

President Mahinda Rajapaksa  
Presidential Secretariat,  
Colombo 1,  
SRI LANKA

March 2010

Your Excellency,

**Stop Intimidation Campaign against Human Rights Defenders – Sri Lanka**

We are writing with grave concern on harassment on Mr. Weliamuna, a human rights lawyer and the executive director of Transparency International of Sri Lanka (TISL).

We learnt that intimidation on Mr. Weliamuna has been escalating after the presidential election in this year. In the past two months, there were several reports in public media, slandering Mr. Weliamuna's misuse of TISL's funds. The defamation has hampered the meaningful work of Mr. Weliamuna and TISL. We also learnt that there is a surveillance list prepared by the State Intelligence Unit, with Mr. Weliamuna's name on the top of it. In a justice society with well-functioned judiciary system, civilians should never be black-listed by the authority without concrete evidence. The great anti-corruption efforts paid by Mr. Weliamuna and his organization should be appreciated, not discouraged. The harassment on Mr. Weliamuna and the other human rights defenders has raised our worry about the commitment of Rajapaksa government to lead the country to recover from the post civil-war situation.

Please be reminded that International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, which your country is a party, calls for "the prohibition of arbitrary or unlawful interference with an individual's privacy, family, home or correspondence, and of unlawful attacks on his honour and reputation."(Article 17) Therefore, we urge you to take prompt action to protect Mr. Weliamuna from arbitrary arrest and unlawful attacks on his reputation, and stop all sorts of political oppression on human rights defenders and dissidents. We are looking forward to your favourable response on the issue.

Yours faithfully,

[SIGNATORIES OF THIS LETTER BELOW]




Mrs. Chandra Ellawala  
Secretary of  
Human Rights Commission of Sri Lanka,  
118, Barnes Place, Colombo 07,  
SRI LANKA

March 2010

Your Excellency,

**Stop Intimidation Campaign against Human Rights Defenders – Sri Lanka**

We are writing with grave concern on harassment on Mr. Weliamuna, a human rights lawyer and the executive director of Transparency International of Sri Lanka (TISL).

We learnt that intimidation on Mr. Weliamuna has been escalating after the presidential election in this year. In the past two months, there were several reports in public media, slandering Mr. Weliamuna's misuse of TISL's funds. The defamation has hampered the meaningful work of Mr. Weliamuna and TISL. We also learnt that there is a surveillance list prepared by the State Intelligence Unit, with Mr. Weliamuna's name on the top of it. In a justice society with well-functioned judiciary system, civilians should never be black-listed by the authority without concrete evidence. The great anti-corruption efforts paid by Mr. Weliamuna and his organization should be appreciated, not discouraged. The harassment on Mr. Weliamuna and the other human rights defenders has raised our worry about the commitment of Rajapaksa government to lead the country to recover from the post civil-war situation.

Please be reminded that International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, which your country is a party, calls for "the prohibition of arbitrary or unlawful interference with an individual's privacy, family, home or correspondence, and of unlawful attacks on his honour and reputation."(Article 17) Therefore, we urge you to take prompt action to protect Mr. Weliamuna from arbitrary arrest and unlawful attacks on his reputation, and stop all sorts of political oppression on human rights defenders and dissidents. We are looking forward to your favourable response on the issue.

Yours faithfully,

[SIGNATORIES OF THIS LETTER BELOW]




Mr. Jayantha Wikramaratne  
Inspector General of Police  
Police Headquarters, New Secretariat  
Colombo 1, SRI LANKA

March 2010

Your Excellency,

**Stop Intimidation Campaign against Human Rights Defenders – Sri Lanka**

We are writing with grave concern on harassment on Mr. Weliamuna, a human rights lawyer and the executive director of Transparency International of Sri Lanka (TISL).

We learnt that intimidation on Mr. Weliamuna has been escalating after the presidential election in this year. In the past two months, there were several reports in public media, slandering Mr. Weliamuna's misuse of TISL's funds. The defamation has hampered the meaningful work of Mr. Weliamuna and TISL. We also learnt that there is a surveillance list prepared by the State Intelligence Unit, with Mr. Weliamuna's name on the top of it. In a justice society with well-functioned judiciary system, civilians should never be black-listed by the authority without concrete evidence. The great anti-corruption efforts paid by Mr. Weliamuna and his organization should be appreciated, not discouraged. The harassment on Mr. Weliamuna and the other human rights defenders has raised our worry about the commitment of Rajapaksa government to lead the country to recover from the post civil-war situation.

Please be reminded that International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, which your country is a party, calls for "the prohibition of arbitrary or unlawful interference with an individual's privacy, family, home or correspondence, and of unlawful attacks on his honour and reputation."(Article 17) Therefore, we urge you to take prompt action to protect Mr. Weliamuna from arbitrary arrest and unlawful attacks on his reputation, and stop all sorts of political oppression on human rights defenders and dissidents. We are looking forward to your favourable response on the issue.

Yours faithfully,

[SIGNATORIES OF THIS LETTER BELOW]


