aywin - 7  
 Poopendranathan V- 137  
 Premadasa R. - 62, 83  
 Presidential Elections, 1982 -102  
 Prevention of Terrorism Act, 1979 50, 53  
 Public Security Ordinance - 82, 90, 157  
 Punchi Banda - PS 9716 - 60, 61, 72  
 Rajan Hoole - 85, 86, 295  
 Ramasamy S. - 133  
 Ramiah, A.- 130, 253, 254  
 Recommendations (1) 291; (2) 226 to 228; (3) 127  
 Reconciliation - 223, 229 to 244, 246 to 266, 267 to 295  
 Regional Councils Bill 1958 - 32  
 Religious clashes - 20  
 Rev. Fr. Mevyn Fernando - 248  
 Rev. Nicholas Ratnam - 98  
 Richard Goldstone - 5  
 Riots of 1915 - 14  
 Robert I Roberg 1, 2, 3, 4, 261  
 Salgado M, S. L. Dr. - 183- 208  
 Sansoni Commission - 39, 292  
 Sarath Muttetuwegama - 100, 104, 106  
 Saravanaperumal Yogarajah - 155, 158  
 Security - 42  
 Senaratne, S. M. J. - 297  
 Sivagurunathan R. 117, 146  
 Sivanandan, S. 120, 250, 251  
 Sri Lanka Freedom Party (SLEP) - 39, 45, 95  
 Sri Lanka Muslim Congress (SLMC) - 48  
 Standardisation for University Admissions - 34  
 "Sun" - 85  
 Sundaramoorthy, K. - 129  
 Supreme Court - 26, 31, 54  
 Suriya Wickremasinghe, Ms- 184 to 195, 213  
 Tamil Congress - 37  
 Tamil Eelam - 36, 44, 45, 78  
 Tamil Languages (Special Provisions) Act 1958 - 33  
 Tamil Militancy Terrorism - 43, 50, 51, 52, 55, 56, 57, 58, 78  
 Tamil United Liberation Front (TULE) 36, 37, 44, 45, 55, 58, 62, 72, 78, 79,  
 81, 82, 83  
 Thalagodapitiya W. - 14  
 The Church - 56  
 Thiagarajah, S. - 59, 70

*Index**(Reference is to paragraph numbers)*

- Thinnavelly retaliation - 99
- Thondaman S. - 37
- Ti'lak Chandrssekera - 145
- Tim Moore - 56
- Tissa Weeratanaga - 51, 69
- TRC - El Salvador - 257, 258
- TRC - Guatamala - 261
- TRC - South African - 5, 6, 8, 218, 226, 284
- TRC - Sri Lanka PTC - 9, 10, 11, 12, 285
- Truth Commissions 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 259, 261, 284, 285, 286
- United National Party (UNP) - 38, 44, 45, 46, 53, 57, 58, 72, 74, 76, 81, 82, 95, 156
- University of Ceylon, Peradeniya - 80
- Uvais Ahamed Dr. 121, 249
- Vaddukodai Resolution, 1976 - 36, 37
- Violence in Sri Lanka in brief - 13 to 19
- Virginia A. Leary - 260
- Vivekanandan K. K. - 136
- Welikade Prison - Administration Report - 174
- Welikade Prisons - 110, 152 to 215
- Wickremabahu Karunaratne - 114, 141
- Yogendra Duraiswamy - 63
- Yogeswaran V. - 61



**A summary of the Nature and Extent of Damage suffered by  
Victims of Violence (1981 to 1984)**

01. **V. Ganeshan, 25, Siripala Road, Mount Lavinia**- States that, he was an Asst. Controller of Explosives, Ministry of Defence and he was in occupation of premises No. 46, 36th Lane, Wellawatte, Colombo 06. On 25th July 1983 at about 3.00 p. m. mob armed with dangerous instruments broke the doors of his house and crashed in and removed valuable items from the house. Complainant had made entry at the Police Station subsequently with the list of items lost by him and values given. He seeks compensation. (Ref. 004)
02. **Mrs. S. Paramasamy, 91/3, Waidya Road, Dehiwala**- forwards a copy of a letter addressed to the Superintendent of Police Jaffna regarding the loss of her property and loss of lives when they were living in Dehiwela. The house had been burnt. Complainant had made an entry at the Police Station. She seeks compensation. (Ref. 005)
03. **I. J. A. Baliah, P. W. Rodrigo Estate Ltd., Elamulla- 20742, Padiyapella** states that, he lost all his belongings during July, 1983 at which time he was working at Halgolle Estate, Yatiyantota, managed by the Janatha Estate Development Board. He had made entry at the Police at that time and reported his loss to the Estate Management and got three month's salary advance. He has lost jewellery items, brassware items, furniture and fitting which he could not recover. (Ref. 007)
04. **K. Mariyappan, Kanapathiwatte Estate, Mavatura** States that his son Perumal disappeared during July, 27th, 28th in 1983. He was working at the time in a shop in Colombo and the address of the store is "Thirupathi Stores", No. 51, Bankshall Street, Colombo 11. His son is known as Rajalingam at home. but his registered name is Perumal. He was born on 22.06.1956. Complainant further states that they are still in search of him. (Ref. 008)
05. **P. M. A. Rasheed of 127, Masjidul Jamiah Road, Colombo 02**, States that his father P. I. Peer Mohamed was the owner of Hotel Bilal at Bristol Street, Colombo 01 which was burnt during the riot in 1983. the household items were looted (Ref. 010).
06. **K. K. Vivekananthan, 19/4-C, Pagoda Road, Nugegoda**- The writer a retired Government Servant states that he was one of the survivors of the 1983 riots. He states that there is a history of legacy left behind this violence. He would be happy to appear before the Commission and give an account of that happened before, during and after. His house was set on fire and all his belongings were burnt. He had stayed at Thurstan College and went to Jaffna by ship. Seeks compensation. (Ref. 013)

07. **Mrs. K. Mahalingam, No. 23, Fountain House Lane, Deans Road, Colombo 10-** States that she sustained severe loss due to damage to house and property and personal injuries during July 1983. She requests the Commission to identify the culprits and punish them. (*Ref. 016*)
08. **G. Krishnaraj, Railway Station- K. M. 6, Rambukpitiya, Nawalapitiya-** States that on the 29th July, 1983 about 30 people headed by a politician named Victor set his house ablaze (Photographs available of the burnt house) (*Ref. 017*)
09. **M. R. A. Nuhman, No. 22, Hildon Plance, Colombo 04-** The complainant states that his property along No. 20 and 22, Fourth Cross Street, Pettah, Colombo 11 was completely burnt and brought down during the July, 1983 communal riots. He has not been paid any compensation for the losses. Requests Compensation (*Ref. 019*)
10. **G. Balakrishna, No. 1/53, Sakkaran Kottuwa, Kahatapitiya, Gampola-** States that his house was burnt and destroyed during July 1983 riots. All the household items were looted. He and his family had to stay in the refugee camp (copy of camp certificate attached). So far he has not received compensation for the losses. Requests the Commission to inquire and pay adequate compensation (*Ref. 020*)
11. **C. P. Mahalingam, Nilambe Factory Diviison, Galaha-** States that he was employed as Asst, Supdt. of an Estate under the Sri Lanka Plantation Corporation. He and his family were victims of violence during 1981. Due to fear he had to take the family to India and left there for safety. When he came back, he lost his job. He is now jobless. He requests reasonable compensation to restructure his life. (*Ref. 021*)
12. **G. Luxman Silva, 101/6, Ananda Mawatha, Colombo 10-** State that as a result of 1983 violence his father lost the business premises (Elphinston Saloon). So far they could not regain suitable place to run the business. He is seeking relief. (*Ref. 022*)
13. **K. Nallarathnam, Principal, Bt/Thalankudah Sri Vinayagar Vid, Arayampathy-3, Kattankudy,** States that he was mercilessly attacked during the communal violence in July, 1983 when he was an Assistant Teacher at Bandarawela Tamil Maha Vidyalaya, He received injuries and lost all his belongings. He had applied for compensation to the Ministry of Rehabilitation on 03.12.1987, but so far no compensation received. He requires the Commission to arrange for his compensation. Copy of the correspondence attached. (*Ref. 024*)
14. **P. Murugesu, C/o., S. K. Velautham, Othakade, Alagoal, Udupusselawa-** He states that he was living in rented out house and that was set on fire during 1983 disturbance. Thereafter he was living for a short period in a refugee camp. He requests relief from the Commission. (*Ref. 025*)

15. **S. Ratnavadivel, 37/8, Walls Lane, Colombo 15**-The complainant states that he and his family was living at No. 378, Walls Lane, Colombo 15 at the time when violence started on 25th July, 1983. He was at work at the time and on hearing the start of problem he came home. His wife had told that about ten men entered his house and ransacked the whole house. He and his family members stayed in a neighbour's house that night and the following day they were taken in Army truck to St. Benedicts' College Refugee Camp. While they were in the camp all his household items were looted. Complainant had made an entry to Modera Police on 10.08.1983 giving a list of missing items from his house and the value. Later he was able to recover only two missing items. All the others were lost. He requests compensation. (Ref. 026)
16. **Ms. L. R. Panchacharam (nee Munasinghe), H/2/1, Elapitiwala Housing Scheme, Ragama**-States that she is a Sinhalese, married to a Tamil. In 1983 they were living at Collingwood Place, Colombo 06. When the problem started in 1983, she and her family had to go to family got shifted and living in Ragama. Due to all these disturbance and pain of mind, she lost her husband in the year 2000, the husband died of heart attack. She had undergone mental stress, economical loss and faced social problem. (Ref. 030)
17. **F. Unaiza, 22, Hildon Plance, Colombo 04**, She states that her property at No. 500, 2nd Division, Maradana Road, Colombo 10 got damaged, broken and things were taken during the July 1983 communal riots. She has not received any compensation. She seeks compensation. (Ref. 031)
18. **S. V. Kathirgamanathan, 333, Layards Broadway, Colombo 14**- He states that he sustained heavy loss of business property run by him as grocery shop, textiles shop and footwear items during the 83 riots. He was the sole proprietor and after this loss he has no income. He never made any application for relief and this is the first application by him. He seeks compensation. (Ref. 032)
19. **T. Vadivel, 7/101, Nawagampura, Urugodawatta, Wellampitiya**-States that he sustained loss of his house and property at Negombo Road, Peliyagoda during 1983 riots. He had made complaint to Peliyagoda Police Station claimin in a sum of Rs. 80,250 for the loss and he received a sum of Rs. 25,000 in two installments (Complainant has not mentioned form where the payments was made). He seeks the balance payments. He is a famillied man with 6 children and living in poverty. He is 69 years old (Ref. 033)
20. **Suppiah Kandasamy, No. 05, Ambagamuwa Road, Nawalapitiya**. Complainant states that his house in Kegalle Town was destroyed during 1983 riots. He seeks compensation. (Ref. 035, 036 & 037)
21. **Atputharane Nadarajah, 33A-1/1, Melbourne Avenue, Colombo 04**-States that her husband P. S. Nadarajah was a proprietor, planter and

Businessman in Nivitigala. During the communal disturbance of August, 1981 they were badly affected were their household things were looted and the building was burnt. Vehicles were also burnt. Three shops in the Nivitigala town were also burnt. Complainant states that her husband fell sick after this affection in 1981 he passed away in October, 1999. Complainant seeks adequate compensation. (Ref. 038)

22. **Ambalavanar Murugesu, 85-B, Main Street, Bandarawela-** States that he was doing business in a rented out premises and it was affected during the 1983 violence. Later he obtained permission to re-construct the damaged building. He seeks (a) compensation ; and (b) requests that he be declared the owner of the property, which he had re-built. (Ref. 039)
23. **Mrs P. Rasammah, C/o., V. Ramanathan, No. 15, Rhendapola Village, Gonakelle Estate, Passara** States that she was in possession of three acres of sugar land and the family was depending on sugar cultivation. On 23rd July 1983 when the riots started they had to leave home and stayed in the jungle nearby to their house. From the jungle they were brought by the Grama Sevaka and other well Wishers and to find that their house was completely burnt down. They were sent to the refugee camp in a school building, When they were sent out from the camp, a sum of Rs. 1,500 was paid, nothing beyond that amount. Complainant seeks relief and compensation. She could furnish all documentary proof of her property if called for an inquiry. (Ref. 40)
24. **Thurairajah De Rose, No. 14, 11th Lane, Kotahena, Colombo 13-** During the ethnic violence 1983 his house was looted and burnt. He had made a Police entry for loss of building. He seeks compensation. (Rs. 41)
25. **N. K. Kulandan, Hynfor "A", Dekinda Road, Nawalapitiya-**States that his house at Hendala, Wattala, was set on fire and all his belonging were looted during the riots. Had made Police Entry. He seeks compensation. (Ref. 42)
26. **N. Paramsothy, 813/3, Aluthmawatta Road, Colombo 15-** States, during the Ethnic Violence. He had lost all his properties where his store items were looted, house and vehicles were burnt. He had made a complainant to the Police on 13.08.1983, a copy of which he has enclosed herewith. Complainant states that he has not received a single cent as compensation from the Government or Rehabilitation Authorities, Complainant seeks compensation. (Ref. 43)
27. **V. C. Thevamanoharan, Kosthappara Road, Kalmunai - 1-**Complainant states that he was in employment at St. Anthony's Group of Industries, Baseline Road, Colombo 09, since 1970. During the 1983 riots the company building was completely burnt and as a result the company was temporarily closed. As a result, he lost his job and now jobless for the last so many years. He sees compensation for loss of job. (Ref. 45)

28. **Gunasena Hettiarachchi, Teak Garden, Wijegama, Kalutara South, Kalutara-** The writer's complaint is that in 1983 he had a tailoring shop in Lawson Street in Nuwara Eliya. Unkonwn persons burnt down this shop. Since then he is resding in rented houses. He has presented his case to the Mobile Presidential Unit in 1998. He awaits compensation. (Ref. 46)
29. **Thillainathan Sivanathan, FUG- 6, Dias Place, Colombo 12-** Complainant states that he was the owner of house and property purchased from National Housing Department. During the 1983 riots his house was damaged and he and his family were put in refugee camp. He could not make and entry at the Police at that time. but later made entry at Jaffna Police. He had to leave the country all of a sudden and therefore had given a power of attorney to his father before leaving. On return to the country he found that his father had surreptitiously drawn the deposit made by him with the Housing Department without his knowledge. Complainant says that he had no house to live in. He seeks relief from the Commission of allocating a house for him to live in. (Ref. 47)
30. **Bernard Lazarus, C/o. Rajalakshumy Store, No. 18, St. Andrews Drive, Nuwara Eliya-** During 1983 riots the entire house and other houses in the housing scheme situated in the Temple land were destroyed by fire. Armed personnel shot him and his leg is now abnormal. Seeks compensation (Ref. 48)
31. **K. Kanapathipillai, 30/12-A, Station Road, Kirillapona Colombo 05-** Complainant states that he was living at the above address in 1983. The house was completely razed to the ground during 1983 riots and all his belongings were looted. He and his family members were made penniless and compelled to take refugee at the Hindu College refugee camp. The losses sustained by him are unbearable and therefore seeks compensation (Ref. 49)
32. **Parmsothyammah Velupillai, 30, Kirula Place, (off Kirula Road) Narahenpita, Colombo 05-** complainant states that her father was running a business under the name "Ganethlingam Sotres" at No. 39, Main Street, Puwakpitiya since 1920. She is the only daughter and had been a teacher at Puwakpitiya C. C. T. M. School. In 1981 the father had handed over the business to her and she was running the business. On 18th July, 1983 the building was attacked and burnt fully causing damages to the shop building, furniture, fittings and business goods. Requests compensation (Ref. 54)
33. **N. P. M. Nallathamby, No. 371, Hendala Road, Wattala -** His house was completely destroyed during 1983 riots. He had made complaint to the Police, Wattala claiming loss to the value of Rs. 4,23,000. Requests compensation. (Ref. 55)
34. **Mohamme<sup>r</sup> Samsudeen, No. 36, Snabullah Road, Dharga Town-** Complainant states that he is willing give evidence before the Commission the

way that the supporters of the UNP Government had destroyed his house and property in Gampola during 1983 violence and the way the Tamil people suffered during this violence. He wishes that these incidents should be brought to light through the media. He is possession of all documents relating to the complaint of losses made to Police, Grama Sevaka. Complainant awaits hearing from the Commission (*Ref. 57*)

