

# PHOENIX

Monthly Newsletter

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**Akkinip Paravaikal**

Published by the

“ *I have never believed that there will be a change in the Sinhala majority racist ideology; until that change occurs, Tamils will have no justice.* ”

**National Leader of Tamil Eelam**

<b>International</b>	<b>04-07</b>	<b>Economic</b>	<b>13-14</b>
<i>Bilateral</i>	05		
<b>Military</b>	<b>09</b>	<b>Oppression &amp; Resistance</b>	<b>17-22</b>
<i>WHAM</i>			
<b>Domestic</b>	<b>10-12</b>	<b>Signs of</b>	<b>23</b>
<i>Tamil Eelam</i>	10	<b>Structural</b>	
<i>Sri Lanka</i>	11	<b>Genocide</b>	
<b>Phoenix</b>	<b>08 &amp; 15</b>	<b>Caricature</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Snapshot</b>			



01.02.2023: **Human Rights** - According to Lanka Files, the International Federation for Human Rights (FIDH) and Center for Human Rights and Development (CHRD) have released a 60-page report titled, "Anatomy of a Crackdown: The repression of Sri Lanka's *aragalaya* protest movement." Reports indicate that the Secretary-General of the FIDH, Adilur Rahman Khan mentioned, "In their crackdown on the *aragalaya*, Sri Lanka authorities systematically violated international human rights law and standards with complete impunity."

01.02.2023: **UPR** - According to Newswire LK, the UN Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) is to assess SL's National Report under the 04th Cycle of the UPR. SL's National Report for the UPR was reportedly submitted on 22.12.2022 including a self-assessment of progress since the previous UPR session in November 2017 to fulfil voluntarily applied human rights obligations.

01.02.2023: **China** - SL's CID has commenced

investigations into a fake letter published in the name of the Chinese Embassy in Sri Lanka on social media expressing China's support to restructure SL's debts, Virakesari.

02.02.2023: **IGW** - According to Economy Next, SL's Food and Agricultural Exporters (AHK) has chosen International Green Week (IGW) 2023 as the perfect platform for 'Made in Sri Lanka' products to create more business opportunities for exporters. IGW was held from 20.01.2023-29.01.2023 with 1,400 exhibitors from 60 countries.

03.02.2023: **India** - BJP's Tamil Nadu branch leader, K. Annamalai and others have jointly presented a letter to India's External Affairs Minister, Dr. S. Jaishankar outlining that India must intervene in SL's affairs to ensure that 13A is implemented to its full potential, reports Virakesari.

04.02.2023: **Britain** - According to Virakesari, the British All-Party Parliamentary Committee for Tamils has urged the British government and international community to ensure

that SL seeks a sustainable political solution acceptable to Tamils.

05.02.2023: **Commonwealth** - According to Virakesari, SL's Justice Minister has notified the Secretary General of the Commonwealth, Patricia Scotland that steps had been taken to replace SL's PTA with a National Security Act. It is notable that Scotland had arrived in SL on an official visit with 03 other delegates on 01.02.2023.

06.02.2023: **Bangladesh** - According to Virakesari, Bangladeshi Foreign Minister, Dr. Abdul Moman mentioned that the Bangladesh government has allocated until September 2023 as the final opportunity for SL to repay its loans.

06.02.2023: **Ban Ki Moon** - Former UN Secretary General, Ban Ki Moon and a delegation of 04 delegates arrived in SL on 06.02.2023 and were welcomed by delegates from SL's External Affairs, reports Virakesari.

07.02.2023: **GGGI** - According to Economy

Next, SL signed an host country agreement with Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI). GGGI is headed by Ban Ki Moon and SL joined the GGGI as a member in 2019. Further reports indicate that SL was elected as the Vice President of the Assembly and Vice Chair of the Council of GGGI in October 2022.

25.02.2023: **IMF** - According to Economy Next, International

Monetary Fund (IMF) Managing Director Kristalina Georgieva has said that for SL, which is not covered by existing frameworks, a new predictable and orderly debt resolution process is needed. China had also lent generously to countries in the Impossible Trinity, including SL, which has been affected by monetary instability and IMF programs in the past.

## Bilateral

01.02.2023: **US** - US Ambassador Julie Chung and US Under Secretary of State Victoria Nuland met mostly Tamil opposition party leaders to discuss reconciliation and a political solution. Further reports from Virakesari indicate that Nuland met with R. Wickremesinghe and assured him that the US would continue to support SL's efforts to return to normalcy. During a press conference, it was indicated that SL should implement steps to reform the PTA. She further announced that the US will provide USD 13 million for the provision of midday meals to students in 850 public schools across SL.

Attendees:

- ◆ TNPf - Gajendrakumar Ponnambalam
- ◆ SJB - Rishad Bathiudeen
- ◆ DPF - Mano Ganesan
- ◆ M.A. Sumanthiran
- ◆ PLOTE - Dharmalingam Siddharthan

01.02.2023: **India** - According to Virakesari, SL's Ambassador to India, Milinda Moragoda met with India's External Affairs Minister, S. Jaisankar for bilateral discussions. During the meeting follow-up actions to Jaisankar's recent visit to SL were discussed.

02.02.2023: **BJP** - According to the Tamil Guardian, India's Foreign Secretary Dr. S. Jaishankar and several BJP officials from Tamil Nadu met and the officials urged India to press for the full implementation of the 13th Amendment to SL's Constitution without changes.

