

SUBRAMANIAM RAMACHANDRAN has been missing since 15 February 2007. He had been working as the Vadamarachchi area reporter for Tamil language dailies *Yal Thinakkural* and *Valampuri* since 2001. Subramaniam Ramachandran allegedly went missing after publishing a report implicating a businessman and military officers in the illegal trading of sand. He was reportedly being held in a military camp in the north of Sri Lanka, but it is becoming increasingly likely that he may have died in custody and his body disposed of.

SRI LANKA: JUSTICE FOR MEDIA WORKERS

AMNESTY
INTERNATIONAL



Dear President,

At least 10 media workers have been unlawfully killed in Sri Lanka since the beginning of 2006. Others have been arbitrarily detained, tortured and allegedly disappeared while in the custody of security forces.

Amnesty International is unaware of any investigation that has led to the arrest and prosecution of those responsible for the killing of journalists and other media workers.

I therefore urge the Sri Lankan government to:

- **Protect** media workers and their rights to life, liberty and security of person, in compliance with Sri Lanka's obligations under international law;
- **Respect** media workers and publicly announce that killings, threats, or other attacks will not be tolerated;
- **Investigate** all cases of attacks, disappearances and killings of media workers promptly, independently, impartially and effectively, irrespective of the identity of perpetrators or victims;
- **Invite** the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression to visit the country without delay.

Yours sincerely,

Name:

Country:

Signature:

Attach
post stamp

MAHINDA RAJAPAKSA

His Excellency the President

Presidential Secretariat

Colombo 1

SRI LANKA

ASA 37/011/2008