35. **M. Paramanandan, 70, Old Road, Balangoda** - He bought the premises of No. 71/A and his brother was engaged in Trade. In 1981 racial disturbances its was set on fire. Total loss Rs. 35 lakhs. There is proof of this. The writer's brother later died of the shock. Requests an inquiry and compensation granted (*Ref. 59*)
36. **K. Velauthan, 153/1/A, Dolosbage Road, Nawalapitiya** - The complainant had worked in the Maligawatta Rail Yard, He had been suddenly transferred from Nawalapitya, He was a refugee with his wife and four children. This doorframes and valuable were stolen. Total loss Rs. 77,000 Begg for relief (*Ref. 67*)
37. **S. Sellathurai, Assembly of God, 224, Peradeniya Raod, Kandy**- Complainant states that When he and his family of wife and two children living at No. 318, Serendib Road, 3rd Mile Post, Ampitiya, Kandy on 27th July, 1983 coming to know that several houses in the vicinity were estroyed by mobs, they ran out of the house to neighbouring Sinhalaes people house for shelter. Around 10.00 p. m. that night the mob had set fire to their house and he incurred a loss of property and household goods worth Rs. 3,00,000 valued at that time. Complainant had made entry at the Police on 08.08.1993. Complainant had also appealed for compensation from REPPIA, but did not receive any compensation. Complainant seeks assistance from the Commission (*Ref. 68*)
38. **W. A. Edmon Perera, 21/4, Parakrama Mawatha, Passara**- Victim of ethnic violence on 28.07.1983. unknown persons attacked the Hotel. Total loss Rs. 1,50,000. Under going great hardships. Requests relief is granted (*Ref. 69*)
39. **S. Kathirmanikkam, No. 194, Balagalla, Kengalla**- He complaints that he was running a business at 34, Main Street, Rattota and was badly affected. His request is for an application form to apply for a business loan. (*Ref. 71*)
40. **M. Sarojini , 72, Sri Mahindarama Mw. Colombo 09**-Complainant is requesting for compensation for loosing their belongings, including jewelleryes and their business premises during 1983 disturbances (*Ref. 74*)
41. **Mrs. Selvarajah, 28, Ramakrishna Road, Colombo 06**- She was living with her family at 307/26, Madawala Road, Katugastota during 1983 ethnic violence requesting for compensation for her house and property looted

- and burnt and later taken over by the Mahaveli Board. Police Report, list of items lost and letter from the refugee camp attached. Amount requested Rs. 4,12,850 (*Ref. 78*)
42. **Mrs. V. Pushpadevi, 15, Cameron Place, Colombo 03-** She was living with her family at 111/2, Mahinda Mawatha, Maradana during 1983 disturbance. Her husband was running a handloom industry on a rented place at Thimbrigasyaya since 1969. Their house was looted, her husband Veeranan was shot dead by the Army. Death Certificate and Police Report attached (*Ref. 79*)
  43. **N. Sivanaraulgandhi, Manankarai Lane, Polikandy, Valvettiturai -** He complains about the injury and surgical operation for the injury inflicted during 1983 disturbances that caused him permanent disability and permanent retirement. He is now requesting for payment of arrears of salary and revision of pension form 22.02.1993 (*Ref. 80*)
  44. **S. P. Pragasam, 19A. Bowlana Group, Deltota-** He had forwarded the copy of the letter sent to the Commissioner of Rehabilitation on 1st September 2001. Requesting compensation for the loss of his shop and belongings amounting to Rs. 75,000 incurred during 1983 violence. Copies from the Grama Niladhari and Divisional Secretary also attached (*Ref. 82*)
  45. **Mrs. K. Thirumal, No. 18, Kotmale Road, Nawalapitiya-**The writer states that his entire property was destroyed in the 1983 disturbances. Please hold and inquiry and grant compensation (*Ref. 83*)
  46. **N. T. Dharmakularajasingham, No. 51, New Chetty Street, Colombo 13-** As a result of the burning down of premises No. 268 and 240 of the Main Street and 4th Cross Street, Colombo 11. Accordingly Chairman U. D. A. had written in 1999 whether he agree to buy the remaining stall in the People's Park Shopping Complex. The writer states he is unable to pay the assessed value. Hence requests compensation to the value of burnt places be given to him (*Ref. 84*)
  47. **N. Selvaratnam, 20/1(8/2), Amman Veethy, Kandermadam, Jaffna-**Who was an employees at Colombo Kachcheri and residing at 1247, Ananda Mawatha, Wattala during the 1983 ethnic violence. Requesting for a compensation for loss of property. A list of items lost with value and a letter from the Mahanama Vidyalaya Refugee Camp also attached. (*Ref. 87*)
  48. **Mrs. S. Sinnaththangam, "Kugan Illam", Puttalai, Puloly, Point Pedro-**Requesting for compensation for the loss of her son, a Peredeniya University student who was killed by the Vaununiya Police while returning to Point Pedro from Anuradhapura Training School on 25.07.1983. (*Ref. 88*)
  49. **Selliah Kandasamy, C/o., Krishna Mudalali, Kalmadhu Kalkudah -** The complainant states that he was admitted to kaduruwela Hospital after sus-

taining stab injury 1983. He was a labourer attached to the Animal Husbandry at the time of the incident. He seeks for his pension. (Ref. 89)

50. **G. D. Hensman, 36A Irrigation Quarters, Kandawala Road, Ratmalana**

The complainant states that he is a Government servant 56 years of age. During 1983 disturbance his dwelling was destroyed. Uncertain of his future he sold the land and invested in two finance companies. Unfortunately those two collapsed and swept away all that he had. He had made countless appeals to authorities concerned. Nothing had happened. He is not seeking any monetary benefits as compensation. But, he wants an allocation of a house for which he is prepared to pay a down payment. (Ref. 94)

51. **Rajanavamani Jothinathan 149, Lower St., Badulla** - The complainant

states that there were 9 members in his family. His father Mr. Sinnathamby Raja Navamani was running jewellery business at two premises in Badulla. On 27, July 1983 a large crowd attacked their business premises and looted the stock in trade worth of Rs. 5, 200,000 and damaged the entire premises. And at the same time their residential house at King's Street was looted by a crowd to the worth of Rs. 4,200,000 and set fire to the house. Due to these two incidents they have lost about Rs. 9,400,000 apart from other losses they had incurred. They are not in a position to re-establish their business up to the level they had before July 1983. They were forced to leave Badulla and live outside. Subsequently their parents went to India and the mother died in India, father is an invalid. He has given the Power of Attorney to the complainant. REPPIA had granted a loan of Rs. 25,000 that he had already repaid in full. He has not received any other assistance or help from Governmental Institutions. He seeks a substantial redress for the losses (Ref. 95)

52. **Nadesan Gnanasegaran, No 10, Park Road, Kandapola** - This file contains

a request made by the Divisional Secretary, Nuwara Eliya made to those affected by the ethnic conflict of 1983 to forward claims for compensation. The writer has forwarded all the documents to the Divisional Secretary. This may be referred to leave for necessary action (Ref. 96)

53. **S. Pitchai, Naranwita, Gampola** - The complainant states that he was

driving a lorry from Colombo to Gampola with goods. On the day of incident in 1983 he was stopped at Weligalla on the Colombo - Gampola road and was assaulted. The lorry was set on fire. His personal belongings such as provisions, gold ring and chain were forcibly removed from him. He could not make any complaints to the Police due to fear. He seeks compensation (Ref. 97)

54. **S. F. Tharmaseelan B/34/Q/2, N. H. S., Jayantha Weerasekera Mawatha**

**Colombo 10** - He is requesting compensation for the shop, house and property that were damaged during 1983 violence. He was residing at



- 566/A, Avariwatta, Wattala when this incident took place, shop too was damaged (*Ref. 101*)
55. **S. Karuppiyah 98/16, Sr Wickramapura, Mattakuliya Colombo 15-** Applicant was residing at 66, 66/1, Kent Road, Colombo 09 and displaced to India due to 1983 riot and returned to Sri Lanka after 06 years and found that the land (20P) house and shop all not traceable, no action taken when reported to Higher Authority like U. D. A. etc. Now requesting for the assistance of this Commission (*Ref. 103*)
56. **P. Kandiah, 4, Keena Road, Nuwara Eliya -** Applicant's business premises and resident upstairs were burnt down during the violence in 1983. Only Rs. 50,000 claimed from his insurance, appeals to Divisional Secretary, N. E. Rehabilitation Office, Human Right Centre are still pending now requesting this commission to intervene to obtain due redress (*Ref. 104*)
57. **M. Suntharamoorthy, 46/ 3, Meetotamulla Road, Wellampitiya -** The Complainant writes to say that during the riot period July 1983 he was staying with his family at Ratnakara Place, Dehiwela. His house was looted and fully burnt down. He had incurred loss of household items and jewellery worth of Rs 108,000. During the incident he was taken as refugee to Ramakrishna Mission and subsequently to Colombo Hindu College and was registered as a refugee. He came to know that his wife was at Ratmalana Camp as a refugee and later taken to Jaffna. He went to Jaffna in a ship on its subsequent sail. Seeking for a redress (*Ref. 105*)
58. **P. Sivanathan, Omidale Division, Strathspey Estate, Upcot -** At the time of the outbreak of riots in 1983, the writer had been in Matale. He had lost his home and money. (*Ref. 106*)
59. **S Kanagasabapathy, "Shanthi Niketan", 23, Amman Road, Kanthermadam, Jaffna -** The complainant writes to say that during the riot period July 1983 his house was burnt down with their belongings while they were away in Jaffna for his daughters wedding. Eventually they sold the house much less than its original value and recovered only Rs. 650,000. The property was down in 37th lane, Wellawatte with an extent of 17 perches. He requests compensation for the loss of property and belongings. (*Ref. 108*)
60. **A Govindaraj, No. 50, Old Matale Road, Kandy -** Because of the communal riots of 1983 the writer had been a refugee in the Ramanathan Hall of the University. He had a jewellery shop and this had been burgled and gold worth Rs. 300,000 had been stolen. Presently he is in a sick condition. (*Ref. 109*)
61. **A. Sandanam, 8/4, Pillayar Kovil Road, Kandy-** The Complainant writes to say that during the 1977 -1994 he was politically victimised and

incurred damages. He has generally stated under Para 8 of his letter that in 1983 at the Tamil business premises and houses were looted. And he had sustained a heavy loss of Rs. 100,000. The Political Victimisation that he refers does not come under the purview of the PTC. He seeks compensation for the losses he had incurred. (Ref. 110)

62. **Mrs. Emily Balasingh, Lantern Hill Group (East), Welikande, Meethalawa (Gampola)** - The Complainant writes to say that during 1983 disturbance her husband Mr. M.S. Balasingh was disappeared and where about he is not known to this day. She had forwarded relevant documents as requested by the Ministry of Rehabilitation along with two cash vouchers. Thereafter Ministry had informed her that they had forwarded to G. A. Knady for necessary action. But so far nothing has happened about this. She requests to for suitable action to obtain her compensation (Ref. 111)

63. **A. S. Selvarajah, 242- A, Muthuwella Mawatha, Modera, Colombo 15** - The Complainant writes to say that on 28th July 1983 about 150 people entered his business premises and attacked causing damages to his property and set fire. He was able escape through the rear side of the store and took refuge at the St. Mary's College, Avissawella Refugee Camp. His losses valued up to Rs. 78,025. He had submitted all necessary documents to compensate his losses to the REPIA on 4th August 2001. Nothing has heard since then. He requests for compensation. (Ref. 112)

64. **M. R. Rajah, Woodlands Bazaar Hillwood Rozella** - The Complainant writes to say that he had suffered loss and damage to his property and house at Matale during the disturbance period in 1983. He had stayed at Matale refugee camp with his family and thereafter had gone to Kilinochchi Camp. In 1985 he had bought a land in Killnochchi and put up a house. He was a Technical Officer attached to Matale Municipal Council. Now he lives in Rozella. He had gone on retirement in 1985. He had been granted a loan of Rs. 15,000 by a Rehabilitation Organisation to start a poultry farm with 200 birds. This had taken place in August 1985. And he continues to relate incidents that had taken place after that does not come under ethnic violence. He seeks compensation for the loss of his house and property at Matale. (Ref. 113)

65. **P. R. Ramalingam 295/7, Bank House Annexe, Dimbulla Road, Hatton** -He states that he was badly affected by July riots in 1983 when he was residing at Pillayar Kovil Road, Matale. The supportive documents relating to the incident are available with him. He requests an opportunity to present his case for the compensation (Ref. 115)

66. **R. N. Kunanayagam, No 25, 42 nd Lane, Colombo 06** - The Complainant states that on 25 th July 1983 at about 11.00 a. m. a mob of 30 entered his house smashed all the windows and doors and looted many valuable goods and set fire to the house. The house was left with walls.

The estimated damage done to household goods, personnel effects and to the property is about Rs. 4,500,000. He seeks compensation (*Ref. 116*)

67. **R. Sivalingam, 62/8 Sri Maha Vihara Road, Kalubowila, Dehiwela-** Complainant states that he lost all his belongings during 1983 riots and seeks compensation. (*Ref. 117*)
68. **K. K. Mahendra, Majestic Court, 25-5/7, E. S. Fernando Mawatha, Colombo 06-** The Complainant states that he wishes give evidence before the Commission on the following incidents. Events leading to the attack of Jaffna Town. (2) Destruction of his rented house with properties at 3 A, Senanayake Place, Dehiwela during 1983 ethnic violence. He seeks compensation. (*Ref. 119*)
69. **S. Sathasivam, 15-4/5, Frances Road, Colombo 06 -** He was staying with his family in a rented house at 88/2, Byrde Place Colombo 06, displaced from the house due to a mob attack on 25.07.1983 and entered a refugee camp at Thimbirigasyaya and later to Thurstan College Refugee Camp till returned to the house on the 28th (*Ref. 121*)
70. **V. P. Kumar, 30, Nortan Road, Maskeliya -** Applicant was a supervisor at a Textile Processing factory at J- Ela during 1983 disturbances. Effectuated and admitted in Ragama hospital, thereby lost the job and became a sick person. Now residing at the above address willing to give evidence to brief the agony he underwent during the violence. (*Ref. 122*)
71. **P. Pulendrarajah, 54, New chemmany Road, Jaffna -** applicant was residing at 43, Sivapuri Trincomalee where he was chased away into the jungle by the Navy on the 27th July 1983 in the night by 9.15 he returned dome later only to discover that his house belongings have been looted including cash and jewellery. Requesting for compensation. (*Ref. 124*)
72. **M. Ramasamy, 575/17/ Base Line Road Colombo - 09** The writer had resided at No. 620, Baseline Road, Colombo 09, but this had been destroyed. This land had been acquired by the U. D. A. All the others who lived in my area have been given houses (*Ref. 125*)
73. **Peter Anthony Clement, 67/19, Eksath Mawatha, Weliyamuna Road, Hendala Wattala -** Applicant staying with his family at 65/23 Weliyamuna Road, Wattala in a rented house (Owner's address given) on 27.07.1983 forced by a mob of about 50 looters to Nayakakanda Church and with the help of the priest and the Police, entered the Maharagama Refugee Camp at Colpetty till 10.08.1983. Entry was made at the Police Station when the looting of the house was detected, Copy of Police Entry and the refugee camp note attached - Approximate loss Rs. 250, 000 (*Ref. 128*)

74. **N. Kathirgamanathan, 160-2/7, Justice Akbar Mawatha, Colombo 02** - The Applicant a Retired Auditor General being a victim of the 1983 not requested from the Divisional Secretary Dehiwela (Now Ratmalana) an estimated amount of 800,000 and was paid Rs. 100,000 (PEPIA- No. 15489) in 1987. Now requesting the balance payment from the Truth Commission. Only Police Entry attached. No. record of the estimate or amount paid reflected here (*Ref. 129*)
75. **R. S. Sathiyamoorthy, 33/6, Weeramuduna, Nawayalatenne, Katugastota** - Applicant was staying with his family at the above address and due to the disturbance he left with his family on 26.07.1983 and he (to Nuwara Eliya) declares that his house was looted on the next day. He had made an entry in the Police Station of the incident. Claiming about Rs. 25,000. Copy of the Police Entry attached (*Ref. 130*)
76. **S. Nesanathan, 31, Main Street Rattota** - The shop owned by the applicant's father at the above address was looted on 28.07.1983 the provisions in the shop looted amounts to Rs. 28,450. The repairs to the damage of the shop cost to his father Rs. 22,000. No compensation paid so far, applicant is also willing to appear before the Commission if required. (*Ref. 131*)
77. **Velandy Subramaniam, 928/19, Maradana Road, Colombo 08** - Applicant was residing at 32/13, Dias Place, Colombo 12 on 29.07.1983. When a crowd of 50 people forcibly entered his house and removed some personal items and causing damage to the house. Police Entry was made at the Police Station attached. Please read with file No. 136. (*Ref. 132*)
78. **Velandy Ramasamy, 225/195, Ferguson Road, Mattakuliya, Colombo 15** - Applicant was residing at 32/13, Dias Place, Colombo 12 complaining of an incident similar to that of V. Subramaniam in file No. 132. Both happened to be brothers and reporting of some personal items being looted on 29.07.1983. (*Ref. 136*)
79. **A. Krishnapillai, Puloly Centre, Point Pedro** - Applicant is claiming for compensation for his son's death, who was killed at Ratmalan on 25.07.1983 being a student of the Technical College, he was staying at Soysapura Flat when he was killed. Rs. 25,000 was paid by the Commissioner of Essential Services, applicant except a reasonable amount as compensation. Death confirmed by the O.I. C. Mount Lavinia a murder. (*Ref. 137*)
80. **S. A. Sebastian, C-36, G-2, Soysapura Housing Scheme, Moratuwa** - Applicant is 81 years old now and was residing at 22A, Piyaratnarama Road, Dehiwela, when his house was damaged during 1983 disturbances. No supporting evidence attached to the claim, Commission to follow up from his written statement. (*Ref. 139*)

81. **Director, Sri Krishna Corporation Ltd., 83, George R. De. Silva Mawatha, Colombo - 13** - An exporting firm at Sriwickrema Mawatha, Wattala was burnt by setting fire to the Oil Mill and the Stores and vehicles numbering 26 also burnt. Incident reported to be taken place on 25.07.1983. Requests compensation (Ref. 140)
82. **Mrs. P. Rajaratnam, "Lakshmi Vasa", Meesalai West, Meesalai** - The Complainant states that she was working as a Clerk during the time incident attached to Ministry of Education. At present she is working as Graduate Teacher at Chavakachcheri Hindu College, Jaffna. On July 25, 1983 a group of rioters entered our residence asking are there any Tamil's in the house? She ran away through the backside of the house and took refuge at Thimbirigasyaya Church Premises. Later she was taken to Thurstan College Refugee Camp. After a week she had obtained permission from the camp and had visited the residence. To her surprise she found all her property were looted and her residence was burnt. She had not been compensation for those losses. She was there for about 10 in the camp and thereafter she was sent to Jaffna. She had lost almost all her correspondence documents due to relocation and resettlement during this period. She seeks compensation for her losses. (Ref. 141)
83. **Mrs. N. Rajesparasingam, 38, Vidyalayam Road, Trincomalee** - The Complainant states that her son Rajesparasingam Uthayakumar was a law college student and studying for the ICMA examination during the time of the incident. He was physically attacked during the 1983 July riots and brought home half dead. He is mentally unsound due to the incident and stays at home. If he had not met brutal beating he would have completed his studies and held high position. He is 27 years now. We have written complained to the government. Nothing had come out. She has not mention the place of incident. Seeks compensation (Ref. 142)
84. **S. K Balasubramaniam, No. 13/1/B, Karanketiya Road, Balangoda** - The Complainant states that his belongings and residence was set on fire and destroyed in 1981 and 1983 incidents. She had lost all her earning and living with great difficulties. Seeks compensation for the losses. (Ref. 143)
85. **S. Rajendran, 426/11/6/1, K. Cyril C. Perera Mawatha, Colombo 13** - The Complainant had stated that he was living with his family at F 25, Manning Town Government Flats in Narahenpita. The July 1983 incident started from their side first. They ran and took refuge in the neighbour's house. Then they went to Bambalapitiya Camp. The Camp was fully packed with refugees. After 18 days suffering in the camp they boarded the ship and went to Chavakachcheri. All their belongings that they had at Narahaenpita were set on fire. He is unemployed now and has four children. They had lost their belonging worth above Rs. 150,000. When they were forced to leave from there and shelter in the village temple for more than two weeks. Their Chavakachcheri house was also burgled.