03.02.2023: **Japan** - According to Virakesari, Japan has mentioned that it is continuously engaged in efforts to support SL's reconciliation during a bilateral meeting between Japanese Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, Taekesunsuke and SL Justice Minister, Wijeyadasa Rajapaksa. Further reports indicate that Japan would provide JPY

100 million for SL's reconciliatory efforts.

11.02.2023: **China** - China's Ambassador to SL, Qi Zhenhong met with Mahanayake Thero of the Agiri Division Warakagoda Gnanarathana in Kandy to discuss Sino-SL Buddhist exchanges and historical amity and thus means to collaborate to solve SL's economic challenges, reports the Chinese Embassy in SL.

13.02.2023: **Canada** - Canada's High Commissioner to SL and the Maldives, Eric Walsh tweeted regarding his first official trip to the Tamil homeland where meetings are scheduled in Jaffna to discuss public grievances.

13.02.2023: **US** - According to Julie Chung, she had welcomed 60 Youth Forum members from the US Embassy to launch the SL Youth Forum Leadership Summit 2023 alongside R. Wickremesinghe to celebrate 75 years of US-SL bilateral relations.

Participants:

- ◆ Jaffna
- ◆ Kandy
- ◆ Matara
- ◆ Colombo

13.02.2023: **India** - According to Mano Ganesan, the Indian High Commission in Colombo had organised a political and socioeconomic discussion regarding the Hill Country Tamils between Indian officials such as the BJP's K. Annamalai and Tamil politicians.

14.02.2023: **Japan** - According to Economy Next, Japan has agreed SL JPY 05 billion for fuel purchase. SL's Cabinet of Ministers had approved a proposal by R. Wickremesinghe for SL to sign the agreement with the Japanese government.

14.02.2023: **Thailand** - According to Economy Next, SL's Cabinet of Ministers have approved a proposal to accelerate a Free Trade Agreement (FTA) with Thailand. In doing so, they hope to increase exports to the Asian nation.

15.02.2023: **Indonesia** - According to Economy Next, SL and Indonesia have extended a 2018 agreement that allows search and rescue operations in airspace under the control of the 02 countries. The Colombo Flight Information Region covers an area of 900,000 square kilometres where air traffic control is conducted.

16.02.2023: **India** - According to Economy Next, SL's Minister of State for Defense Premitha Bandara Tennakoon addressed an aerospace conference to highlight the potential for greater defence cooperation between India and SL. Forums such as Aero India can be used for defence cooperation through joint ventures, joint development and production, while investing in research and development.

17.02.2023: **Israel** - According to Economy Next, SL will send 2,000 janitors to Israel to boost remittances to SL. The Israeli government has pledged 2,000 job opportunities for female caregivers from SL this year.

18.02.2023: **EU** - According to Economy Next, the German Ambassador has mentioned that SL risks losing lucrative trade concessions from the EU because SL has failed to amend the Prevention of Terrorism Act (PTA). SL has repeatedly promised the EU and Germany to bring the PTA in line with international standards.

18.02.2023: **IMF** - According to Economy Next, the IMF is considering the approval of a loan for SL even

without China's assurance to support the debt restructuring. This is due to SL authorities' continued search to finance assurances from their official bilateral creditors so that the Fund's Executive Board can consider their request for an IMF arrangement.

20.02.2023: **IMF** - According to Economy Next, SL has managed to meet its targets for the IMF's 17th program despite a late start. China's delay in agreeing to debt restructuring is the only remaining hurdle, said SL Justice Minister Wijeyadasa Rajapakse.

21.02.2023: **China** - According to Economy Next, R. Wickremesinghe will meet China's finance minister on 24.02.2023 to discuss SL's method of debt restructuring. China has granted SL a 02-year debt moratorium, so there are currently no official arrears to SL, and has agreed to discuss further restructuring within that period.

22.02.2023: **Japan** - According to Economy Next, Japan has provided SL USD 46 million to purchase 20 million litres of diesel for public hospitals. "This humanitarian aid will help Sri Lanka provide sustainable medical care in the current economic crisis," the statement said.

23.02.2023: **Netherlands** - According to Economy Next, SL and Netherlands have signed an agreement on air services that will provide for government flights by certain airlines from the 02 countries. While the agreement will expand opportunities for leisure and business travel and improve business interaction, it will also provide a faster path for cargo transfers.

27.02.2023: **US** - According to Economy Next, SL Expolanka Holsings announced that it has acquired a 100 % stake in US-

based Trans American Customhouse brokers LLC for USD 42.5 million. Trans American Group is a leading customs house broker in North America that provides logistics services worldwide.

27.02.2023: **Norway** - According to Economy Next, SL company Hela Apparel Holdings will use USD 14 million from Norway's Norfund to expand its business in Africa. Hela Kenya was founded in 2016, employs more than 4,000 people and produces about 20 % of SL's total apparel exports.

04.02.2023  
Burning SL's Constitution - CH, AU



04.02.2023  
"Beyond the Red" Screening - Sydney, AU

# PHOENIX snapshot



12.02.2023  
SC Phoenix at "FC Tamil Little Star's Years Tournament - CH



05.02.2023: **Japan** - The Japanese Government made donations to the SL Police which were handed over to R. Wickremesinghe at SL's Presidential Secretariat, reports Virakesari.

