

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

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Further information on UA 94/92 (ASA 37/04/92, 20 March 1992) -
"Disappearance"/Fear of extrajudicial execution

SRI LANKA:Thuraisamy Rajalingam
Sinnathamby Vinayagamoorthy
Kasubathy Wijayakumar
Kanapathipillai Chandrakumar
Nagalingam Sundarsan
Shanthalingam Komaleswaran
Mailvaganam Selvarajah
Manikkam Sivendren
Arumainathan Thavarajah
Murugapathy Pathmanathan
Viramuthu Thaya
Murugesapillai Rathinam
Periyathamby Nadarajah
Sinnathamby Sivanandarajah

In a letter of 29 May 1992, the Chairman of the Presidential Commission of Inquiry into Involuntary Removal of Persons informed Amnesty International that one of the 14 persons who were arrested by the army in late January - early February 1992 while harvesting in the Kiran area had been traced.

According to his letter, the Joint Operations Command Headquarters recently informed the Presidential Commission that Kasubathy Wijayakumar of Sittandy is "being detained under a Detention Order issued under Emergency Regulations".

The letter did not provide any information with regard to the place of detention of Kasubathy Wijayakumar not about the whereabouts of the other 13 people arrested around the same time, who have since been reported "disappeared".

FURTHER RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send express and airmail letters

- welcoming the prompt investigation into the "disappearance" of the 14 people arrested by the army in late January - early February 1992 while harvesting in the Kiran area and the information that one of them has been found to be in detention;

- urging to be informed of the place of detention of Kasubathy Wijayakumar;

- asking for assurances that he will be granted regular access to his relatives and lawyer;

- urging that Kasubathy Wijayakumar either be charged within a reasonable period of time, if there is any evidence against him of criminal activities, or that he otherwise be released;

- requesting to be kept informed of any further results of the investigations into the "disappearances" of the remaining 13.

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APPEALS TO:

1) Mr H A G de Silva
Chairman
Commission of Inquiry into Involuntary Removal of Persons
Room No. 2-115, Bandaranaike Memorial International
Conference Hall
Buddhaloka Mawatha
Colombo 7
Sri Lanka

Salutation: Dear Justice de Silva

2) Justice J F A Soza
Chairman
Human Rights Task Force
75 Norris Canal Road
Colombo 10
Sri Lanka

Salutation: Dear Justice Soza

COPIES OF YOUR APPEALS TO:

Lt Gen Hamilton Wanasinghe
Joint Operations Commander
JOC Headquarters
Flower Road
Colombo 7
Sri Lanka

and to diplomatic representatives of SRI LANKA in your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 16 July 1992.