He seeks compensation for the losses that he incurred at Narahenpita house (Ref. 145)

86. **A. K. Fareeda Begum, 113, Hill Street Dehiwela** - The Writer's Drapery Store had been burnt during 1983 riots. As a result her mother died. The total value stated is not clear. She says she has documents to prove. (Ref. 146)
87. **P. Ponniah, 237, 4th Floor, 6-10 Main Street, Colombo 11-** The Complainant states that there was three families were residing at 95/64, Kelani Mills Road, Mattakuliya during 1983 riots. Their belongings were looted and the resident set on fire. He has given detailed out list of items that were lost by each family. He seeks compensation. (Ref. 149)
88. **V.S. Periasamy, 5, Dambawala Road, Ampitiya, Kandy** - Applicant was residing at 29/5, St. Antony's Road, Dematagoda during the 1983 disturbances. His house was looted and burnt down on 25.07.1983 watched by their family while hiding in the opposite house. He feels that the documents supplied are insufficient and eager to appear before the Commission to brief the whole incident. Few photographs, estimates and Police Entry attached. Compensation requested. (Ref. 153)
89. **M. W. K. Kumarihamy, No. 115, Longwill Janapathya, Rattota (Matale)**- During the ethnic disturbances of 1983 the writer had worked in a Power Loom Industry. But the establishment was gutted by fire. As a result she had lost employment. Hence she requests pension rights or some other relief. (Ref. 154)
90. **R. Rajakumar, B-G-10, St. James Housing Scheme, Aluthmawatha Rd, Colombo 15** - Complainant states that he was owning a rice mill called "Rajkumar Rice Mill" which was damaged and all belongings looted during the troubles in 1985. He further states that he had been allotted a plot of land in 1983 in Anuradhapura, but due to fear he could not go into occupation of the allotted land. There are encroachers in the land. He requests that action be taken to eject the encroachers and obtain the land for him. (Ref. 157)
91. **Sharmala Kalimuthu, 29, Kegalle Road, Rambukkana-** The writer states she was a victim of ethnic violence. The total cost of damage valued in 1983 is Rs. 800,000. A complaint had been made to the Police Station Rambukkana and the Police had conducted an inquiry. (Ref. 158)
92. **K. N. T. Sumanawathie, 50, Walagamba Mawatha, Borupana, Ratmalana** The writer's husband was working in the Cement Factory K. K. S. at the time of the communal disturbance of 1983. As a result lost her house, property and everything they had. Requests justice. (Ref. 159)

93. **A. E. Selvarajah, 719, Anpuvalipuram, Trincomalee** - Applicant is citing the 1983 disturbance as course for his interdiction from 20.09.1989 as he was successful in his appeal he was reinstated from 01.01.1990. Now he is seeking assistance from this commission to obtain the payment for the period he lost his salary from 20.09.1989 to 31.12. 1989. (Ref. 160)
94. **Ittikunji Karthiyani, 8th Mile Post, Medagama, Bibile** - She had lost her property in the ethnic violence of 1983. Had made a complaint in the Badulla Police Station. Had been a refuge for 10 days in the camp at Badulla Maha Vidyalaya. (Ref. 161)
95. **K. Ratnamani Ammal, 33/5, Weeramuduna, Nawayalatenna, Katugastota** - Applicant was living in the above address during 1983 riots. Their house was looted and set on fire. An entry was made in the Police (entry No. 217) requesting for compensation, as the attempt made earlier was not successful. (Ref. 163)
96. **P. Kumaravelu, 79, Wasala Road, Colombo 13** - Applicant is reporting of looting and burning of his Jewellery shop at 4/5, Sea Street Pettah on 29.07.1983. List of items lost mentioned in the copy of Police Entry. He declared that he had incurred a loss of Rs. 468,000. (Ref. 164)
97. **Mrs. Annapillai Alagurasa, 123, Pickerings Road, Colombo 13** - Applicant is reporting about the murder of her husband due to the communal riot on 29.07.1983, full description of the incident is given in the attached Police Report. She is undergoing difficulties in running the house with her children of which one is a disabled child. Requests for compensation for the loss of her husband. (Ref. 165)
98. **A. Nadarajah, 72/23, Sonny Gunawardena Mawatha, Cana Road, Hendala, Wattala** - Complainant states that he was affected during 1983 riots and lost all his belongings and his house burnt. His family is now undergoing severe hardship and seeks redress. (Ref. 166)
99. **N. Sivanathan, 43/31, Bonjeon Road, Colombo 13** - At the time of ethnic disturbances the writer was engaged in Trade. Not only the business but also the business building was completely destroyed and the goods were looted. Representations regarding this loss were made too many but if no avail. (Ref. 168)
100. **P. Namasivayam, 238, Kirindigala, Balangoda** - During the ethnic riots of 1981 August the writer's residence was attacked and everything was looted. A complaint had been made in the Balangoda Police Station. The total value of goods lost is Rs. 453,946. (Ref. 169)
101. **M. Balendran, 14-3/4, Francis Rd, Colombo 06** - His wife's house, property and belongings at Haldorawatte Estale Rambukpitiya, Nawalapitiya

was burnt to ashes by the rioters on July 29th 1983. He had lost well over 30 lakhs worth of his house and belongings including the jewellery and very large Poultry farm, with 5,000 birds. Seeks compensation for the losses what he had incurred. (Ref. 170)

102. **P. Selvarajah, Attorney, at Law, 19/150, Farm Road, Mattakuliya, Colombo 15** - Applicant is opting to appear before the Commission to detail the damage caused to office at 239/1, Hulfsdorp Street, Colombo 12 and his professional practice by the rioters on 25.07.1983. List of loss incurred attached with the application and amounting to Rs. 675,000. (Ref. 172)

103. **S. Ramaswamy, 27/A, Vithanage Mawatha, Colombo 02** - He is requesting Rs. 150,000 for damages caused to his property and person during the riot on 25.07.1983. (Ref. 173)

104. **Dr. M. Kopalasuntharam, 12/2/5, Empire Stare Apartments, Colombo 06** Applicant briefed about the incident that occurred on the 25 th July, 1983 at the above premises, the household items thrown outside the house set on fire by looters he is requesting for compensation for the losses and eager to appear before the Commission to give evidence. (Ref. 175)

105. **S. Murugesu, 1308, Kotte Road, Welikada, Rajagiriya** - The Complainant states that he and his family were victims of the July 1983 ethnic riot that took place in the country. He had encountered damages to his property, vehicles, goods and to his premises by the unruly mobs. He has all supportive documents to prove his claim. He seeks compensation for the losses. (Ref. 176)

106. **Miss. S. J. D. Dissanayake, 156/2, Ro hiniwatte Road, Kaluduwela, Panadura** - At that time of the outbreak of ethnic disturbances of 1983, she had worked in the Virakesari Paper. Because of the prevailed condtions she had tendered respiration still also she is unmarried and sick and requests sympathetic consideration. (Ref. 177)

107. **S. Vairamuthu, 128, Raja Stores, Athura, Bulathsinhala** - Applicant was the owner of the business property at Mathugama by the name Rajah Stores was looted in January 1983 (19 th) causing loss of property worth 5 lakhs in total. Only a written declaration available in the file. (Ref. 178)

108. **Iyasamy Kaliyaperumal 36, N. H. S. Flats, Maligawatte, Colombo 10** - Applicant was residing at 56A, Chitra Lane, Narahenpita when the riot took place. He got displaced and entered the refugee camp at Thurstan College. On the 2nd of August 1983 he visited his small workshop at Urugodawatte to find that it was looted and burnt, received Rs. 1,750 as compensation from the Commissioner of Essential Sevcies, now request for compensation. (Ref. 179)



109. **L. Fernando, 14-1/1, Ramya Road, Colombo 04** - The Complainant states during the time of the incident that they were staying at 14, 18th Lane, Pagoda Road, Nugegoda. They owned it. On the day of the incident in 25th July, 1983 just they returned from the Temple were told by their neighbours to vacate the place immediately as a mob is approaching toward their house to kill them. So they went and stayed with one of their neighbours. Eventually they were told that their house was set on fire. All the belongings they had in the house went into ashes. They had insured the house but not against communal troubles. Therefore, they had not get any redress to the losses. Seeks compensation. (Ref. 180)
110. **T. Devadas, 404 Koswatte Kochchikkade** - The Complainant states during the time of the incident that he was residing with his family at Monomial Estale, which belong to the state. He had lost his belongings during the riots. After sometime he went with his family to Ramayana Refugee Camp. His child suffered from diarrhoea and was hospitalised at lady Ridgeway Hospital. After one month he had to suffer from diarrhoea. He was asked to go out of the camp with his family saying that they would be granted Rs. 10,000. He had placed his signature to receive the amount in a voucher. But, he was given only Rs. 1,000. He had questioned the people why he was given Rs. 1,000 only. He was told that they could give only that much. Thereafter, he had gone with his family to their old place where they lived. He seeks Rs. 250,000 as compensation for the losses. (Ref. 181)
111. **A. M. Farook, K - 1/3, Srisangaraja Mw, Colombo - 10** - The complainant states that he had a Tailoring Establishment since 1947 at 161/1, Main Street, Colombo 11. On account of the ethnic riot in July 1983 his shop was gutted by fire together with his materials and fittings. He had request relevant authorities to provide him with premises to re-establish his business. Due to financial constrains he is being unable to find a place and living in great hardship and pain of mind. He has relevant documents to support his claim. So far neither compensation nor allocation of a business premises has made. He seeks an allocation of a shop premises in any part of Colombo to re-establish business as compensation. (Ref. 183)
112. **P. Marimuthu, Pidiwill Road, Thalagodapitiya, Kirindigalla, Ibbagamuwa** - During the communal riots of 1983 his family had been displaced. Had been at Mannar Pesalai and Madhu Church, But ultimately returned to Nochchikulam. (Ref. 184)
113. **G. M. Velukutti, Pidiwilla Road, Talgodapitiya, Kirindigalla, Ibbagamuwa** - The writer had been frightened by the outbreak of violence in 1983. He and his family had displaced to Nochchikulam due to the 1983 riots and his daughter has not recovered from the shock and mental agony undergone during the riots still in sick stage. Seeks compensation (Ref. 186)

114. **G. M. Krishnan, Pidiwilla Road, Talgodapitiya, Kirindigalle, Ibbagamuwa** - Due to the communal riots there were attacks in home. So changed residence from Mannar, Pesalai and Madhu Church. Has suffered from mental stress. (*Ref. 187*)
115. **Ihalagedera Chithra, 324/G-40, Pubudugama, Jayasuriya Wella, Uswetakeiyawa** - Due to the ethnic disturbances of July 1983 thugs had entered and done terrible damage to the two storeyed house, and property. 02 vehicles had been set on fire. A Complaint had been made to the Wellampitiya Police. (*Ref 188*)
116. **A. P. Thanganathan, 08 A, Council Lane, Dehiwela** - The Complainant states that he and his family was living in RMO Quarters - Lady Ridgeway Hospital, Borella. During the ethnic riots July 1983 they left to St. Benedict College as refugees. Their quarters was looted and burnt. They lost almost all of their belongings. He seeks compensation for the losses that he had incurred. (*Ref. 189*)
117. **P. P. Premkumar, No. 19 Siebel Avenue, Kirulapona, Colombo 05** - The complainant states that his family were victim of ethnic violence of 1983. Thugs had destroyed the residence and damaged everything. The writer pleads that his appeal will be sympathetically considered. (*Ref. 190*)
118. **H. E. Simon, No. 8A, Aluthmawatta, Uyanwatta, Matara** - The writer has suffered during the ethnic conflict of 1983. States that the Sinhalese who lived in the North had suffered. (*Ref. 191*)
119. **G. Krishnasamy, 101/106, Negombo Road, Peliyagoda** - The Complainant states that he was an unfortunate victim of the ethnic riots that took place in July 1983. He is a father of 8 children and has not claimed any compensation except a loan that he got from REPIA. His house was looted and badly damaged during the riot. Also his shop was completely damaged and looted. He was not granted any compensation for these losses. He had lodged complaints to this effect to the Peliyagoda Police. He seeks compensation to re - start his business and to repair his house (*Ref. 192*)
120. **H. I. C. Gunawansa, No. 36/7J, Sujatha Mawatha, Kalubowila, Dehiwala** - His house was leased out to Bernard Philknit Garment Ltd., which was damaged during the riots. Had made Police Complaint. Requests compensation. (*Ref. 193*)
121. **A. Kathiresan, 4/1, Penithudumulla, Nawalapitiya** - His house and three of his business premises and his other belongings were set on fire (worth up to Rs. 500,000) during the riots. He had made a police entry. Seeks compensation for the losses (*Ref. 194*)

122. **P. Manickarajah, 230, Bandaranaiyake Mawatha, Colombo 12-** During 1983 riots their business premises was looted and burnt down. He lost textiles (Value of Rs, 250,000) and fittings, furnifure etc. was up to Rs. 300,000. They had made a police entries. Seeks compensation for losses. (Ref. 195)
123. **M. Balendran 14 - 3/4 Francess Road, Colombo 04 -** His wife nonse and all his bolongings were burnt during the 1983 riots and got damaged his Ponthing Farm with 500 birds. He had lost well over 30 lakhs. Seeks compensation for losses. (Ref. 198)
124. **Victoria Elizabeth, 145//1, Sivali Road, Borella, Colombo 08 -** Her husband worked in a Tailoring shop and during the 1983 conflict be disappeared. Some people had told that her husband was burnt. She has 2 teenage children. Seeks relief. (Ref. 199)
125. **S. P. Sellamuthupillai, 6- B, Sumner Place, Colombo 08 -** The Complainant states that he was businessman carried out retail business in textiles, books, periodicals, Magazines and education publications since 1936 His business was located at 25, Ambagamuwa Road, Gampola. During the ethnical riots period his business was set on fire and completely destroyed making an estimated loss of Rs. 250,000. Seeks compensation. (Ref. 200)
126. **M. Ramasamy, 92, Church Street, Colombo 02 -** The complainant was a partner of Sri Bawani Jewellers that was at 92, Church Street, Colombo 02. The nature of the business was Pawn Broking. He states that on 25 th July 1983 a gang of 30-40 men carrying iron rods and other dangerous weapons started smashing all things. The employees had fled to save their lives. They were unaware what happened to the pawned jewellery and other articles. When they returned on the 3rd August, 1983 with the Police escort they found that the entire safe cupboards were broken and the articles were missing. They had incurred substantial loss of valuable articles. Seeks compensation. (Ref. 201)
127. **Mrs. S. Kanagalingam, 137, St Anthony's Lane, Nithyapuri, Trinocomalee -** The complainant states that she was living with her husband and six children since 1962 at Nadesar Koviladi, Sivayogapuram, Kanniya. On 29th July a1983 t about 8.00 a. m. they had observed several people with dangerous weapons coming toward their house. They also ran towards the road. Her husband ran into the Nadesar Temple that was surrounded by parapet wall. She and her children were running outside the parapet wall. The people who came chasing them divided among themselves and continued chasing all of them. The people who chased her husband entered the temple, caught him and cut him. She heard her husband's screaming noise when they were running. She and her children ran into the burger's that was in from of the road.