- ◆ 150 Motorcycles
- ◆ 74 Vans
- ◆ 1 Mini Bus
- ◆ 115 Surveillance Equipment

15.02.2023: **US** - The US Air Force's C-17 Globemaster III landed at SL's Bandaranaike International Airport with US Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defence and 19 other high-level security officials who are scheduled to hold discussions with SL's security apparatus on 16.02.2023, reports Lahiru Doloswala.

14.02.23: **US** - 02 US air force flights flew into Katunayake International Airport carrying 29 members of the US delegation. They met with various members of the SL government including

SL's defence secretary. It is reported that they discussed strengthening current relations between both countries.

15.02.2023: **CONEX 2023** - According to SL's Ministry of Defence (MoD's) Website, the naval exercise named CONEX was held successfully at the port of Colombo. This exercise started from 06.02.2023-12.02.2023 and occurred for the 05th time.

20.02.2023: **Indonesia** - According to SL's MoD's website an Indonesian naval ship arrived at the Colombo Port for an official visit.

24.03.2023: **Defence Dialogue** - According to SL's MoD's website, India and SL held their 07th Defence Dialog in Delhi, India. This meeting was chaired by India's Defence Secretary Giridhar Armane and SL's Defence Secretary General Kamal Gunaratne.

27.02.2023: **Indian Ship** - According to SL's MoD's website, the Indian naval ship "Sukanya" arrived at the Colombo Port for an official visit.

27.02.2023: **Pakistan** - According to SL's MoD's website the Pakistani Chief of Naval Staff (CNS) Admiral Muhammad Amjad Khan met SL's Defence Secretary General Kamal Gunaratne at SL's Defence Ministry.

## WHAM

16.02.2023: **Volleyball** - According to SL's MoD's website, occupational SLA from Jaffna HQ organised a volleyball training at Thalaidy, Jaffna. Members from 15 volleyball team participated with SL soldiers

# Military News

# Tamil Eelam

# Domestic News

07.02.2023:

**Fishermen** - According to Lanka Files, the Jaffna Association President of District Fishermen's Cooperative Associations Sri Prakash mentioned in a media conference, "from Neduntivu to Vadamarachchi, the dominance of Indian fishermen has increased again. Around 100-150 Indian trawlers have come ashore and destroyed the property of our workers."

09.02.2022: **Indian**

**Delegation** - According to Kalaikathir, an Indian delegation will directly travel to Jaffna via the Palali airport. This delegation consists of Indian Fisheries' Minister L. Murugan and BJP's Tamil Nadu Head Annamalai. The intent of the travel is to handover the Jaffna Cultural Centre that was built by India.

09.02.2023: **France** -

According to Kalaikathir, a delegate from TNA met France's Ambassador to SL in his home. Sumanthiran, Chanakkiyan and

Kalaiarasan were part of the TNA's delegation. In this meeting they spoke about the solution for the Tamil's political problem and the declaration of 04.02.2023 as a Black Day for the Tamils.

10.02.2023: **Devolution**

- M.A. Sumanthiran rejected R. Wickremesinghe's claims to devolve powers to Tamils during SL's Parliamentary session on 08.02.2023, reports Lanka Files. He mentioned, "you cannot have maximum devolution of power within a unitary state. We reject his throne speech on that account alone."

12.02.2023: **ITAK** - A

meeting of the ITAK candidates for the Jaffna District's local government elections 2023 were held, tweets M.A. Sumanthiran.

14.02.2023:

**Prabhakaran** -

According to Virakesari, Pala Nedumaran held a press conference in Tamil Nadu, where he

claimed that the National Leader of Tamil Eelam is alive.

18.02.2023: **TNPF** -

According to Senior Tamilan, the TNPF's local election declaration was made in Jaffna. This declaration cited the TNPF as the only Tamil political party resisting SL's unitary state apparatus.

23.02.2023: **Adani** -

According to Kalaikathir, SL's investment board has granted 02 wind energy projects to the Indian Adani Green Energy Company in Mannar and Poonekeri. Together they will be able to produce 350 MW of energy. These installations cost USD 442 million.

01.02.2023: **Cycle competition** - In light of SL's 75th Independence Day, a cycle competition commenced from Sakkottai of the North to Gampaha on 31.01.2023 around 09.15 local time. The competition commenced with the attendance of occupational Kankesanthurai Police, Paruththithurai Police and other SL officials, Thinakkural.

04.02.2023: **Ambassadors** - SL's Presidential Media Unit emphasised that the Vienna Declaration and other international regulations were adhered to with the security provided to the newly-appointed foreign ambassadors to SL in an event held in Kandy where they presented their credentials to R. Wickremesinghe on 02.02.2023. According to Virakesari, the statement was made in response to criticisms made on social media that their heavy convoys and other expenses for the event were enabled through the imposition of SL's new tax.

04.02.2023: **SL Independence** - SL's 75th Independence Day celebrations were conducted in a lavish manner, reports Virakesari. Reports indicate that whilst the names of former SL Presidents M. Rajapaksa and M. Sirisena were included in the event programme of the celebrations held at Galle Face, it was reported that they were not present. In addition, opposition leader Sajith Premadasa and Tamil political representatives had also notably boycotted the events. Further reports indicate that a celebration event was also held in Jaffna at the Jaffna Duraiyappa Stadium through the organisation of the Jaffna District Secretariat.

04.02.2023: **Exim Bank** - According to Economy Next, China's Exim Bank has granted a 02-year moratorium on its

delinquent loans and will discuss additional restructuring within this "window of opportunity." In the meantime, the bank would like to hold friendly consultations with SL on how to handle medium and long-term debt during this period.

