

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

AI Index: ASA 37/22/93  
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Further information on UA 372/93 (ASA 37/21/93, 22 October 1993) - Arbitrary and unacknowledged arrests/Fear of "disappearance"

SRI LANKA:Nagaiah Ramachandran (24)  
Pathmanathan Gobinathan (19)  
Nadarajaha Manoranjith (19)  
Vadivel Pathiparajah (19)  
Harihan  
Sadeswaran (13)

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Amnesty International has received further information on four of the six people reported to have been held in unacknowledged detention. Nadarajah Manoranjith was released from custody on 27 October. Pathmanathan Gobinathan, Nadarajah Manoranjith and Vadivel Pathiparajah are reportedly detained for investigation at Ragama police station in Gampaha District on a 7-day detention order. They have been visited by their relatives.

There is no further news about Harihan or Sadeswaran.

**FURTHER RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telegrams/telexes/faxes/express and airmail letters in English or your own language:**

- expressing concern at reports of widespread arbitrary arrests of Tamil people in the Colombo area apparently solely on the basis of their ethnic origin;
- expressing concern that the arrests of Harihan and Sadeswaran appear not to have been acknowledged, and saying that there are fears for their safety;
- urging that the government swiftly investigate the whereabouts and welfare of these two individuals and ensure that, if there are not recognisably criminal charges against them, they be immediately and unconditionally released;
- urging the government to ensure that the safeguards on arrest and detention which it agreed with Tamil political leaders in June 1993 are fully implemented and that steps are taken to discipline officers who fail to enforce them;
- expressing concern that some recent arrests were reportedly made by officers in civilian dress, making it more difficult for relatives to trace the whereabouts of prisoners.

**APPEALS TO:**

President D B Wijetunge  
Presidential Secretariat  
Republic Square  
Colombo 1  
Sri Lanka

**Telegrams: Pesident Wijetunge, Colombo, Sri Lanka**

**Telexes: 22650 PRESEC CE**  
**Faxes: +94 1 446657**  
**Salutation: Dear President**

**COPIES OF YOUR APPEALS TO:**

to diplomatic representatives of Sri Lanka accredited to your country.

**PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY.** Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 13 December 1993.