After sometime her husband had come and fallen on to the road. They carried him to the Burger's house. After that the burger gentleman stop a Police Jeep that was passing that way, took her husband, one of her son and her to the hospital. There several cut injuries of her husband; his right arm was hacked and a piece of his ear was missing. At present he stays at home without any job. Their house was completely destroyed. As they are unable to go and live there they living at the above address at present. They seek compensation. (Ref. 204)

128. **Mrs. J. Thillainathan, 60/14, St. Mary's Street, Trincomalee** - The Complainant states that she was the wife of Dr. R. Thillainathan who was registered Medical Practitioner serving at the Government Hospital Laggala. On 27.12.1984, he had been removed by unknown persons from the hospital and he is missing since then. She believes that he had been put to death and his body would have been disposed without any trace. All searches to trace his body had proven futile. Now she had come to the conclusion that he was put to death on or about 7th December, 1984. She had registered his death in pursuance of a Court Action. She receives W&OP. She had made number of appeals to the Ministry of Health and Ministry of Rehabilitation to obtain compensation on her husband's death. So far nothing has happened. Hence she is looking after her six children with the merge pension that she receives. She writes to obtain a desired relief from the Commission. (Ref. 205)
129. **Mrs. B. Shanmugasundaram, Estate Superintendent bungalow, Branswick Estate, Maskeliya** - The complainant states that his family members running a coconut oil milling factory called R. M. P. Pulamadan Chetty & Sons Ltd. in Biyagama Road, Kelaniya. Their grandfather who was an Indian origin in 1921 established the company. He died in 1962. Their grandfather developed the area in Biyagama Road, Kelaniya where the factory was with various stores complex and residential bungalows. The extent of the land was 4 acres. In the ethnic conflict of July 1983 their entire factory and stores complex including their residential bungalows were completely destroyed and razed to the ground. An estimated value of their business and other properties reduced to ashes was Rs. 30 million. At present it valued well over Rs. 30 million. The reason to meet the crime was that the properties and the factory complex belong to a Tamil family. 90% of their work force was Sinhalese. There were seven members of us who owned the business. Now they all are living in very poor conditions. Their parents are living in Ashram. All their efforts that they took to obtain a redress from relevant authorities were not fruitful. Seeks compensation. (Ref. 207)
130. **Mohammed Sodak Masoorden, 25/4, Razeek Fareed Mawatta, Leniyamulla, Negombo** - During the disturbances of July 1983 the writer had a Jewellery shop at No. 22, Cross Road, Negombo. During the curfew on 25.07.1983 his shop had been looted and everything had been robbed. Seeks compensation. (Ref. 208)

131. **M. Thambipillai, Attaranthai, Alvai North - West, Alvai** - The complainant states that he was living with his family at 53, Narahenpita Road, Nawala, Rajagiriya for ever 8 years prior to violence that took place 25.07.1983. His family consisted of his wife and there sons who were born and bred in Colombo . On the day of incident he had gone to work. He was the Chief Pay Clerk at the Police Commissioner's Office in Colombo Fort And his son who was a Clerk had gone to work at Times of Ceylon Fort. The others remained at home. An unruly mob consisting of about to men had rushed toward their house at about 12.30 p. m. on 25.07.1983. On seeing this, his wife and sons had escaped through the rear door of the house. The lady of house who was behind their house took k them inside her house and kept them locked in a room. After the hooligans had gone away, the lady had left them out advising them to go to a safer place. Meanwhile, he was stranded at the Police Commissioner's office and his son had joined him from the times of Ceylon. The Colombo Fort was almost on fire and he was desperate to rush home to know the fate of his dear ones. His attempts to get some kind of transport from the Police failrd. As his last report he got through to one Mr. Chandrasena Maliyadde who was the Director, Development Lotteries over the phone. When he explained to him of his predicaments he readily agreed to help him. Shortly afterwards, he had come in a jeep with two Police Constables and took him to Nawala. While proceeding towards Narahenpita he had noticed his wife and sons coming running along the road. They picked them and nearing his he had seen a huge fire in front. His house on blaze and most of the items of his household were ablaze. Thereafter they were taken to Modera Police then to Mahanama Refugee Camp. From the Camp they transported them by special train to Jaffna. After this July incident several political movements had cropped up among the youth of Jaffna. Later this movement was suppressed by the LTTE and his son was abducted in 1990. He had not been seen since then. The complainant is now retired and had not got any relief other than a salary advance from the government. He seeks compensation. (Ref. 209)
132. **R. M. A. Ratnayake, 18, Hill Street, Kandy** - The writer states that at No. 18, Kandy Veediya, Kandy. He had a shop in Tyres and Tubes - being a Registered Dealer. Adjoining were Tamil (two) grocery shops. And unknown persons set fire to them. However the fire damaged his shop too. Tyres and tubes worth Rs. 67,636 were looted (Ref. 210)
133. **Mrs. K. Mariaie, St. John Del Roy Lower Division, Kew Estate, Bogawantalawa** - The complainant states that she was living Mr. K. Munusamy of Jayanthi Lodge for a long period. They had three offspring. Her husband was missing since 1983 July ethnic violence and she does not know what had nappened to his life. After along period on prolonged correspondence she was told by the Nugegoda Police that he was killed and the Registrar Office had informed her that his death was not registered. Now she is nearing her 60th year and she fins

difficult to manage her family without any income and all her attempts to know what had happened to her husband proven futile. She seeks relief and to assist her to get the document to prove her husband death. Requests compensation. (Ref. 211)

134. **K. P. M. Appuhamy, 45/1, Baily Road, Nawalapitiya** - The writer states that the building at No. 33, Gampola Road, Nawalapitiya where he had his business, he was occupying on tent from 1939. However on 24.07.1983 or afterwards because of riots, the building was burnt. So he lost his tenant rights. And the state informed that he could not be given his tenancy. (Ref. 212)
135. **V. Selvarajah, C/o, C. Rajaratnam, 56 B/4, New Mosque Road, Mahaheenatiyanagala, Kalutara** - The Complainant states that he and his family had got affected during the 1983 violence losing their belongings and forced to go to Vavuniya. Due to employment reason they had come back and residing at the above address. They had not been compensated for the occurrence. He seeks compensation (Ref. 214)
136. **K. Rangunathan 6/1, Jasmine Apts., 426/11, K. Cyril Perera Mawatha, Colombo 13** - The Complainant states that he and his family were victims of the July 1983 ethnic violence. At the time of incident they were living at 41, Barber St, Kotahena. He was an employee of the Maradana Railway Department and his wife was teacher in a government school in Kotahena. During the time of the incident they had four children. When the violence started the neighbours quit their residence and went elsewhere. According to the announcement over the radio he and his family left to St. Lucias Refugee Camp with the assistance of his Muslim friend. On their way to the camp they waylaid and intimidated by a gang of looters and forcibly taken away the suitcase from them. Complaint had been made to Kotahena Police to say that they had sustained a loss of belongings to the value of Rs. 25,500. The losses he incurred valued to present value the applicant had stated as Rs. 188,400. When they were in the camp they had undergo sever difficulties. The complainant says that sole responsibility should be borne by the then government. If the government would have immediate steps the occurrence would have been evaded. The forces that should safeguard the public were abating and assisting the hooligans. To avoid these types of incident happening in future the government should act justly without any discrimination. They seek compensation for the losses. (Ref. 215)
137. **P. Paramanathan, 50, Konavalai Lane, Kokuvil East, Kokuvil** - The complainant states that he was a victim during the July 1983 ethnic violence when he was residing at 1129, Cotta Road, Rajagiriya. During that period he was local Government Administrative Officer at the Urban Council, Kotte. His wife was attached to Educational Publication Department, Ministry of Education as secretary (Mathematics) They had a child of 9 years and his family were victims of the July 1983

ethnic violence. Adjoining to his was Vocation Training Centre and the boarding house of the centre. On the 25th July 1983 during the early hours of the morning there was a unruly crowd marching towards their house the students and the principal came running seeing the unruly mob was looting and damaging their house. Within few minutes the house was on flames along with the belongings. Out of fear the students locked us in an interior room. The Principal who was in an exited stage, told him that it would be too dangerous for them to stay any further. With the help of Headquarter's Inspector of Police, Rajagiriya they were taken to Rajagiriya Police Station. Then they were moved to adjoining President's School. After few days they were taken Issipathana MV camp. From there they were taken to Jaffna on 05.08.1983. He had forwarded an application to the Ministry of Shipping, Ports, Rehabilitation and Reconstruction for compensation on 22.03.1995 and on 23.07.1998. And those documents along with present Honourabel Minister of Development, Rehabilitation and Reconstruction of the North and Tamil Affairs, North and East for expeditious processing and payment of compensation on 31.07.1998. Unfortunately nothing has taken place to this day. He seeks compensation. (Ref. 216)

138. **V. Saminathan 98/35, Sri Wickremapura, Mattakulitya, Colombo 15** - The writer tells that during the 1983 riots he was a resident at premises No 364, Orrugodawatta, Wellampitiya and his house was looted and personal items including jewellery was robbed. He has made an Entry at the Grandpass Police Station. Requests compensation. (Ref. 218)
139. **S. Poopathy, 98/32, Sri Wickramapura, Mattakuliya, Colombo 15** - During the July 1983 riots the writer lived at No 24/2, Irrigation Hill, Haputale Road, Bandarawela with his family. However on 26.07.1983 some unknown thugs looted his house and all belongings including 16 gold sovereigns were robbed. An Entry has been made at Bandarawela Police Station. Requests compensation. (Ref. 219)
140. **V. Krishnasamy, 25, Main Street, Rattota** - The complainant states that he is one of the victim affected by July 86 violence. During the time of incident he was workign at Jaffna Stores, No. 51, Yatinuwar Road, Kandy. On 26.07.1989 the shop was looted and he as a refugee at Zahira College, Matale from 29.07.1983 to 01.08.1983. At that time he was residing in the shop. His clothes, jewellery, radio etc. were looted. He had reported the incident to the Kandy Police. The value of losses he had incurred amount to Rs. 25,000. He seeks compensation. (Ref. 220)
141. **K. Dhanaraj, Barandah Estate, Kataboola, Kadien - lena, Nawalapitiya** - The complainant state that he was working at Thalagama village. During the period July 1983 ethnic violence his residence set on fire and all his belongings were lost. The police kept him in the temporary Thalagama Camp. Later he worked in a private estate. After that sons of the estate proprietor sent them out say that the estate belong to them.

As they did not get any assistance they went to their relation in Omanthai. Vavuniya and worked there. Due to the war that took place there they had to loose properties worth lakhs of rupees. After that they had gone to their old place and living in a cattle shed. They had claimed assistance from samurdi but never got any help. He seeks compensation. (Ref. 221)

142. **K. Rajalingam, 102, Adiyapatham Road, Nallur, Jaffna** - The complainant was a permanent resident at 225/A, Vihara Mawatte, Hunupitiya, Wattala for more than fifteen years. He had bought a land and built a house obtaining loans from bank, MSPS and company. He was the sole breadwinne of his family wife, daughter and two sons. He was a clerk attached to Bartleet & Co., Ltd., They were attacked and looted on 25th July 1983. Their house was set on fire on 26th July 1983. They lost every cent of their eaming and were in Refugee camp. Later they went to Jaffna by ship. He had lodged and entry to the Police asking them to recover their goods. But no action had been taken. His appeal to REPPIA for assistance had no effect. He was forced by the incident to resign from the post got to Jaffna. He is sick, old and unable to travel. He has a grown up daughter and two sons without any employment. He finds difficulty in setting his debts. The losses that he had incurred during the violence valued as Rs. 216,350. He seeks compensation. (Ref. 222)

143. **A. Kandiah, 25, Main Street, Rattota** - The Complainant states that he had been a victim k and suffered extensively due to ethnic riots of July 1983. He states that on 31st June 1983 Sri Lankan Army destroyed all the goods that he had in his shop 127, Main Street, Trincomalee. He had lodged an entry regarding the incident at Trincomalee Police. The loss he incurred due to the incident valued up to three lakhs. In 1984 the army took him custody from his shop bearing number 109 and he was in the cell for 11 days. When they were at Alvai Muthumariamman Temple as refugees his daughter got injured by shelling of the Army and treated (Ref. 223)

144. **T. Rajaletchumy, 25/33, Kurunduhena, Veliamuna Road, Henkitta, Wattale** - Applicant was employed as an Officer in the Child care Centre in Matale during 1983 riots. She is expecting a reply from the Commission for this k application. A copy of a letter from the zahira Refugee Camp is attached (Ref. 224)

145. **Mrs. Ledchumy Packiyam 162/10, Udaperadeniya, Peradeniya** - Applicant was living with her family in Peradeniya. House and property lost during 1983 disturbances, displaced to Peradeniya refugee camp and later to Kilinochchi. The house built in Kilinochchi also destroyed due to shelling in that area. Displaced and now living in the above address. Letter from Peradeniya Refugee Camp attached. (Ref. 225)



146. **M. Sevugan, No. 05, Selvakanda Estate, Iraddaipathai** - Applicant was carrying business at 358, High Level Road, Pannipitiya when his premises was attacked and all belongings set on fire on the 25th July 1983. Taken to Hindu College Refugee Camp and later went for occupation in the above address. He says he made an entry in the Maharagama Police on 13.08.1983. (Ref. 226)
147. **Mrs. K. Sooriyakumari, 250, Palliyawatta, Hendala, Wattala** - Applicant's family were living in Wattala during 1983 riots, they were forced to leave the house due to this disturbance. Later they ended up refugee camp in Bampalapitiya and from there to Ratmalana Camp and later Batticaloa. They were given a house in remote area; due to violence in that area they have returned to Colombo. Seeking assistance for a place to live in Colombo. (Ref. 227)
148. **P. Krishnasamy, 63/14, Kadugannawa Rd, Gampola** - Applicant was living in 20, Opallewela Road, Gampola during 1983 riots. He declares that he had lost losted in the annexed Police Report. He is also willing to appear before the commission. (Ref. 228)
149. **A. Patkunam, 10, Vihara Road, Matale** - Applicant declares that he is one kl of the victims of the 1983 riots who had lost his house and property. Prepared to produce relevant documents at the inquiry if permitted to appear before the Commission to support his claim. (Ref. 229)
150. **Mrs Ramiah Sinnammah, Colloden Estate, Naboda** - Applicant who is a widow declares that she had lost her belongings including cash on the 25th July 1983 due to the disturbances and now living alone and with the little ration provided by the state. She (with difficulty) manages to see the ends meet. Requesting this Commission for relief. (Ref. 230)
151. **Abdul Majeed, 71A, Packiyawatte, Pottuvil - 3** - Complainant state that he was employed in Saudi Arabia and when he came to Sri Lanka on vacation on 27.07.1983 he was waylained at Pettah bus stand and lost all his belongings. He seeks compensation. (Ref. 231)
152. **N. Suppiah, Saravanas Timbers 20, 21 Wootan Bazaar, Kottagala** - Applicant was running a business at 1084, Aluvihara, Matale which was damaged on 29.07.1983 due to the riot that erupted in that area. As he could not carry on his business there he had shifted to the above address and claiming Rs. 251,000 as compensation for the damages. (Ref. 232)
153. **S. M. Fazeed, 67/3, Pansala Road Bandarawela** - Applicant was doing business at 129, Main Street, Bandarawela. His shop was gutted due to the violence in 1983 and the shop was taken back by the owner. He is claiming Rs. 275,000 for the damages and willing to appear before the commission for further briefing. (Ref. 233)

154. **Kathiravel Achary Chandrothayam, Balakrishnan Balachandran, 213 (38) Main Street, Ratnapura** - Two applicants are making claim for the damages caused in 1981 for their house and shop (jewellery). Letter from the Divisional Secretary and the Registration of the business premises depicts the name of Mr. Balakrishnan Balachandran only. List of items damaged and amount claiming for is attached (*Ref. 234*)
155. **A Ramanathan, No. 06, Soysakela Road, Nawalapitiya** - The writer had dwelt at No. 30, Bailey Rd, Nawalapitiya during the July riots of 1983. He had the "Midland Wine Stores" at the Dolasbage town. Handing over the shop to his two assistants he had gone home on 25.07.1983. He had gone to the wine stores on 07.08.1983 and found the shop completely destroyed. The looted damage amounted to Rs. 34,031. An entry had been made at the Police Station, Nawalapitiya. (*Ref. 237*)
156. **Mrs. S. Balasundaram, 131/A, Main Street Matale** - Applicant writes to say that she was living with her mother at 131, Main Street, matale. The house including all belongings set on fire on the 29th of July 1983 when they left the house for safety. The Police Entry was made by one Mrs. Gnanapragasam. S. Detail list of items lost attached. (*Ref. 239*)
157. **S. Selvam, 117, Modera Street, Colombo 15** - Applicant was the owner of a house at 13, Main St, Haputale, which was burnt down during 1983 riots he is seeking compensation for the damages. He is possession of documents in proof of his claims. (*Ref. 241*)
158. **M. R. Meiyalagan, Kelliwatte Kadai, Kelliwatte, Bogahawatte Bazaar, Patana** - Applicant was living with his family at 150/154, Negombo Road, Wattala during the 1983 disturbances his hotel was burnt down on 24 th July 1983 and the family had fled for safety, willing to submit evidence at the inquiry. (*Ref. 242*)
159. **M. Selvarajah, No. 7, Nadarajananda Road, Ramakrishnapuram, Kallady, Batticaloa** - complainant states that he and his family got much affected by the ethnic riots of 1983. He wishes to give evidence before the Commission. (*Ref. 243*)
160. **P. Yogananthamoorthy, Woodlake Division, Hauteville Estate, Agrapatana** - Applicant was living at 50/9, Sripa Road, Colombo 05, the period for which he is claiming compensation for the loss of money, jewellery etc detail of which is not available. List from the Social Services attached as proof of obtaining rations (*Ref. 244*)
161. **S. Thandavarayapillai, Lanka Traders 55, Kotmale Road, Nawalapitiya** - Applicant was living with his family at 49, Kotmale Road, Nawalapitiya, and on 25.07.1983 gang of looters entered their house and set fire to the house, and other belongings he had lost about Rs. 670,000. Further, applicant was carrying on business by the name 'Sri