06.02.2023: **Judicial Appointments** - Judicial appointments of High Court Judges were established through a swearing in ceremony before SL's President, R. Wickremesinghe at SL's Presidential Secretariat on 06.02.2023, reports Virakesari.

- ◆ President, SL High Court of Appeal - Justice KP Fernando
- ◆ President, Appellate Court - Nissanka Bandula
- ◆ Appellate Court Justice - MAR Marikar

07.02.2023: **MV X-Press Pearl** - According to Economy Next, SL will not allow the extraction of around 48,000 tonnes of scrap metal from the MV X-Press Pearl shipwreck without an import-export licence. Consequently, the extraction will be subject to a 10% CESS tax.

08.02.2023: **Reconciliation** - According to Economy Next, C.V. Wigneswaran mentioned that R. Wickremesinghe has a clear vision for SL which should be supported and the Buddhist monks should remain out of the reconciliation process. In earlier reports, R. Wickremesinghe reiterated his commitment to a devolution of power within SL's unitary state during his address to SL's Parliament. He had further emphasised that there will be no division of SL - contrary to mass fears.

10.02.2023: **Sumanthiran** - M.A. Sumanthiran states that Tamils have not deviated from their political stance and that the coming local elections will

prove this. He recalls that the government promised a solution by 04.02.2023 however nothing is yet to be resolved, News First LK.

**11.02.2023: Buddhist monks -** According to Kalaikathir, Buddhist monks have given R. Wickremesinghe within one week's time to clarify his stance on 13A. If not, an SL-wide protest will erupt, the monks from "Maha Sangha" mentioned in a press conference in Colombo. Other Sinhalese politicians must clarify their stance on 13A as well - the monks further demanded. Earlier reports from Lanka Files on 09.02.2023 indicate that Sinhala Buddhist monks burned a copy of SL's 13A to SL's Constitution on streets near SL's Parliament in opposition of any power sharing in SL and further proceeded to conduct a sit-in.

**14.02.2023: SL Elections -** According to Economy Next, absentee voting has been postponed in SL for 09.03.2023 local elections, which are outside the control of the Election Commission (EC). The postal voting for the upcoming elections, which have already been postponed for 01 years, was supposed to take place from 22.02.2023-24.02.2023. The reason for the postponement is the lack of money for printing election cards.

**16.02.2023: Mahindha -** According to Kalaikathir, SL's former President and Prime Minister, M. Rajapaksa, mentioned to a journalist that he will come out again, once the time is right.

**16.02.2023: SJB -** According to Economy Next, Samagi Jana Balawegaya (SJB) has proposed anti-corruption measures, debt management, continued cooperation with the IMF on terms favourable to SL, revenue consolidation and other measures to improve SL's

parlous economic situation. Other measures include managing imports, floating the LKR to equilibrium, adjusting interest rates and monetary policy reforms.

**21.02.2023: Security -** According to Kalaikathir, SL's intelligence services are gathering the information of houses and other belongings of MPs in fear of new protests erupting. This was led by the postponement of SL's local government elections.

**21.02.2023: SL Elections -** According to Eelanadu, SL's Election Commission has told SL's High Court that SL's local government elections cannot be held on 09.03.2023. The lack of finance is the main reason why the elections cannot be held, the election commission stated. But the nominations are valid until the election is conducted.

**24.02.2023: Local Elections -** According to Economy Next, SL will not hold local elections scheduled for 09.03.2023 due to lack of funding. A new date for the elections will be announced on 03.03.2023.

**28.02.2023: Nuclear Agreement -** According to Economy Next, SL's Cabinet of Ministers has granted permission to apply for membership in two international nuclear damage conventions as SL explores ways to use nuclear energy for power generation. It is a revolutionary change for SL that is necessary for systemic change.

02.02.2023: **Petrol Price** - According to Economy Next, SL is increasing the price of Octane 92 by 8.1 % or LKR 30 to LKR 400 per litre. SL State-owned fuel trader Ceylon Petroleum Corporation (CPC) left prices for all other fuels unchanged.

08.02.2023: **Taxes** - Due to growing discontent towards R. Wickremesinghe's upward tax revision, Economy Next reports that GoSL has implemented and exemption on some allowances to partially include the following:

- Fuel
- Driver
- Vehicle

10.02.2023: **SL Airlines** - According to Economy Next, SL Airlines has announced that they will default on a December coupon payment due on their USD 175 million sovereign guaranteed bond within the defined grace period.

14.02.2023: **S&P** - Standard and Poor's has affirmed the "SD" (selective default) rating on Sri Lanka's foreign currency and the "CCC" long-term rating on Sri Lanka's local currency. The negative outlook on

the long-term local currency rating reflects a high risk to commercial debt repayment over the next 12 months in the context of economic, external and fiscal pressures in Sri Lanka.

14.02.2023: **Currency Law** - According to Economy Next, SL's Cabinet of Ministers has approved a draft of a new currency law. The new law is expected to legalise flexible inflation targeting, which has been in effect since 2015.

17.02.2023: **IMF** - According to Economy Next, SL expects to receive an extended loan of USD 2.9 billion from the IMF in March 2023, according to R. Wickremesinghe. In connection with the gradual decline in inflation, a reduction in bank interest rates is also being considered, he said.

21.02.2023: **External Debt** - According to Economy Next, SL will have to repay USD 2,609 million in external debt to multilateral lenders in the first 06 months of 2023. In addition, USD 709 million in SL Development Bonds and USD 46 million in

interest will have to be repaid.

