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16 April 1998

Further information on EXTRA 05/98 (AMR 20/01/98, 9 January 1998) and follow-up (AMR 20/02/98, 23 January 1998) - Fear of refoulement / Fear of torture

CANADAManickavasagam Suresh, aged 42

Manickavasagam Suresh, a Tamil man from Sri Lanka who was facing forcible return to Sri Lanka, was released on bail on 23 March 1998. Under his bail conditions he is not permitted to have active involvement with the World Tamil Movement or any other Tamil organization.

On 28 January, the Ontario Court of Justice ordered an interim stay of his deportation until the Federal Court had decided on his claim that his constitutional rights have been violated. This ruling is still pending.

This and other court applications related to the case may take several months to conclude. Until then, the imminent risk of refoulement is lifted.

Amnesty International wishes to thank everyone who appealed to the Canadian authorities not to return Manickavasagam Suresh to Sri Lanka.