- Murugan Stores" at Rasawatte Bazaar Udakanthenna, Nawalapitiya, and on 27.07.1983 the looters from adjoining village set fire to his business premises as well. Police Report attached. He seeks compensation. (Ref. 245)
162. **M. Ganeshan, Raja Stores, North matale Junction, Kavudupelella, Matale** - Applicant a victim of 1983 riot had lost 13 lakhs due to this disturbance. He is not employed, unable to do anything without any financial assistance. List of items lost from the damages to the house and shop, and the Police Report attached herewith. Seeking compensation for the losses including vehicles. (Ref. 248)
163. **B. Pradeepan, 69, Ragala Bazaar, Halgranoya** - The establishment referred to was started by applicant's father in 1960, this was first damaged during 1977 riot and during 1983 disturbance. This was burnt and all the belongings including cash looted, even after paying the ransome demanded by them. He is also blaming the then government for this incident. Three employees sustained slight burn injuries. (Ref. 249)
164. **Mrs. M. Selvaratnammah, Sathyananda Lane, Alaveddy Centre, Alaveddy** - Applicant was living with her family in Nuwara Eliya during 1983 ethnic violence that time her husband was the Post Mster and Proprietor of two establishments, namely 'Green Land Hotel' and 'Pilavoos Hotel'. They lost all these business and her husband was abducted and returned later with unsound mind. She also requests details of person occupying their place at No. 03, Water Field Drive Nuwara Eliya, present person running the "Pilavoos" business. Requests compensation. (Ref. 250)
165. **E. S. Thambimuthu, Irupalai Road, Kondavil East, Konadavil-** States that he was living with his family at 56, Rudra Maawath, Wellawatta. They were compelled to leave the house on the 25 th July 1983 to save their lives. The house was looted and set on fire ; they were then taken to the refugee camp and shipped to Jaffna where he is now residing. Requests compensation. (Ref. 151)
166. **S. Pitchai, 16, Station Road, Kotagala** - Applicant was living in 149, Central Road, Trincomalee during 1983, riots, where he reports, had lost about Rs. 125,000. No details given, but he is prepared to produce the relevant documents. Requests compensation. (Ref. 252)
167. **Alhaj S. M. M. Muzammil, 31/1, Parattha Road, Gorakana, Moratuwa** - Applicant was running a Fancy good (Shop) at 267, Main Street, Panadura on the 25th of July 1983 he was informed that his shop has been set on fire. Thereby he had lost fancy items like toys, textiles etc. and the funiture inside shop - Requesting for compensation. Affidavit and Police Report attached. (Ref. 253)

168. **S. H. Sumanasiri, St. Catherine's Road, Dolesbage** - The writer had a shop in the town of Dolasbage. However a party of people set fire to the building on 28.07.1983. The cost of damage is Rs. 52,000. (Ref. 255)
169. **N. V. P. Somasundaram, 6, First Lane, Sripada Mawatha, Ratnapura** - Applicant is making a statement that he was working in Peenkande Estate in the year 1981. During August 1981 his quarters was looted and he had lost every thing including jewellerys. He is requesting for Compensation. No further documents attached. (Ref. 256)
170. **P. Thangavelu, 70, Dolewatte Road, Matele** - Applicant was running a liquor shop by the name "Royal Bar" at 126, York Street, Fort Colombo 01. During the riot in August 1983 his shop was looted and he lost all his liquor bottles. Full list of items looted appears in the Police Report. He requests compensation. (Ref. 257)
171. **M. Rajaratnam, 54, St. Sebastian Mw. Metagoda, Hendala, Wattala** - Applicant has submitted the statement made by his father to the police with the list of items looted. The looting took place on the 26th day of July 1983 and portion of the house was burnt by the looters. He is now seeking compensation for the damage caused to the house at the above address and other belongings. (Ref. 258)
172. **P. S. Subramaniam, 9 A 1/1, Sirigal Mawatha, Kohuwela, Nugegoda** - Applicant was living at 195/3B, Quarry Road, Dehiwela during 1983 riots. His house was looted and partly burnt on 25th July 1983. Police Report annexed indicating full list of items lost, refugee camp letter also annexed. Requests compensation. (Ref. 259)
173. **A. P. Pathmanathan 403, Galle Road, Colombo 06** - Applicant was working in a shop at sea Street, Pettah, on the 29th of July 1983 the shops were looted and set on fire, for safety of his life he ran out of the shop and received gun shot injury, later admitted to the hospital and as a result of the injury became partially disabled, still unable to walk properly. Compensation of Rs. 15,000 only paid to him. Medical Certificate attached. Requests relief. (Ref. 260)
174. **S. S. Subramaniam, 197/4, Rajagiriya Road, Rajagiriya** - Applicant was living in Dematagoda during 1983 disturbances, where his house was burnt down. He had made a request to Her Excellency, the President also for compensation on 01.09.2001. He is requesting to appear before the Commission to brief the incident. (Ref. 261)
175. **W. A. S. Perera, 187/B, Rajagiriya Road, Rajagiriya** - Applicant was running a business establishment by the name "international United" at Dematogoda in the premises belongs to a Tamil. This premises was set on fire during 1983 riots and the applicant had lost his belongings and business. He had only obtained a bank loan Rs. 25,000. Requesting to appear before the Commission. (Ref. 262)

176. **Mrs. L. Shanmugam 65/128 Crow Island Housing Scheme, Colombo 15** - The complainant states that his residence that was at Rambukpitiya, Nawalapitiya with all belongings was set on fire and destroyed completely during the ethnic violence of 1983. Subsequently she had lost her husband the breadwinner of the family and presently she stays with her daughter. She experiences lot of difficulties without a source of income. She does not own any land or home to have a source of income. Seeks compensation. (Ref. 263)
177. **P. Thiyagarajah, 3/1A, Peellapotha Village Road, Badulla** - The complainant states that he was a Superintendent / Clerk of the Oliyamanday Estate, Budulla. On the 27th July 1983 a big crowd had come through Badulla Ratwatte Mawatte side. The crowd had come with iron rods, pelted stones looted all the household items and set fire to the building. Through fear the entire occupant of house had fled. he had lost goods worth of Rs. 404,000. He had been paid Rs, 25,000 to purchase clothes and household goods etc. He has not revealed the source of assistance that he got. He seeks redress against his losses. (Ref. 264)
178. **M. S. Selvendran 278/12, Nikawatte, Badulla** - The complainant states that he was a running gem and jewellery business at 53 bazaar Street, Badulla during the incident. On the 27th July 1983 a large crowd attacked his premises and looted away his stock of gemstones and jewellery items. The worth of damage he had incurred due the incident was Rs. 1,200,000. He was provided an assistance of Rs. 25,000 to pruchse new clothes and household goods etc. He seeks redress. (Ref. 265)
179. **S. Shanmuganathan, 30, Collingwood Place, Colombo 06** - The complainant states that he with his brothers running wholesale and retail business at No. 2 nuwara Eliya Road, Welimade during the time of the incident. During July 1983 communal disturbance their shop had been completely brunt by unknown thugs. The damage caused to their property was Rs. 1,758,000. They were not compensated. He seeks compensation (Ref. 267)
180. **M. A. Pemiyanu, 33, Wadumulla, Devalapola** - The writer has been at Toppur Alutwedapola in Mutur G.A. 's division during the riots of 81 - 84. For 15 long years he had a shop in repairing licensed guns and a hardware shop during the riots. He was orderd to put into an Army bus to save the life. As the security condition was bad he had gone to the village. (Ref. 268)
181. **K. Ariyaratnam 60, Kudugala Road, Wattedgama** - The complainant states that he was staying with his family at 33/5, Weeramudunne, Katugastota during the communal disturbance in 1983. His house had been set on fire and destroyed. He had made application to the REPPIA and not succeeded in getting any loan for reconstruction of his house. He seeks a rehabilitation loan to rebuild his house. (Ref. 269)

182. **L. Thiyagarajah, 164, King's Street Matale** - The complainant states that there were 17 members in her family. They were living as one family at 164, 166 and 168 Kings Street, Matale during the time of 1983 ethnic violence. Their houses were attacked by a mob of 300, set fire to their residence. They spent 10 days at the Zahira College, Matale as refugees. Their loss value was up to Rs. 4,500,000. After that they had gone to India. They returned to Sri Lanka after 8 years. They had lost almost all of their belongings. They have repaired but have not got any assistance from the state. They had spent Rs. 1,500,000 for the renovation of their houses. Seek compensation. (Ref. 271)
183. **R. Ehamparam, 337/63, Dambulla Road, Galahakella, Galewala** - The complainant states that on 30.07.1983 his shop was set on fire in Matale. He had lost Rs. 40,000 due to the incident. Due to the incident he left to Valachchenai. During that time, one Mrs. Asoka who lived in the Matale Road, Galewala forcibly took the land (2 roods) that was in the name of his wife. To prove the ownership of the land documents are available with him. But they were unable to claim due to financial constraints that they face at present. At present he is engaged in agriculture in a state land. Its extent is 20-30 perches. He wishes to put up a house and live there. He seeks compensation or to help him to obtain permission to own this state land. (Ref. 275)
184. **V. Pathmanathan, 122/5, Biridawela (Aluvihare), Matale** - The complainant states that his house and belongings were set on fire during the 1983 July ethnic violence. They had to seek shelter at Matale St. Thomas College as refugees for about 20 days. After that they had gone to Kilinochchi Refugee Camp and stayed there for about 6 months. Later they had come back to one of their relations' house in Matale. Seeks compensation. (Ref. 276)
185. **Mrs. S. Manikkam, 18/3, Circular Road, Kaluthawalai, Matale** - The complainant states that during July 1983 a crowd of 100 people surrounded their house and smashed the windows and things inside the house. Thereafter, they poured petrol on to the house and set fire. She had lost her husband and has to look after the education of her children. The loss she had incurred worth about Rs. 700,000. She had not got any assistance. She seeks compensation. (Ref. 284)
186. **N. Thangagopal, 333, Aluthwatte, Rajawella** - The complainant states that during July 1983 the house that he was residing was attacked and set on fire. To save his and his family members' lives they had to go and stay at Giris High School, Kandy. Thereafter they were taken to Ramanathan Hall, Peradeniya University, Kandy. When the situation was normalized he had gone to see his house and found that it was completely destroyed. Then they decided not to live there any more and left to Kengalla. After that he sold his land (12 perches) to a nominal price. He is a textile dealer. They had lost 320,000 rupees worth of belongings and

180,000 rupees worth of textiles. And 150,000 rupees worth of goods got damaged. They had not obtained any assistance from the state. He seeks compensation. (Ref. 285)

187. **V. Gnanamani, 59, Kegalle Road, Bulthkohupitiya, Badulla** - The PRO writes on behalf of one Vethamuththu Gnananmani of 59, Kegalle Road, Bulathkohupitiya. He states that Mr. V. Gnanamani was a one of the victim of July 1983 ethnic violence. His residence and business place were completely destroyed in the incident. A copy of the complaint made to the Police is available. The victim wishes to make representation before the commission and seeks compensation. (Ref. 286)

188. **K. P. Thiyagarajan, 55, 56, 57, Main Street, Kandapola** - The complainant states that his family had lost their property and belongings during ethnic violence in July 1983. They had spent few months in the Welfare Centre without any job. They were running the business in a small scale during the incident. They had not obtained any insurance. The REPIIA granted us Rs. 200,000 as a loan. They had done some repairs to the house and re-established their business with that money. Hence they find difficulty in settling the loan. Seeks compensation. (Ref. 287)

189. **L. Yogarajah, Sapumalkanda Estate, Upper Division, Deraniyagala** - Mr. N. Dias, Attorney at Law had forwarded two documents of a July 1983 victim one Mr. L. Yogarajah of Sapumalkande Estate, Upper Division, Deraniyagala. The complainant states that all properties were looted and destroyed during the incident. The value of the property lost was Rs. 731,500. Seeks compensation. (Ref. 288)

190. **K. Sangarapillai, 4, Ratnakara Place, Dehiwela** - The complainant states that on 25th July 1983 ethnic riots they were severely affected suffered. On the incident a massive crowd of about 24 hooligans armed with hamful weapons had entered their house smashed all the glass windows, robbed everything they could and poured petrol and set fire to the entire house. The household effects, valuables such as clothes, jewellery and documents etc were burnt to ashes. They had fled to their neighbouring house fear of imminent danger. Next day they were taken to refugee camp at Ratmalana. After 8 or 9 days they were transported in a cargo vessel to Kankesanthurai. The incident had been reported to Police. They had incurred a loss up to the value of Rs. 500,000. Seeks compensation. (Ref. 290)

191. **P. Subramaniam, 16/7, Lower King's Street, Badulla** - The complainant writes to state that he and his family were living at No. 40, Passara Road, Hindagoda, Badulla during the time of the incident on 27.07.1983. At about 11.30 a.m. a group of thugs comprises over 35 in number came damaged his house and looted away the valuable goods worth about Rs. 53,275. Through fear he and his family members were biding elsewhere.

Few days later they were sent to Batticaloa by G. A. Badulla and had to take shelter under known people of that area. After a month time he had visited Badulla and gone to see house there he found his entire building was damaged and unable to put to use any more. He had approached a contractor and got an estimate in order to get it repaired. The estimated value was rupees six lakhs. Due to his heavy loss he incurred he was paid a sum of Rs. 25,000 to purchase house utensils, clothing etc. he seeks redress. (Ref. 291)

192. **A. V. A. Ramiah, 63, N. H. S., Hekkita, Wattala** - The complainant has sent a copy of the Police Report that he had made on 11.08.1983. In that report he had stated that he was a Publicity Publication manager at Sri Kotha, UNP Headquarters. His wife was an Editorial Staff at the Lake house. When both of them had left for work on July 25th 1983 there were lot of unrest in the country. On that day he was not allowed to get out of the work place due to the rest. On the 26th morning he had phoned up the MP and the OIC of Wattala Police to find out what has happened to his family and the house. They had informed that his house had completely gutted by fire and family's whereabouts was unknown. The loss items were valued up to Rupees 6 Lakhs. He had rescued his family only on 27th July 1983 and they brought to Sri Kotha with the help of MP and the Police (Wattala) He seeks compensation. (Ref. 292)

193. **Mrs. G. Muththiah, 15/1, D - Prathibimbarama Road, Kalubowila, Dehiwela** - States that she is the widow of late Mr. R. Muthiah who was a Government Building and Transport Contractor registered under the Public Service Department. They had their three - bed roomed house at 20, lower King's Street, Badulla. On hearing that all Tamil and their houses were going to be attacked by Sinhala boooligans she and her husband together with three neighbouring families had rushed to the nearby Sinhala Mayavidyalaya to take refuge on the direction of the Police. On the 28th July when they heard that the people were moving about freely they too had walked up to see the state of their house. On reaching they found that it had been completely burnt and razed to the ground. Seeks relief. (Ref. 293)

194. **R. J. Gunaratnam, Chairman, R. Vythialingam Ltd., 2/4 J Block, Government Flats Colombo - 04** - The complainant states that he had an establishment called R. Vythialingam Ltd., Nos. 38, 40 & 42 Bazaar St, Badulla. The nature of business they had was wholesale and Retail Dealers in Textiles, Hardware & Building Materials, and Estate Agents. On 26th July 1983 fearing out break of violence, he had locked up the establishment and evacuated all his sixteen members of his staff to a nearby Spring Valley "Tea Estate". They were housed by one of their friends for five days. When the situation returned to normal they returned to the premises and found to their shock and dismay that their two story building almost burnt down along with the full stocks in it. They also found the their Iron Safe had broke open and cash amounting to Rs. 21,000 and all



deeds and legal documents were missing. They hadn't any authentic documents relating to the loss and damage that had taken place eighteen years ago. He had given a modest estimate of Rs. 2,465,000 as losses they had sustained. He seeks compensation. (Ref. 294)