23.03.2023: **China** - According to Eelanadu, R. Wickremesinghe stated that China refused the terms for the debt restructuring agreed with India and the Paris Club.

24.02.2023: **CEB** - According to Economy Next, SL is seeking the support of international development agencies to restructure the state-owned Ceylon Electricity Board. An Office of Reforms will be opened in the Ministry of Power and Energy to guide the transformation.

## ECONOMIC PROFILE – February 2023

<b>FOREX Reserves</b>	January 2023	↑ to USD 2,12 million from USD 1,898 million
<b>Trade</b>	Year 2022 from year 2021	
Exports		↓ by 17.9% to USD 994 million
Services exports		↓ by 5.9% to USD 1,876.3 million
Merchandise exports		↑ by 4.6% to USD 13.1 billion
<b>State</b>		
Revenues	January 2023	LKR 158.7 billion
Expenditure		
State Salaries		LKR 87.4 billion
Pension & income supplements		LKR 29.5 billion
Other expenses		LKR 10.8 billion
Capital spending		LKR 21 billion
Debt service		LKR 377.6 billion
<b>Private Credit</b>	December 2022	
Private sector		↓ LKR 327 billion to LKR 7,426 billion
State enterprises		↓ LKR 25.6 billion to 1,734 billion
Government & CB		↑ by LKR 178.5 billion
<b>Budget Deficit</b>		↓ to 5.5% from 8.6% last year
<b>Inflation</b>	January 2023	↓ to 53.2% from 57.2%
Consumer prices		↑ 0.5%
Food prices		↑ 0.6%

**RANJINI**  
AP Economic Analyst  
& Coordinator

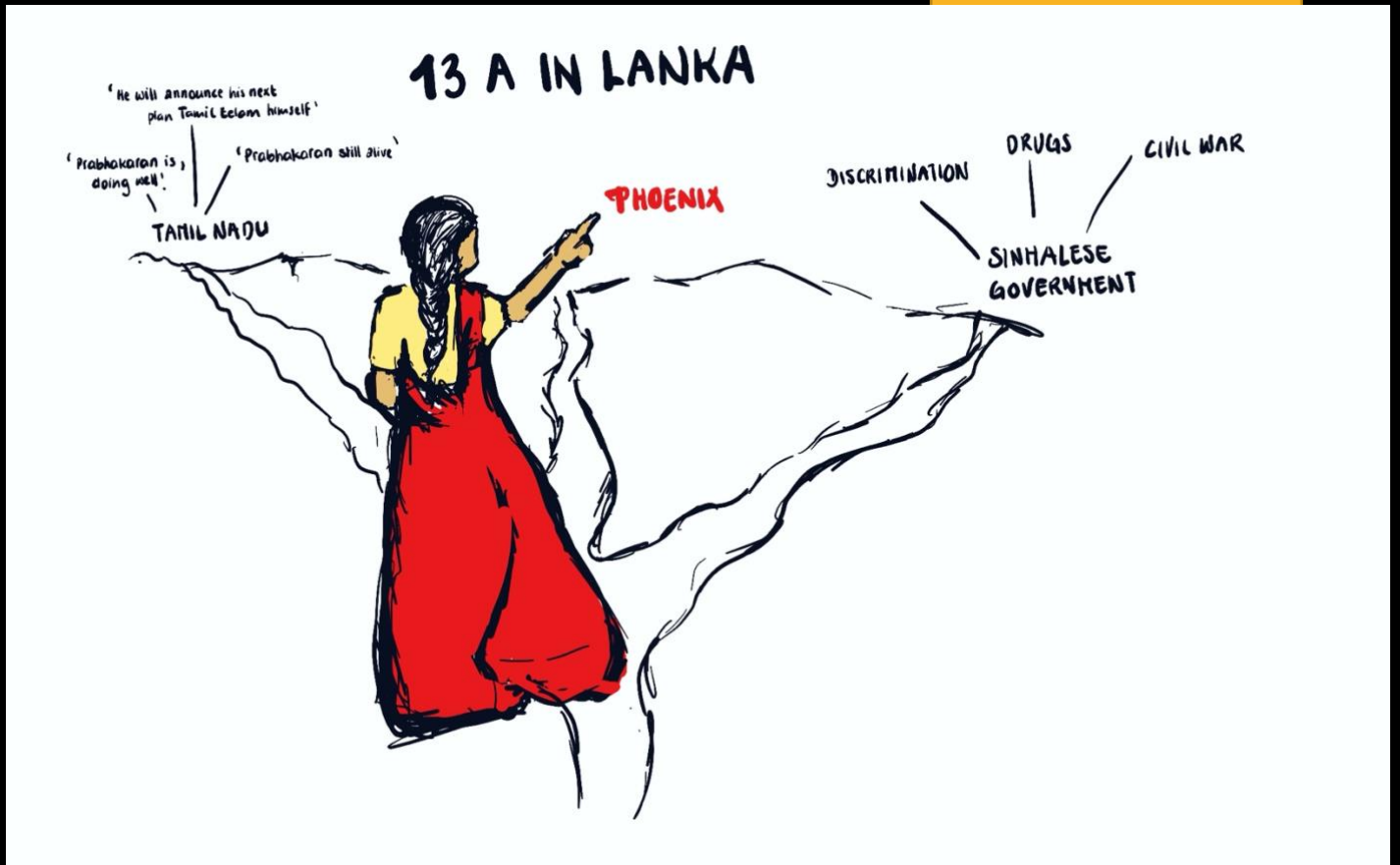
SC Phoenix at "Tamil United Indoor"  
Tournament - CH  
19.02.2023



19.02.2023  
LOTTA Meeting - Phoenix Office, CH



19.02.2023  
Coordinators' Workshop - Phoenix Office, CH



**HAMSHI**  
AP Cartoonist &  
Thoduvaanam Member



# XVIII

## Tamil Protestors Arrested

18 Tamil protestors led by TNPf were arrested by occupational SL Police for conducting a protest against R. Wickremesinghe's visit to Jaffna to conduct SLs Independence Day events in the Tamil homeland, reports JDS Lanka. Further reports from Tamil journalist Uthaya Shalin, the arrested individuals were brought before Jaffna Court on 12.02.2023. Earlier reports from Tamil journalist Kumanan indicates that a prohibition order against the protest had been issued by the Jaffna Court on 10.02.2023 as obtained by SLs occupational Police. The prohibition order prevented 2023 protests from occurring between 10.02.2023-12.02.2023. According to Senior Tamilan, they were later released on bail.

I	S. Kajenthiran MP
II	K. Sugash
III	S. Thavapalasingham
IV	I. Sathyaseelan
V	T. Sinthujan
VI	A.T. Thileeshan
VII	T. Rajasrikanth
VIII	P. Gunaratnam
IX	J. J. Sathees
X	J. Rajeevkanth
XI	S. Suthakaran
XII	S. Pathmanathan (Dilan)
XIII	L. Kokilan
XIV	Gnaneswaran
XV	Ajanthan
XVI	Gokulan
XVII	Mathan
XVIII	Sothi

# Oppression & Resistance

01.02.2023:

**Commemoration** -

According to Virakesari, the body of Tamil journalist Nipojan who had perished in a train accident in Colombo was laid to rest by relatives, colleagues and friends at his home.

01.02.2023: **Nilavarai** -

The Mallakam Magistrate's Court has ordered occupational Achchuveli Police to prepare a document to seek advice from the Legislature regarding the case filed against the Valikaamam East Divisional Councillor, Thiagaraja Nirosch for the obstruction of activities of SL's Archaeological Department in the Nilavarai area, reports Virakesari.

01.02.2023: **Protest** -

The Federation of University Teachers' Associations (FUTA) conducted a protest around 12.00 local time before Jaffna University against SL's unfair tax policy, Virakesari.

01.02.2023: **Arrest** -

According to the Thinakkural, the case filed against Velan Swamikal has been adjourned by the Jaffna Magistrate's Court until 28.02.2023. During the

case hearing, the Magistrate had also ordered for a summons and statement order to be issued.

01.02.2023: **Fishing** -

According to Thinakkural, fishing activities prevented by the occupational Mannar Army were reinitiated after Charles Nirmalanathan MP's interference and discussion with the occupational Vanni Army HQ. Nirmalanathan led the initiative to address the prevention of the locals' livelihood after they had notified him of the SLA's imposed restriction.

02.02.2023: **Land** -

Around 109 acres of land in the possession of occupational Jaffna Vali North are to be handed over to landowners on 03.02.2023 and 197 families who will be resettled are set to receive necessary allowance for rehabilitation into their areas, reports Virakesari.

02.02.2023: **Hartal** - A

hartal has been scheduled for 04.02.2023 across the Tamil homeland in an invitation issued by the Jaffna University Students' Union in a

press conference held at Jaffna University on 02.02.2023, reports Virakesari.

03.02.2023: **Land** -

Around 108 acres of land under the Jaffna Telipalai Disvisional Secretary had been released from the High Security Zone was released in light of SL's 75th Independence Day, reports Virakesari.

- ◆ Transit Camp Kankesanthurai Land - 26.43 acres
- ◆ Engineers Service Regiment Land - 24.16 acres
- ◆ Mechanized Infantry Regiment Land - 16.55 acres
- ◆ Anthonyapuram Land - 13.083 acres

03.02.2023:

**Disappeared** -

According to Virakesari, the relatives of forcibly disappeared persons staged a protest in Vavuniya on 03.02.2023 and mentioned that there was no point in pursuing 04.02.2023 as a Black Day without inviting the international community for a referendum.

04.02.2023 **Protest** -

According to Virakesari, TNPF conducted a rally in Jaffna to mark 04.02.2023 as a Black

Day of the Tamil Nation and rejected SL's unitary state and their 13A. Further reports indicate that a protest was staged near Mullaitivu Junction at 11.00 local time in an awareness rally. A protest was also staged opposite the Mannar District Secretariat from 08.00 local time.

04.02.2023: **Release** - According to Virakesari, prisoners were released across the Tamil homeland under a presidential pardon in light of SL's 75th Independence Day. It is notable that a total of 588 prisoners were released across SL with a presidential pardon provided to 622 prisoners.

- ◆ 08 (07 men, 1 woman) prisoners - Jaffna Prison
- ◆ 05 prisoners (04 men, 1 woman) - Vavuniya Remand Prison

04.02.2023: **Arrest** - According to SL Bar Association's Peiris, lawyers had been denied permission to meet individuals arrested for conducting a peaceful protest on 03.02.2023 at Maruthanai, reports Virakesari.