195. **P. Dharmawathy, No. 10, Canal Lane, Negombo** - The writer states her husband was working in the Cement Corporation as a permanent employee and resided in K. K. S. building their own house. The children had their education in K. K. S. Due to the 1983 disturbances they were compelled to leave the place. Subsequently the husband has died. She has not got any relief. (Ref. 295)
196. **K. Paramanathan, No. 54, Puttalam Road, Nochchiyagama** - Copies of entries made to the O. I. C, Police Station, Jaffna has been sent to this Commission. They are regarding the insurgency of 1977 and of December 1984. (Ref. 297)
197. **Rasiah Amirthalekha, 158/A, Colombo Road, Gampaha** - This is a copy of an application addressed the Ministry of Port Development, Rehabilitation and Reconstruction for compensation in respect of damage to property from the writer. She states that due to the communal riots of 1983 the business place and the house at No. 65 Baudhaloka Mawatha was attacked amounting to Rs. 15,000 was lost. In the affidavit she states that she has not received relief or compensation. (Ref. 298)
198. **N. Karthikeyan, No. F 116, Polheawatte Housing Scheme, Weliketiya Road Kelaniya** - The Complainant states that he was a resident of Matugama Estate known as Athlathmudaligama during the time of the incident on 25.07.1983. His family comprised of his wife, sons and mother - in - law. On 25.07.1983 a mob stormed in to their house, stoning and chasing them away from their houses. They all managed to save their lives and got shelter in the Jungle. Next day they found the entire house had been set on fire and the ashes and burnt remaining were left. They found shelter in another place near the Matugama Police Station. After 17 days on a request made by the security forces they returned to their house. The status of house was such bad for human living they managed to clean one portion, patch those burnt doors, windows and the roof. It is evident event today if some one visits and sees. They had made complaint to Matugama Police and REPIA. NO one had cared to assist them to this day. The estimated value of the losses incurred as per letter sent REPIA was Rs. 29,814 Seeks compensation (Ref. 299)
199. **K. Balasubramaniam, 39, Vivekananda Road, Colombo 06** - The complainant states that he is a retired Director of Buildings and was living with his daughter Dr. Siwanandhi Balasubramaniam and his son B. Sivamohan at 39, Vivekananda Road, Wellawatte during the time of the incident July 1983. On the 25th July a mob had come to his house with iron bars, knives, bottles and other weapons. They had threatened them with

bodily harm broke all furnishers, electrical appliances etc and virtually set the entire house on fire. They were frightened and were not able to take anything and they were chased away. They left the premises immediately and took refuge in a Sinhalese friend's house that was opposite side of the road. At the end of the day they were taken to Colombo Hindu College Refugee Camp, Bambalapitiya. They stayed there for about two weeks. The total claim of loss incurred by the applicant stated as Rs. 3,200,000. Seeks compensation. (Ref. 300)

200. **B. J. Ariyanayagam, 78/2, Norris Canal Road, Colombo 10** - The complainant was a Traffic officer attached to the M/s Quickshaws Ltd., Kalinga Place, Colombo 05 and was residing at 78/2, Norris Canal Road, Colombo 10 at the time of incident. He states that on 25th July 1983 a mob numbering over 200 had come attacked his house. Under fear he and his family were at his neighbour's division until they found shelter at the Church of Our Lady of Fathima at Deans Road, Maradana. At about 5.00 p. m. when he visited his house he found the doors and windows were forced open and articles were removed, looted burnt and destroyed. They were at the church premises for two days and later they were taken to the refugee camp at Mahanama College, Colombo 03, After five days he with his family had left to Point Pedro by ship. He had made complaint at the Point Pedro Police regarding the losses he had incurred during the incident. The value of articles that he had lost was Rs. 129,475. And the expenses that he had incurred to repair his residence was Rs. 22,000. He seeks compensation for the losses. A certified copy of the Police Entry is available. He has not received any compensation for the losses he had incurred. (Ref. 301)

201. **S. K. Moorthy, Market lane, Manipay** - The complainant states that he was a long standing of Madawachchiya. He owned three premises at the time of the incident. (1) House and Property No. 35, Kandy Road, Madawachchiya (2) Sri Lanka Mills No 33, Kandy Road, Madawachchiya and (3) Lanka Motor Stores No. 5&7, Mannar Junction, Madawachchiya. On account of the communal tension prevailed in November 1984 he and his family had to leave Madawachchiya for safety of their lives, leaving all their valuable things that included his assets relating his business, house and property with valuable furniture fittings etc. As he had left Madawachchiya during the high of the tension, he cannot say who is responsible for the looting, burning and destroying of all his belongings. He had made inquiries about the premises over the telephone on 13.02.1984 and had come to know that all the things in the all three premises had been looted, partly burnt and destroyed. The incident had taken place between 16.11.1984 and 13.12.1984. The value of the movable property lost by him in all three premises informed in writing to Anuradhapura Superintendent of Police on 14.12.1984. He seeks redress. (Ref. 304)

202. **Kayambu Arulraj, 6, Theatre Road, Nawalapitiya** - During the 1983 disturbances the writer had lived at No. 16, Bailey Road, Nawalapitiya. The Printing Press "Raja Press" had been destroyed amounting to Rs. 637,000. A complain had been made at the Police Station Nawalapitiya. (Ref. 305)
203. **Palitha Senaratne, 9, Lunuwatta, Badulla** - He states that he had a leading shop between 2 Tamil shops and all three were in one building. On the night of 26 th July 1983, all three shops were set on fire by some unknown persons. Seeks compensation. (Ref. 306)
204. **M. Murugiah, 483, Kurundugahahethekma, Elpitiya** - The writer states that during the 1983 civil disturbances the terrorists set fire to his house and all the foods. He had a papadam production centre and about 40 employees worked. Even his van was burnt. He has been married to a Sinhalese Lady. He has a copy of the Police Report. (Ref. 307)
205. **M. Ramiah, Wewessa Estate, Top Division, Badulla** - the complainants state that they were resident of Karandagama Estate. One Sivapackiyam owned the estate after his death it was manged by Messrs. S. Nadarajah and Sivapackiyam Parwathy. It is in Moneragala District close to Padalkumbura. The extent was more than 1000 acres and there were 700 resident workers. After the estate was vested under the Land Reform Commission they continued stay in the same estate. They build houses, cultivated sugar canes and vegetables etc. They were dependent on the cultivations and the animal husbandries. Among them there were many workers paid taxes etc. to the authorities. On 28 th July 1983 a crowd of thugs entered in to the estate with knives and other weapons. They set fire to all their houses, lines, cattle sheds all their buildings. Moreover they had looted all of their belongings and cattle and damaged their plantations. They were only with their clothes and ran in to the Sugar Cane Plantations with their family members After two days they were taken to Alupotha Muslim School where they spent then days. Thereafter they were taken to Monaragala Refugee Camp where they were until 17 th December 1983. During they were in the camp one of them died, babies were born, and they underwent severe difficulties. They were sent back to the Estate in December 1983 and they are presently working there. Due to the incident their things burnt and looted. They lost all their documents. Three persons died due to worries. There was a Magistrate Court Case pending at the Passara no date had been given after 1988. Each one of them had been paid Rs. 1,500 when they left the camp. Most of them had lodged entries at the Passara Police Station. So far no action had been taken. They seek compensation. And they are prepared to give evidence if the Commission requested so. (Ref. 308)
206. **T. Ambigairajah, 30/36, G- 1/1, De Silva Rd, Kalubowila, Dehiwela** - The complainant state that he and his family were badly affected during the July 1983 ethnic violence. They lived at 20, Shrubbery Gardens,

Bambalapitiya, Colombo - 04. On 25 th July 1983 a mob stormed their house with deadly weapons and cans of inflammable substance. Just before the mob stormed their house he, his wife and children had left through the back door and taken refuge in a Sinhalese friend's house. The mob had looted their house and set fire to it. When the commotion ended they went back to the house found the whole burnt down and every thing in it reduced to ashes. And later their friend had taken them in his car to Refugee Camp at the Methodist College, Kollupitiya. They went there with only the clothes that they were wearing and stayed there till 09.08.1983. On 09.08.1983 morning the complaint had gone and made an entry at the Bambalapitiya Police Station. The loss they incurred due to the violence valued as Rs. 800,000. On the same evening they were taken to Jaffna by ship named "Nangowri". After about 3 month he had come to Colombo and inspected the burnt house and made an application to REPIA. He had not got any assistance from REPIA. Later in 1986 they had sold the property. They seek compensation. (Ref. 309)

207. **A. C. M. Rashid, 39, St, Mary's Road, Mount Lavinia** - States that he was the owner of No. 02, New Bazaar Street, Nuwara Eliya that is known as K. Abraham & Co situated within the Municipal limits of the Nuwara Eliya Municipal Council in extent of 29.25 perches. The building stood right at the bend leading to Lawson Street surrounded by New Windsor Hotel, Kachcheri, Police Station and Bank of Ceylon. The building had two wings. The upstairs wing facing New Bazaar Street, Lawson Street and the other wing consisting of a spacious residential house facing Lawson Street. The complainant lived in that house with his wife and three children and used the floor area bordering Lawson Street as a shop carrying business under the name of "Little Field" dealers in Radio's T. V. sets and electrical appliances. The building at New Bazaar Street was rented out to the Government to house the Nuwara Eliya Branch of "Laksala" On 27 th July 1983 he returned from the Mosque after the Jumma prayers it was about 1.30 p. m. Suddenly they heard the sound of blast in the neighbourhood and almost immediately a major fire broke out enveloping the entire area with smoke. As fire raged nearer to their dwelling they ran out with the only clothes on their bodies to save lives and took shelter at their friend's house. He seeks redress. (Ref. 311)

208. **S. Ramakrishnan, Angarankantha Estate, Elkaduwa, Matale** - Applicant was workign in the Canteen belongs to the "K. G, Plastics. On 23.07.1983 during the riot his belongings including cash (total 85,000) were burnt down. He went to Wattala and later to a refugee camp at Mahanama Vidyalaya and to the hometown at Matele. He was not given any relief in any form. Implication is he is requesting for compensation through he had not specifically mentioned. (Ref. 314)

209. **Mrs. Subramaniam Thavamanie 221, Puttalam Road, Nochchiyagame** - The writer's husband has been carrying on business as a dealer in sundry provisions and grains. The name of the shop was "Maniam Stores". How-

ever on 02.12.1984 unknown crowd looted and damaged his premises. The value of the goods he lost amounts to Rs. 92,000. He has made a Police Report to Nochchiyagame Police Station. (Ref. 315)

210. **S. Pathmanathan C/o., S. Nagendran 17, School Lane, Colombo 13 -**

The complainant states that he together with two members of his family were taken to the Refugee Camp at Ratmalana Airport and then to St. Thomas College, Mt Lavinia 28. 07. 1983. His damaged house was at No. 48 School Lane, Dehiwela. He was in Government Service attached to Medical Research Institute, Colombo 08. He had retired him self from government service in October 1983. His family had moved to India where they still continue to live. He had made an entry with the Mt. Lavinia Police stating the events and damages on 28.07. 1983. He had made an appeal to REPIA on 25.08.1983 to which he had not received any reply. His brother had sold the house without consulting him while he was out of the country. Now he resides in Colombo surviving on a meagre pension of Rs. 4,800. He seeks compensation. (Ref. 316)

211. **N. Palvanam, C/o, Mrs. M. Wijesinghe, 9 Suramyia Place, Katubedde Moratuwa -**

The complainant states the he was occupying a rented house at the time of incident. The house itself had suffered considerable damage and his belongings were looted during the incident on 25 th July 1983. When they were at home on 25 th July, some men about 6 in number armed with axe, daggers, iron rod and knives had come up to his gage and called his brother to the gate told him that there were two "Tigers" in the house and wanted to inspect the house. Suddenly forced their way in to the house and proceeded to each and every room. Thereafter one of them had snatched the gold chain that was around the neck of his sister, another of the men snatched the gold chain around the neck of his brother's wife. Thereafter they had threatened to kill everyone in the house and demanded all the money and jewellery. They had to give to the demand what they had in their possession. They threatened them again and again that if they continue to stay in the house they will be killed. Under fear he had telephoned to one his friends asking for transport to escape from the place. The friend had taken them as many in his car to another friend's place. When that friend came again to transport left over the same men had come back to the premises and tried to set fire to the car demanding the key of the premises. From their friend's place they were taken to the Police Station, Dehiwela from there they were taken to the camp at the Ratmalana Airport. They had incurred a loss of belongings appozimately Rs. 128,740. He Seeks compensation. (Ref. 317)

212. **James Z. Jacob, Wewelmedde, Wellangahawotte, Rattota -**

Applicant writes to say, that he was staying at 169/1, Canal Road, Colombo 06 during 1983 riot, where he had lost most of his belongings due to a mob attack, they fled to India and on return to the above address, portion of their land has been encroached, certain portion has been acquired according to Land Reform Act now seeking Compensation and attevinate land. (a factory building) requests Compensation (Ref. 318)

213. **T. Karuppiah, 89/30, Kudugala Road, Wattegama** - Applicant was living with her family at Endane Estate, Kahawate during 1983 riots, whose house had been burnt out completely. Requests compensation (Ref. 319)
214. **Kandiah Nagaratnam, 30, St. Anthony's Mw, Colombo 13**-He had been selling plantains at No. 1378, Kotte Road, Rajagiriya before the 1983 riots. In the riots on 25.07.1983 he fled the place because of threats to life from thugs. There were 5 persons working and all sort refuge in safe places. The total loss to him was Rs. 81,000/- (Ref. 321)
215. **N. Kumarachandran, 126, 3rd Cross Street, Colombo 11**- Applicant had two establishments at 218 and 212, Main Street, Negombo, a textile shop and a Bata footwear shop. He complains about a serious loss of his property, goods, cash etc. due to 1983 civil disturbances, a content of which he had annexed and requesting for maximum affordable relief (Ref. 322)
216. **C. Sambandanathan, 86/1, - 3/1 Fussels Lane, Colombo 06**- states he was an Assistant Manager Bank of Ceylon and had a resident at 181/6, W. A. Silva Mawatha, Colombo 06, during 1983 riots, where he had incurred a loss due to looting and arson. Requests compensation. (Ref. 323)
217. **D. Ponniah, Store Keeper, St. James Estate, Hali-Ela,-** Applicant states that he was residing at Balangoda when he lost his belongings on 16.08.1981 due to looting for which a Police Entry is attached indicating list of items lost. And again the house belongs to his wife burnt down during 1983 riots at C. 13, Pallegama, Nawalapitiya worth 2 lakhs at that time (Ref. 324)
218. **W. A Peter Perera, 31/13, 2nd Lane Koswatte Road, Nawala, Rajagiriya**- He has given many Tamil families large houses in De Mel Road, Koswatte, (No. 21) 6-3) and because of the communal riots of 1983 he had lost Rs. 20 Lakhs because they had been gutted. He saved the Tamil families but he has not received any compensation (Ref. 326)
219. **K. Theivanayagam, Natpaddimunai, Kalmunai**- Applicant's son was arrested on suspicion on 3rd June, 1981 at Thirukovil following a shoot out near that area and remanded in Welikada prison. During 1983 disturbances he was killed inside the prison along with other inmates, his death certificate (T. Baskaran aged 21) attached herewith in confirmation, Requesting compensation for the death (Ref. 327)
220. **P. Selvakumar, North Matale Junction, Kawudupellela**-Applicant is requesting for compensation for the destruction of his shop, property and house but no documents forwarded in support of his claim (Ref. 328)

221. **P. Poopendranathan, 29-2B, Vishaka Road, Colombo 4-** Applicant was residing at P-8, Anderson Flat and was chased away and his belongings looted and burnt during 1983 riot. The house which was taken over by the Housing Commissioner after the riot, for which applicant is prepared to produce all relevant document at the inquiry. Requests compensation. (Ref. 329)
222. **P. Vadivel, Ambal Illam, North Matale, Kawudupellela-** Applicant is complaining of his house and property looted during 1983 disturbances, but no supporting documents attached in proof of his claim. (Ref. 330)
223. **M. Balasubramaniam, 150/4, King's Street, Matale-** Applicants states that his shop, house and property destroyed on 29.07.1983 during the riot, no relief obtained, now requesting for compensation amounts to Rs. 15 Lakhs. Medical Certificate is available with him in support. (Ref. 331)
224. **A. M. Periyasamy, 221, Main Street, Kahawatte-** The writer had tailoring shop at No. 221, Main Street, Because of the disturbance of August, 1981 his business Establishment was completely destroyed. He had lost about Rs. 155 Lakhs. He has forwarded an affidavit and a copy of the Police Report is too attached. (Ref. 332)
225. **Mrs. Nadesan Sellammah, 221, Main Street, Kahawatta-** The husband of the writer was operating wholesale and retail trade of premises No. 11, Main Street, Kahawatte. However because of the communal disturbances of August, 1981 his entire business was destroyed. The total value was Rs. 1,354,170. Subsequently as he had no means, he became a mental patient and died of Paralysis, As proof a Police Entry made at Kahawatte is attached. (Ref. 333)
226. **W. L. Amarasiri, 994, I. D. H. Road, Gothatuwa-** Applicant was the owner of a Record Bar by the name Sandeepani Record Bar and Textile Shop at 348/2/1. Baseline Road, Dematagoda. His Textile shop was looted and the record bar housed upstairs was damaged due to the heat of the fire. He had given the full list of items lost in the annexed Police Report (Amount to 1.5 Million) . This took place on 24th July, 1983, willing to appear personally to give more evidence in support of his claim for compensation (Ref. 334)
227. **K. Shanmugalingam, No. 04, Ramakrishna Avenue, Colombo 06-** Applicant was the (retired) Dty. Secretary to the Treasury (1995). He is making a claim for the losses incurred by his family during 1983 riot, while he was away in Manila on office duty. He had submitted an affidavit for the list of items lost. His family housed at Hindu College Refugee Camp before they left for Jaffna by ship. Seeking for compensation (Ref. 336)
228. **K. Thillainathan, 215-E, 2/1, Park Road, Colombo 05-** Applicant's property at 42, Lower Kings Street, Badulla was damaged during 1983 riots. This property was illegally taken over by a member of the Provincial Council Mr. Jagath Sugadasa and two buildings were erected. Applicant has presented this case to the ombudsman and awaiting decision. He is requesting compensation for his losses (Ref. 337)

229. **S. R. Ragunathan, 90 B/1, Piliyandala Road, Katuwawela, Borelesgamuwa**-Applicant was employed at Sathosa Trade Centre, 45, Prince Street, Colombo 11, during 1983 riot this establishment was looted and burnt thereby the applicant lost his family's jewellery which was kept in the iron safe of the said trade centre. Police Report, copy of letter to Her. Excellency and to Mr. Ashroff too annexed. Requests compensation (Ref. 338)
230. **P. Sivapalan, Kaanthiyar Veethy, 4th Division, Eravur**-Applicant was living at 44, Clinic Road, Badulla during 1983 riot and running a Pawn Broking Business at 233C, Lower Street, Badulla. His house was looted and burnt on 27.07.1983 and also his pawn broking shop with all the belongings. He requests compensation for items mentioned in his Police Report. His vehicle Toyota 11 Sri 170 was not transferred at the time (Ref. 339)
231. **P. Puvaneswaran, 357, Main Street, Dickoya**- Applicant was living with his family at 28/6-A, Shanthi Road, Hendala during the 1983 riots. On 27.07.1983 he was compelled to leave the houses with his family by the landlord, he had entered the refugee camp and later to Vavuniya. He had lost all his belongings, and the advance money paid to the landlord, which the landlord had refused to return. Police Report, Camp Certificate etc. are attached. Requests compensation (Ref. 340)
232. **M. Sinnathurai, 55, Pamandake Lane, Colombo 06** - Applicant was working as Chief Clerk of the Sarni Group. Badulla during 1983 disturbances. He is claiming compensation for loss of employment from 1983 to 1990 (60 years of age) and personal belongings as declared in the annexed list and the Police Report (Ref. 341)
233. **B. Suyambulingam, No. 3, 15th Lane, Colombo 08**-Applicant who was living at 102/8, Alwis Town, Hendala had lost all his household goods during 1983 disturbances. No detail description of the incident submitted, is now requesting compensation. (Ref. 342)
234. **I. R. Raghavan, 171, Sri Vajiragana Road, Dematagoda Road, Maradana, Colombo 10**-Applicant was living at the above premises during 1983 disturbances, which was looted by Nazim & Nihal Indrajith and the applicant had made an Entry in the Police regarding his losses. Copy of the letter sent to the Police attached. (Ref. 343)
235. **S. Moorthy, 39/19, Shanthi Lane, Hendala, Wattala**-Applicant was living with his family at Rakwana, Ratnapura district. He had lost about 10 lakhs by loosing his household goods and shop items on the 14th August, 1981 due to the riot that took place as planned by the then Parliamentarian H. Karunaratne, Applicant is prepared to submit relevant documents personally. (Ref. 344)
236. **M. Gunaseelan, 56, Devisiripura, Talawakele**-Applicant was living with his family in Atampitiya Estate Quarters on 29th July 1983 the day the applicant of his family were forced out of the Quarters to the Superintendent's Bungalow



- and then to the refugee camp and later to Batticaloa. He had noticed on his return to the estate that all his belongings were looted. List of items attached. (Ref. 345)
237. **S. M. Charles, 56, Devisiripura, Talawekele**-Applicant was living with his family at Liyagawela Estate, Bandarawela, when his house was attacked by a mob on 29th July, 1983. From a refugee camp at Badulla he went to Jaffna with his family. On his return he found to have lost all belongings in the house. Police refused to record his statement. Seeks compensaiton. (Ref. 346)
238. **S. Arunachalam, Block 3A, Ground Floor, Bambalapitiya, Flats, Colombo 04**-Applicant is 93 years old now and was the owner of the tea estate at Bindunuwewa, Bandarawela on the 7th August, 1981. He reports a loss of Rs. 5 Lakhs due to his mob violence. He is requesting for compensation (Ref. 347)
239. **P. Suppiah, 290/25, Sri Sangaraja Mawatha, Colombo 10**- Three applicants engaged in business as partners in three establishments and different localities seeking compensation jointly are willing to appear before the commission with relevant documents in support of their claim which includes photographs, Police Entry, Business Registration etc. to enable to Commission to assess the damage to grant appropriate relief. (Ref. 348)
240. **V. Periampillai, Angarankanda Estate, Elkaduwa, Matale**-Applicant was running a Tailor Shop at Kollupitiya with a partner (Mr. Rajah) and staying at Hendala with a friend. On his way to the Jailor Mart on 24.07.1983 he was attacked by a mob and ran for safety to Wattala Police, then to Mahanama College Refugee Camp. After ten days when he returned to the shop, it was completely burnt. This incurred a heavy loss, a father of four children and unemployed as no work in the Estate now, seeks relief (Ref. 349)
241. **Dr. P. P. Thillaivasan, Dental Surgeon, 18/2, Hampden Lane, Colombo 06** - The writer and his wife were living at 18/1A, Hampden Lane, Colombo 06 at the time the communal riots broke out. Damage to property, personal belongings and loss of valuables took place, a detailed amount of the damaged had been submitted to REPIA but without success (Ref. 352)
242. **C. Ganeshan, Block K No. 6, 1st Floor, Bambalapitiya Flats, Colombo 04** - During the communal riots of July, 1983 the writer and his family lived at No. 18-14, Hampden Lane, Colombo 06. He states that considerable damages was caused to property and personal belonging. The total amount of losses accrued to two lakhs. An Entry has been made to the Wellawatta Police (Ref. 353)
243. **P. Ponnampalam, Rothchild Estate, Pussellawa**-Applicant is complaining that he was affected during 1983 communal disturbances ; copy of the Police Entry confirms this (annexed). He is sick person now. Seeking relief for a better living (Ref. 355)

244. **S. Ganeshwaran, No. 47, Godapola Road, Matale**-The writer was a resident at Kirigalpotha, Palapathwela on the Main Dambulla Road and goring 60 perches. On the morning of 29.07.1983 hundrds of hooligans threatened them the entire household goods including the T. V. were set on fire. Later he saw only the four walls had remained. The total damage was about Rs. 350,000/-. Presently he lives in rented house at Matale. (Ref. 356)
245. **V. Pushpakanthan, 05, Seevali Mawatha, Berindiwela, Matale** - When the 1983 July Civil Disturbance broke out his residence and property was set on fire by the communalists. He had made an Entry in the Police Station. The Police have told him as 18 years have elapsed the books containing the records have been destroyed. Seeking relief. (Ref. 357)
246. **K. Muthulingam, 75/15, Kichal Lane, Rattota Road, Matale**- Applicant was the owner of the Hotel named "New Rex Hotel" at 412, Main Street, Matale which was looted and burnt on 29.07.1983 during the racial riot. Items lost are listed in the letter submitted to the Police, Copy of the Police Entry. Camp Certificate and Hotel's tax receipt from Matale are attached. Requests compensation (Ref. 358)
247. **M. Rajasingham, 6/C, Sivan Kovil Street, Thonikkal, Vanuniya**- The writer was Acting Superintendent of Audit and residing at H58, Torrington Quarters, Colombo 05 during the time of the violence of July 1983. All residence belongings were looted ; furniture damaged ; cash and jewellay were removed. An entry has been made at the Police Station Narahenpita. Request compensation (Ref. 359)
248. **N. Thayanithy, 11, Galpotha Street, Kotahena** - At the time of the outbreak of communal disturbances the writer resided at No. 5/2, First Lane, Ratmalana on 25.07.1983 a gang of violent mob entered the house damaged it and looted all the belongings including gold and jewellery. An Entry has been made in the Police Station Jaffna. Requests compensation (Ref. 360)
249. **Mrs. Navamani Thangavelu, Plot No. 87, 4th Cross Street, Off 4th Main Road, A. G. S. Office Colony, Velachery, Chennai 600042, INDIA**- The writer is the widow of the Thangavelu (*alias*) Thangathurai the Past President of the Tamil Ealam Liberation Organisation, who was murdered on 25th July, 1983 in the Welikada Prison. The death of the husband had created heavy mental and financial strain. Due to the loss of the husband and agony she underwent she requests the above (Ref. 361)
250. **A Suntharajah, 13/4, Alexandra Road, Colombo 06**- The writer had two shops - No. 06 and 20, Nuwara Eliya Street. During the communal disturbances on 30.07.1983 all the goods in the 02 shops were looted and No. 06 shop burnt to ashes. An entry has been made in the Police Station at Gampaha, Requests compensation (Ref. 363)

251. **M. P. Edward, Kulamankal, Mallakam** - The writer states that during the riots of 1983 he resided at No. 1231, Ananda Mawatha, Hunupitiya, Wattala. He was assaulted mercilessly. Entire personal things were looted. He also states that an injustice has occurred to him in reckoning the service for pension. He has a family with 03 children living. Requests relief. (Ref. 365)
252. **S. Thangam, D Side Estate, Up-Cot**- Applicant says that they were in Killinochchi District and affected from 1983 to 1999 due to racial violence. In 1990 their house, poultry also destroyed in Paranthan, then displaced to Vanuniya Camp and to the present address. Requests compensation (Ref. 366)
253. **K. Tharamalingam, 220, Badulla Road, Bandarawela**- Applicant was living at 67/1, Pansala Road, Bandarawela and engaged in business at 161, Main Street, Bandarawela which were looted and burnt on 27.07.1983 and the rice mill at 200, Badulla Road too was looted on the same day. Three separate Police Entries were made and copies attached. Value of the losses indicated in the application. Requests compensation (Ref. 367)
254. **M. Thiruvilangam, 16/1, Prathipimbarama Road, Kalubowila, Dehiwela** - Complainant states that on 25th July, 1983 a mob came and robbed their belongings in the house and after two days they came and set fire to the house. He states that he and his family had to run away from the house and with the help of the Sinhalese neighbours they were rescued. Complainant wish to give evidence before the Commission (Ref. 368)
255. **Prof. A. Balasubramaniam, 32/2, Railway Avenue, Colombo 05** - Complainant states that during 1983 ethnic violence his house was looted and set fire. Complainant and his family had to seek refuge in the neighbour's house and them proceeded to Jaffna. Complainant wishes to give evidence before the Commission of the real happenings during the ethnic violence. He seeks compensation (Ref. 369)
256. **Mrs. N. Nallu Saroja, 70, Main Street, Bandarawela**- Applicant was living at 36/5, Tharmapala Mawatha, Bandarawela and engaged in business at 123/70, Main Street, Bandarawela, which were looted and burnt on 27.07.1983. Their car registration number 4 Sri 6370 also burnt down. List of items lost detailed separately in the attached copy (Declaration to the Police) Rs. 25,000 obtained from REPIA. Requesting for compensation (Ref. 370)
257. **V. Nagaratnam, 28.4, Lower King Street, Badulla** - Applicant was living with his family 1t 100/3, Hindagoda, a Badulla which was lotted on 27.07.1983 during the disturbances, the items lost and their values he had described separately. A copy of letter from A. G. A's office for payment of Rs. 500 (out of 1,500) and Department of Social Services attached. He is claiming for Rs. 1,70,000 (at that time) as compensation (Ref. 371)
258. **Mrs. Perumal P. Nirmala, 248, Lanka Photo House, Rideepana Estate, Badulla** - Applicant was living with her family at 7B, St. Beeds Road, Badulla when it was attacked and looted on the 27th July, 1983. She had lost some valuable

goods amounting to Rs. 2,50,000 due to this incident. Affidavit attached herewith. Requesting Compensation (*Ref. 372*)

259. **A. Ponniah Alagu, 274, Passara Road, Hendagoda, Badulla** - Applicant was living and doing Jewellery Business at 32, Longden Street, Badulla (but the address given in the Police Report is varying) which was looted and he had incurred a loss as described in the application, amounts to Rs. 49,500). Police Report indicates that they were housed at Badulla Maha Vidyalayam. Requesting for compensation (*Ref. 373*)
260. **S. Balendram, 6/20, Vellangolla, Mailagastenna, Badulla**- Applicant was running a 'Studio' at 285, Main Street, Passara, which was looted during the communal riots in 1983 and incurred a loss of Rs. 1,12,000 as listed in the application. An affidavit attached, Police Entry was made, but unable to obtain, Requesting compensation (*Ref. 374*)
261. **S. Singaravelu Shanmugam, 215, Lower Street, Badulla** - Applicant was living in the above address and was doing business also in the same premises. On 27.07.1983 during the riot, they were chased out of the said premises. After 30 days they returned to the said premises from the refugee camp to found that the whole thing was burnt down including their van 27 Sri 4021 and Car En 8805. Thereby they lost their business as well. Police Report attached. Requesting for Compensation. (*Ref. 375*)
262. **Mrs. P. Kidnan, No. 10, 7th Mile Post, Passara Road, Debedde, Badulla**- Applicant's husband was living with his family at the above address and engaged in business in the same premises. The house and the shop were looted on 27.07.1983 and they have lost almost all the things in the shop and the house including jewelleryes.. A copy of letter from the Kachcheri for payment of Rs. 600/- (out of 2,000) and affidavit attached herewith. Request compensation. (*Ref. 376*)
263. **A. Kandiah, 110, Lower Street, Badulla**- Applicant was living with his family at C 113, Badullpitiya, Badulla and engaged in Jewellery Trade by the name "Jayachithira Jewellers" at 82, Lower Street, which was looted on 27.11.1983 during the communal riot and the items lost are briefed in the annexed Police Report, his business too was affected by this incident. Requesting for compensation. (*Ref. 377*)
264. **Mrs. G. Sathiyawathy, No. 34, Longdon Road, Badulla**- Applicant's jewelleryes were kept in the textile shop at 161, "Gandhi Stores", Lower Street, managed by her brother Mr. G. Nadarajah, which was burnt down during 1983 July disturbances thereby she had lost her jewelleryes and personal belongings looted from her house amounting to Rs. 100,000. Requesting for compensation. (*Ref. 378*)
265. **C. Danuskody, 226/10, Modern Complex, Lower Street, Badulla** - Applicant was the Manager of the Pawn Broker Shop by the name "Parasakthy Baners"

at 120, Lower Street, Badulla, which was completely looted, which includes personal belongings of the applicant valued at Rs. 210,900 as per attached Police Reports. A copy of letter from the rehabilitation Ministry and the Proprietor of the shop also attached. He requests for compensation for his belongings and to recovering his savings from the Proprietor. (Ref. 379)

266. **Mrs. S. Kokilan, 293, 3rd Mile Post, Passara Road, Badulla** - Applicant was living at the above address with her family members, she is claiming compensation for the death of her brother S. Sivanesan, who was killed inside the shop by the name "Kandy Stores" at South Lane, Badulla on 27.07.1983 during the violence. Copy of the Police Entry and Death Certificate annexed in support of claim. (Ref. 380)
267. **S. Jegarajadurai, 40, Longdon Road, Badulla** - Applicant was residing at 233, Lower Street, Badulla and engaged in business at "Sri Jeya Sotres", 10, Lower Kings Street, Badulla (Registered in his brothers name, Sellappan Velu) was set ablaze incurring a loss of Rs. 150,000 as mentioned in the attached Police Entry. Copy of letter from the Social Services, and Certificate of registration are attached. Requesting compensation. (Ref. 381)
268. **Mrs. Nagarajah Chitradevi, 17, Sumanatissa Gama, Vitharagdo, Badulla** - Applicant was living at 17, Longdon Road, Badulla, which was looted during the 1983 racial riot incurring a loss of Rs. 100,000 to the applicant. Affidavit is attached affirming the claim. Though Police Entry was made, no copy attached. Requests for compensation. (Ref. 382)
269. **R. Lonanathan, 30, Station Road, Badulla** - Applicant was living at 42, Sri Gama, Badulla and engaged in business at 30, Station Road, Badulla, which were looted and burnt on 27.08.1983 due to the racial riot. Thereby applicant had lost items such as poultry food, Cement, Machineries, household goods, jewellery etc. valued at Rs. 192,840. Copies of G. S's letter, Rehabilitation Ministry are also attached. Requesting for compensation. (Ref. 383)
270. **Mrs. Ramasamy Letchumy, 16, Ward Street, Badulla** - Applicant was living at Deiyawela and engaged in business at 110, Ward Street by the name "Gandhi Stores" (Partnership) which were looted and burnt down. Items lost and the value of the damages detailed in the attached Police Report. Claiming for compensation. (Ref. 384)
271. **S. Kalyanasundaram, 16A, Ward Street, Badulla** - Applicant was living at 46, Attanagala Road, Lunugala and engaged in business at No. 07, Rendepola ("Subramaniam Store") when these premises were looted and burnt valued Rs. 17 lakhs in total on 27.07.1983 during the riot. An affidavit attached affirming the damages, Entry was made at the Lunugala Police, Requesting compensation. (Ref. 385)
272. **Chinnaiah Muthiah, 1-A, Ward Street, Badulla** - Applicant was living at No. 1/A, Ward Street, Badulla on 27.07.1983 when his house, his business

establishment such as "Chitra Trading Agency" at 2/1, Lower King Street, "Joy Tex" at 26, Bazaar Street, Badulla and at 1/C, Ward Street, Badulla were all looted and burnt down. He had made Police Entry in Badulla and Kalmunai regarding these incidents. Copy attached. Requesting for compensation as listed (at the time) (Ref. 386)