04.02.2023: **Liberation** - C.V. Wigneswaran mentioned that the Tamils' liberation day would be the day that the Sinhalese public would allow the Tamils to alter SL's unitary system and achieve full power devolution, reports Virakesari.

04.02.2023: **Rally** - According to the Tamil Guardian, 'Black day for Tamil homeland!' Tamils in Jaffna rallied through the town in opposition to SL's 75th Independence day, known to Tamils as 'black day'. There were also protests in:

- ◆ Mullaitivu
- ◆ Mannar
- ◆ Batticaloa
- ◆ Diaspora

05.02.2023: **Police violence** - According to the Tamil Guardian, 03 Tamil teenagers were hospitalised after being beaten by allegedly drunk police officers in Mullaitivu on 03.02.2023. The 15-year-old and 17-year-old were treated at Mullaitivu District General Hospital.

05.02.2023: **Lands** - According to Virakesari, 75 beneficiaries were presented land release documents at a ceremony held at the Mullaitivu Pradesiya

Sabha on 04.02.2023 in light of SL's 75th Independence Day.

05.02.2023: **Land** - According to Virakesari, Palali locals mentioned that while they were happy with the release of occupied lands, many other plots of land remain to be released. Earlier reports indicate that whilst a portion of lands of the Palali North 254th division which had been appropriated by occupational SL military for an SL Army camp had been released, no privately-owned lands of locals had been released hence extending their inability to rehabilitate their lands.

05.02.2023: **Kurunthumalai** - Whilst R. Wickremesinghe has reportedly instructed occupational authorities to return all but 06 acres of lands surrounding Kurunthumalai to locals and supposedly owned by SL's Forestry Department, reports from Virakesari indicate that relevant SL authorities are delaying the process. Reports indicate that R. Wickremesinghe mentioned that the occupational Buddhist monastery could

withhold 06 acres of lands for their own use but not any additional lands.

**06.02.2023: Protest** - The North to East (N2E) protest has surpassed Tamil villages heavily subject to Sinhala Buddhisation, reports Virakesari. Earlier reports indicate that the 03rd consecutive day of the N2E rally had commenced from Mullaitivu towards Trincomalee. Further reports indicate that bus services for those who wish to participate in the N2E rally at the final destination of Batticaloa on 07.02.2023 from Jaffna would be organised by the Jaffna University Students Union. The N2E protest commenced from Jaffna University as organised by the Jaffna University students union on 04.02.2023 at 10.30 local time with the raising of a black flag on Jaffna University campus.

- ◆ Thennaimaravadi
- ◆ Pulmoaddai
- ◆ Thiriyay
- ◆ Kuchcheveli

**07.02.2023:**  
**Intimidation** - Video footage from Lanka Files captures 02 occupational SL Police in civil clothes near Kilinochchi pretending

to be journalists filming activists and journalists participating in the N2E rally. According to Kumanan, the SL Police Intelligence officers had posed as Hiru TV Journalists. Further reports from journalist Hamsanan, a bus travelling towards Batticaloa from Jaffna with protestors to participate in the N2E rally was attacked with stones near the occupational Amparai Thappatai Army Camp.

**08.02.2023: Summons** - According to K. Kumanan, occupational Jaffna Police issued a summons against 07 activists who had participated in the N2E protest rally including Sritharan MP for the alleged offence of participating in an unlawful assembly.

**09.02.2023: Land** - According to Lanka Files, R.

Wickremesinghe announced that 108 acres of land occupied by the SL military had been released in Valikaamam North, Jaffna in light of SL's Independence Day. Consequently, Tamils visited the site to find that, "none of the private lands have been released, not even a small bit of land. They

are trying to hoodwink the international community that the lands in Valikaamam North have been released."

**10.02.2023: Lands** - According to Kumanan, locals feared that all lands freed in Palali North are SL state-owned lands and privately-owned lands remain occupied by the SL army.

**11.02.2023:**  
**Commemoration** - According to JDS Lanka, the Trincomalee Kumarapuram Massacre was commemorated by locals.

**12.02.2023: Protest** - A protest was held by locals in rejection of 13A and in opposition of R. Wickremesinghe's visit to the Tamil homeland to conduct SL's Independence Day, reports Lanka Files.

**12.02.2023: Protest** - According to Tamil Journalist K. Kumanan, Sivajilingam, Velan Swamigal and Ananthi Sasitharan protested against SL's Independence Day event in Jaffna with black flags.

**12.02.2023:**  
**Commemoration** - According to the Tamil

Guardian, Families of the Disappeared in Vavuniya remembered Murugathan Varnakulasingham as they marked 2,185 days of continuous protest. Varnakulasingham, who self-immolated outside the UN Human Rights Council 14 years ago, was commemorated with flowers laid and candles lit in memory.

13.02.2023:

**Commemoration** -

According to S. Thavaseelan, the 14th commemoration of Tamil journalist, P. Saththiyamoorthy who was killed in an airstrike in Puthukkudiyiruppu, Thevipuram in the GoSL-declared No Fire Zone, was held at the Mullaitivu Press Club.

14.02.2023: **Protest** -

According to Lanka Files, an awareness event organised by the Mannar District Women's Organisations was held opposite the Mannar District Secretariat to "celebrate a life without violence against women." Reports indicate that women's rights were emphasised through the playing of drums and an awareness rally.

14.02.2023: **Release** -

According to Virakesari, 04 persons were

released on bail from the Galle High court. These 04 were accused to have been involved in the 2006 attack at the Galle Harbour.