273. **Chelliah Murali, Renda Pola Kadai, Hopton** - Applicant had lot his house, shop and lorry which were burnt down during the communal trouble. Full list of items lost appear in the annexed Police Report, the name of his establishment was "Renda Pola", Hopton, (Mariammah Stores) He is requesting for compensation and his business premises, which is now encroached by those who looted his buildings (Ref. 387)
274. **N. Ramanathan, UMA Traders, Amman Kovil Road, Kalmunai 02** - Applicant was engaged in business at 50, Attanagala, Lunugala, and on 27.07.1983 it was looted and destroyed. According to the Police Report whatever that were left behind again burnt down on 29.07.1983. He is requesting Rs. 230,730 as compension for the losses (Ref. 388)
275. **K. Thambirajah, Pidramalai Estate, Haputale**-Applicant was living with his family at 5, Judge's Hill Path, Badulla on 27.07.1983. Left the house as they got the information, that the Tamils are being attacked in Badulla Town, On return he had notified that the house was competely burnt. The list of item lost entered in the attached Police Entry. Requesting for compensation. (Ref. 389)
276. **Mrs. S. Manoharan, 224, Puwakgodamulla Road, Badulla** - applicant who was living in a house at Viharagoda Street, Railway Station, Badulla entered the Saraswathy Refugee Camp for safety and when returned the house was looted, that includes household goods and jewelleries, As this was due to the riot communal an entry was made in the Police Station, but no copy attached. Requesting for compensation (Ref. 390)
277. **Mrs. Sivaperumal Eswari, 14, 7th Mile Post, Passara Road, Badulla** - Applicant declares that she ran into the adjoining estate with her children to safe their life when their house was looted and burnt on the 27th July, 1983 by a mob. They were living at No. 14, Passara Road, Debedde when this incident took place. Police (Certificate) Entry attached along with a copy of letter from the Grama Niladhari. Requesting for compensation (Ref. 391)
278. **Chelliah Segar, 16/4, Railway Station Road, Badulla** - Applicant was a partner of a Grinding Mill at 16/A, Station Road, Badulla living at 16/5, Station Road, Badulla, when his house and mill were looted and burnt on 27th July, 1983. The items lost and loss incurred briefed in the Police Entry (attached). He is claiming for a total of Rs. 664,574/- as compensation (Ref. 392)
279. **K. Ganeshan, Serendib Division, Queesten Group, Hali-Ela** - Applicant was at the business premises named "Premila Trade" at 20, Bandarawela Road, Hali-Ela on 27.07.1983, where he was forced to close the shop, and after then

- left the looters had taken everything in the shop and damaged the premises. A full list of items lost is given in the attached Police Report. He is requesting for compensation (*Ref. 393*)
280. **V. Subramaniam, 11, Sumanatissa Gama, Badulla** - Applicant was living at 17/3, Longdon Street, Badulla when his house was looted (including jewellery) on 27th July, 1983. He is now claiming for the items lost and the damaged caused to his house. Full list is given in the attached affidavit. Though he had made a complaint to the Police no document produced here. Camp certificate from G. A. is attached. Seeking compensation (*Ref. 394*)
281. **P. Andawar, 14, Sri Sumanatissa Gama, Badulla** - Applicant affirms that his house and business place were ablazed on the 23rd July, 1983 and two of them were even injured during this riot. They have lost their belongings and employment in addition to the above premises. Entry was made in the Police, but no copy attached. Affidavit annexed. Requesting for compensation. (*Ref. 395*)
282. **Mrs. Thamarachelvi Suppiah, No. 01, Barathipuram, Dairaba, Bandarawela** - Applicant claims that their residential premises at 450A, Rockhill, Badulla ; business premises at 32, Bazaar Street, Badulla and business premises at 19, Mailagastenne Road, Badulla were looted and destroyed copy of A. G. A. Badulla attached in this regard. Copy of the Badulla Police attached photo print of the premises too attached. All these incident took place during July 1983 disturbances. Seeking compensation (*Ref. 396*)
283. **T. Namasivayam, 58/29, Hindagoda, Badulla** - Applicant was the partner of a Textile Shop at 217, Lower Street, Badulla namely "Mohan Textiles" which was burnt down and his brother. T. Neelgagandan too was killed on 24.07.1983 during the riot. No supporting documents available, and affidavit attached List of items lost given, Seeks compensation (*Ref. 397*)
284. **Sinivasagam John, 31/7, Kailagoda, Badulla** - Applicant who was partner of a business establishment named "Devan Store", which was burnt down on 27.07.1983 during the riot, thereby he had lost his employment and further his shop, his residing place and goods which he value for 16 lakhs. He had not made any in the Police at the time ; copy of the Camp Certificate is attached. Requests compensation (*Ref. 398*)
285. **Mr. M. Muthuraj, 235C, Lower's Street, Badulla** - Applicant business premises at the above address was completely burnt down on the 27th July, 1983 due to communal riots. They seem to have obtained a loan from REPIA. According to the Police Report attached, they are claiming for an amount of 4.5 lakhs as compensation, Copy of Refugee Camp Certificate also attached. (*Ref. 399*)
286. **K. Lingarajah, 20, Clinic Road, Badulla** - Applicant was living with his family at 7th Mile Post, Passara Road, Debedde and on 27.08.1983. Some Sinhala mob came firing at their house forcing them to ran for their life. They watched from

their hiding place when their bungalow and shop were set on fire. They lost their belongings, house and shop, which caused them loss of employment. List of items lost, copy of Police Report, Camp Certificate are attached. He request compensation (*Ref. 400*)

287. **K. Thangavel, 22, Station Road, Badulla** - The complainant states that when he was residing at No. 10, Longdon Road, Badulla his house was burnt and his belongings were looted. He had made complaint to the Badulla Police on 13.08.1983. The losses he had incurred due to violence valued as Rs. 22,700. (*Ref. 401*)

288. **A. Rajaratnam, 223/2, Bogamadita, Hali-Ela** - The complainant states that his residence at 2 1/2 mile post on Badulla, Passara Road was partly burnt and looted on 29.07.1983. That was called as Mettigahatenne. Just before the incident his neighbour named Selohamy who is not living now had come and told him that some men are coming from Badulla to loot his house. He thought that it was lie and locked the house and went to Mr. Thangavel's house that was a former conductor of Wewesse Estate and stayed there. Soon after his departure men had come to his house and had broken the windows. removed the iron bars and had entered the house and had removed all the furniture, household goods, trunks full of clothes, kitchen utensils, 30 chicks, 2 goats etc. and burnt part of the house. A complaint had been made to the Badulla Police on 19.08.1983. After a week the then Gramasevaka and Mr. Francis Rajapakse had sent a person asking them to come the house. Then he with his family went with them to their house and saw the tragedy. There was nothing left in the house. The losses he had incurred by him due to the incident had been valued as Rs. 126,681. He seeks compensation (*Ref. 402*)

289. **S. Sahathevan, 42, Main Street, Haputale**- The complainant states that a mob entered his house and threw out all his household goods and other belongings on to the road and set fire on 27.07.1983. The incident had taken place at Kolatenne, Bandarawela. At the time of the incident he was attending a Seminar in Colombo from 19.07.1983 to 29.07.1983. Only his wife was there in the house at the time of the incident. He had returned on 30th July, 1983 from Colombo. The only he came to know of the incident. He had made Entry to that effect to the Bandarawela Police on 27.07.1983. The value of the goods he had lost due to the violence was Rs. 16,790/-. He seeks compensation (*Ref. 403*)

290. **L. Soosaipillai, 141/2, Agraplace II, Kudagama Road, Avissawella** - The complainant states he had his wife with their child were tenant at 555, Pinnawala Road, Kahahena, Waga that was belongs to one Mr. I. D. Karunaratne, Mabule, Waga during July 1983 communal riot period. While the landlord had an idea of selling house and land to another person the applicant had written to him saying that he would by the property if it was given to a reasonable price. Making the 1983 ethnic violence as a opportunity the house owner with his relations and others about 25 in number entered the house started smashing all doors, windows, furniture etc. During the incident he and his wife with the child escaped through the backdoor and watching happenings from gravel



road. They took all their things that had been destroyed to middle of the veranda and set fire to it. They had recognised the people came on that day and had named them in their entry to the police. To this day no action had been taken. The estimated loss they had incurred was Rs. 105,000/- They seek compensation (*Ref. 404*)

291. **Mrs. N. Kanagaratnam, 31/1A, E. S. Fernando Mw. Colombo 06-** The complainant writes that since 1968 she and her husband were residing at 271, Galle Road, Mount Lavinia. Her husband was an indenting Agent and one of the rooms in their house used as an office. During the 1983 violence their house was invaded by undesirable elements that ransacked, looted and burnt their household items, furniture, and office equipment and left them virtually with their clothes only. Their neighbours saved them. They had left the neighbours house on that evening and had stayed with their relations who were also affected and after two weeks they left to Trincomalee. There they stayed with their only daughter. Her husband passed away in 1988 due to illness. The Colombo premises where they were residing belonging to one Mr. Fonseka. Her husband had negotiated with that gentleman and had made part payment and obtained a receipt. The gentleman had passed away. The son of the gentleman had inherited the property. She comes to understand that he is living in Canada. She knows that much only and she had lost the receipt too. She seeks compensation (*Ref. 406*)
292. **P. S. Balasubramaniam, 1-A, Judges Hill Path, Badulla -** The complainant says that on 27.07.1983 he was not in Badulla and his family got information that a crowd was coming to attack them. On hearing that they immediately had locked the house and run away for safety without taking any belongings. While they were running away his daughter Nalini had fallen and got her leg fractured and were accommodated in a sinhala neighbour's house. In the night the thugs had come and warned them to send all the Tamil Poeples out of the house. On the following morning they had gone to Govt. Hospital and from there they were sent to the camp. Meantime the crowd had come and damaged the house and opened all the doors damaged the furniture, fittings and burnt his car and tractor. When he returned from Colombo on 07.08.1983 he saw his house had been damaged, all glass pans broken, steel cupboards were split open and all the belongings looted. When he had made inquiries he was given to understand that his ground floor tenant's son-in-law had brought a van and loaded his belongings and even outsider had taken away all his goods. Later he joined with his family who were in the camp. He had made an Entry at the Badulla Police Station on 16.08.1983. He was not provided with any assistance by REPPIA But the Bank of Ceylon had granted a loan for an interest. When police recovered whatever looted things they had found were brought and kept in a storeroom. When he went and made inquiries they wanted him to produce purchased receipts that he had already lost. The total value of the goods that he had lost estimated as Rs. 510,650/- Seeks compensation (*Ref. 408*)
293. **Mrs. S. Velu, No. 01, Leela Stores, Heel Oya Road, Bandarawela-** The complainant states that during the ethnic violence on 27.07.1983 night her house was set on fire. Her loss due to the attack was Rs. 40,000/- The incident

had been reported to the Bandarawela Police on 10.08.1983, Seeks compensation (Ref. 410)

294. **K. Namanathan, 51/8, Govt. Quarters Road, Kallady, Batticaloa** - States that he was Govt. Servant attached to Kachcheri, Batticaloa Land Officer at the time of the incident. His family was in Colombo and their house was situated at 30/3, Hampden Lane, Wellawatte, His father-in-law Mr. K. Sivapragasam owned the house. He was a widower who was also living with them along with his unmarried son and a daughter. The house was to be given to them as dowry property though not legally given. His wife was in the clerical Service and attached the Registration of Persons Department at Keppetipola Mawatha, Colombo 05. On the 25th July 1983 when he was in the house in order to sit for his LLB first in Law external examination at about 11.30 a. m. crowd of about 75 people came along the Main Hampden Lane shouting, attacking the house of the Tamils and throwing petrol bombs. They attacked his house damaging the doors and windows and started looting things. They were in the rear side of the house in their back room. The Sinhala family that was their neighbour helped them to stay for the night and the next day morning they went to the Refugee camp taking a handful of things with them. They were at the Bambalapitiya Hindu College camp for 10 days. He and his wife sent to Batticaloa by a special train arranged by the State. He seeks compensation (Ref. 411)
295. **Mrs. R. E. J. Thambapillai, 15/6, Nuwarawatte Place, Nawala, Rajagiriya** - States that her house was set on fire and all her household items looted during the 1983 ethnic violence. She had made Police Complaint. She seeks compensation (Ref. 412)
296. **K. M. Kumaraswamy, 12/1, 57th Lane, Colombo 06** - The complainant had been employed at the National Paper Corporation, Colombo since 1965. During the July 1983 ethnic violence he had been a victim and camped at the Mahanama Vidyalaya, Colombo 03. While he was a refugee at the Mahanama Vidyalaya his boarding room at 296, Galle Road, Colombo 03. As a result he had lost all his valuable belongings and had no safer place for accommodation he was compelled to go to his native place. Then government announced over the media to all the displaced employees to report for duties within a specific date. Due to fear of life etc. he could not report for work. As he had not complied with, he had been served with vacation of post. He had made an appeal to reemploy him on 04.02.1995. The General Manager of National Paper Company Limited had replied him saying that he had voluntarily vacated his post and the company had been converted to a liabilities Limited Companies by his letter dated 18.09.1995. He seeks compensation (Ref. 413)
297. **K. Durairatnam, 62/1, Moor Road, Colombo 06** - The complainant had been an employee of Lever Brothers Ltd. Colombo 14, since 1957. Under fear and safety of his he had resigned from the service on 30.04.1984, during the ethnic violence July 1983. Later he had appealed to the employer on 27.09.1987 to reinstate him with a copy to the Secretary. Coordinating Committee of displaced Employees, Jaffna. The then Hon. Minister of Rehabilitation & Reconstruction

and the Secretary had written to the Lever Brothers to consider his appeal favourably. But to day nothing has happened. Seeks compensation (Ref. 414)

298. **N. Ra nakrishna, 679, Marthandawala, Matale** - The complainant had stated that his premises had been set on fire and properties were destroyed on 29.07.1983 due to ethnic violence. He and his family comprises of eight in number had to take refugee states at Zahira College, Matale from 29.07.1983 to 10.08.1983. He had lodged an entry to that effect at the Matale Police on 17.08.1983. He seeks compensation. (Ref. 416)
299. **R. Angappan, 4, King's Street, Badulla** - The complainant stated that he lived at 56A, Mahiyangana Road, Badulla he was the proprietor of the Lanka Pora Kade that was situated at No. 4, King's Street, Badulla. On 27.07.1983 at 10 a. m. he had seen a motorbike had been set on fire while he was in the shop and through fear he had instructed his employees to leave the shop and thereafter he had locked the shop leaving everything behind and gone home. And through fear he left the house also after keeping it locked and went and stayed with a friend. On the 30th he had gone to Refugee Camp. When he returned to his shop on 01.08.1983 with some Army Officers he found his was completely destroyed by fire including all saleable goods. The loss incurred by him in the incident was Rs. 438,905/- He had made an Entry to this effect at the Badulla Polic on 09.08.1993. His house also had been looted and had incurred a lost of Rs. 516,000/-. He seeks compensation (Ref. 417)
300. **S. M. Pathmanathan, 220, Badulla Road, Bandarawela** - The complainant stated that he lived at 250/4, Badulla Road, Bandarawela and his shop was 220, Badulla Road, Bandarawela. On 27.07.1984 at about 3.00 p. m. mob had entered his shop and started throwing them out and set fire on them. All the seleable items were destroyed. All his valuable documents, valid cheques and cash had been destroyed by the incident. His vehicle was taken on to the middle of the road and set fire on to it. The incident had been reported to Bandarawela Police Headquarters on 09.08.1983. His total loss due the incident was Rs. 972,500/- He seeks compensation (Ref. 418)
301. **N. Srithar, 17, Badulusrigama, Badulla** - The complainant had stated that his house at No. 17, Badulusrigama, Badulla was attacked ; his things were set on fire and looted during the July 1983 ethnic violence. The incident had been reported to Badulla Police Station on 27.08.1983. He had incurred a loss of Rs. 115,500. He seeks compensation. (Ref. 419)
302. **M. Thangaraja, 7th Mile Post, Passara Road, Debedde** - The complainant had stated that his residence at 7th Mile Post, Badulla and his workshop had been attacked, looted and set on fire to the premises during the time of ethnic violence on 27.07.1983. His total loss due to the incident as indicated in his affidavit is Rs. 240,000/- He seeks compensation (Ref. 420)
303. **S. P. Sathasivam, 16/11, Lower King Street, Badulla** - Applicant was living in the above address which was looted on the 27th July, 1983 and the "Batik