14.02.2023: **Release** -

According to Lanka Files, Dr. Chinnaiya Sivaruban who had served as a doctor at the Palai District Hospital who was arrested under the PTA by SL's Anti-Terrorism Squad on 18.08.2019 under various charges including the revival of the LTTE was released on bail by the Kilinochchi High Court.

14.02.2023:

**Photography** -

According to JDS Lanka, Tamil journalist K. Kumanan had launched a website presenting his content covering the livelihood and resistance of Eelam Tamils across the Tamil homeland during a launch event at the Mullaitivu Press Club. Dr. Sivarasubramaniam Raghuram mentioned that "Every photo clicked by Kumanan tells a story," reports Lanka Files.

16.02.2023: **Arrest** -

According to Lanka Files, MP Sritharan refused to accept court summons which were only in Sinhala language.

Further reports indicate that he refused the summons when produced in Tamil as they did not include a court order to arrest him.

16.02.2023: **LTTE** -

Suresh Premachandran, the leader of the EPRLF mentioned that, "Nedumaran's statement regarding the LTTE leader will increase crises faced by Eelam Tamils as the PTA may be strengthened and many may be arrested on the grounds of allegedly attempting to rebuild the LTTE," reports Lanka Files.

17.02.2023: **Strike** -

According to Economy Next, a federation of unions and professional associations representing high-earning GoSL employees have threatened a SL general strike on 01.03.2023 if GoSL does not address their concerns about the income tax hike. Petroleum Public Employees Union President Ashoka Ranwala mentioned that the unions had taken a "historic decision."

18.02.2023: **Protest** -

19 Fishermen's Cooperative Societies participated in a peaceful demonstration

opposite the North Divisional Secretariat in Jaffna demanding immediate control of illegal fishing activities in its occupied maritime territory, reports Lanka Files.

21.02.2023: **Protest** - According to Eelanadu, relatives of the Enforced Disappeared marked the 06th year of the beginning of their protest in Kilinochchi.

23.03.2023: **Political Prisoners** - According to Eelandu, 21 Political prisoners including 04 women were released. They were held under the PTA and were arrested in 2014 with the accusations that they wanted to regroup the LTTE.

25.02.2023: **Protest** - According to Kalaikathir, a protest was conducted in Jaffna for land. This protest was conducted by the organisation of landless people from Jaffna. They demanded SL's governor for land.

27.02.2023: **Kurunthormalai** - According to Tamil journalist, S. Thavaseelan, TNPf's S. Gajendran and Gajendrakumar Ponnambalam made an unknown and sudden visit to Kurunthormalai.

27.02.2023: **Nilavarai** - According to Lanka Files, occupational SL Army removed a Buddha image installed in Nilavarai, Achchuveli near an occupational SL

Army camp following local complaints filed to authorities.

27.02.2023: **LTTE** - According to JDS Lanka, the Vavuniya High Court ordered for 03 LTTE cadres who had surrendered to the SL Army on 18.05.2009 to be produced before the court by 22.03.2023. The verdict was delivered in response to 03 petitions filed by the partners of the LTTE cadres, Elilan, Kandiyamman and Columbus who have been forcibly disappeared since 2009.

- ◆ S. Sasitharan
- ◆ P. Kandasamy
- ◆ R. Krishnakumar



**@ap.newsletter**

## NEW ACCOUNT

*Previous account suspended by  
Instagram as of 13.02.2023*

# SIGNS OF STRUCTURAL GENOCIDE

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

02.02.2023: **Ramayana** - According to Economy Next, SL has identified 50 sites associated with the Ramayana epic. These will be used to promote tourism in SL, mainly targeting India.

16.02.2023: **Vedukkunaari** - According to Kalaikathir, SL's minister Douglas Devananda mentioned that the Tamil rites at Vedukkunaari will be respected. However, it is important that nature and the archeological sites are also safeguarded. For that he will speak with the involved SL ministries, he further told while visiting Vedukkunaari.

17.02.2023: **Buddhicism** - According to Tamil Journalist Kumanan, the "Thaiyiddi Narasinga Vairavar" temples in lands recently released from occupational SL Army control from Kangesanthurai, Jaffna after 33 years has been heavily Buddhicised and converted into a Buddhist temple.

- ◆ Soolam (trident) broken
- ◆ Moolavar (presidial deity) removed
- ◆ Buddhist flags to Boo tree
- ◆ Images of Buddha painted on walls of temple
- ◆ Moonstone-like signs and semi-circular stone embedded at entry

20.02.2023: **Protest** - According to Tamil journalist, K. Kumanan, relatives of the forcibly disappeared, marked a

rally from Kilinochchi Kandasamy Kovil to the Kilinochchi War Victory monument to mark 06 years of continuous protest in search of their relatives. According to JDS Lanka, they demanded an international investigation into SL state crimes and had refused an offer by GoSL amounting to LKR 200,000 in compensation.

21.02.2023: **Sinhalicisation** - According to S. Thavaseelan, Karunattukeni Sivanthamurippu border village cattle herder, Sivakolunthu Kadasamy was attacked and hospitalised by Sinhala colonists who had entered the area to allegedly steal his cattle.

22.02.2023: **Adani** - According to Economy Next, the acquisition of land in Mannar and Pooneryn for a 500-megawatt renewable energy project by India's Adani Group is underway. It is not clear what compensation will be paid if the land is privately owned.

**AKKINIP PARAVAIKAL**

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