

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

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Further information on UA 383/90 (ASA 37/37/90, 20 September 1990) -  
"Disappearance"

Sri Lanka: Kumaraguru KUGAMOORTHY

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Amnesty International has received further information regarding the "disappearance" of Kumaraguru Kugamoorthy. Contrary to the information provided earlier, it appears that he was arrested on 6 September (not 13 September). The full registration number of the Mitsubishi jeep in which he was taken away was 9\_SRI 9164. The date on which the police came to his home with the information regarding his motorbike having been found is 10 September (not 17).

Amnesty International has been able to establish that Kumaraguru Kugamoorthy, who is from Jaffna but has worked in Colombo as a program producer for the Sri Lanka Broadcasting Cooperation, was an active member of several human rights organizations. He was also a member of the Ceylon Mercantile Union. He married only recently and his wife is expecting their first child.

Despite continued efforts to trace his whereabouts, friends and relatives have so far not been able to establish his place of detention. In responses to appeals made by local human rights organizations, both the Criminal Investigation Department and the Police Headquarters, on 22 and 24 September respectively, have denied that they have arrested him.

**PLEASE ORGANIZE APPEALS FROM TRADE UNIONISTS, JOURNALISTS AND LOCAL HUMAN RIGHTS ORGANIZATIONS.**

**FURTHER RECOMMENDED ACTION: Telegrams/telexes/faxes/express and airmail letters:**

The original UA was limited to ten appeals per section because it was thought at that time that a huge number of appeals could be counter-productive. It is now felt that because of the length of time since Kumaraguru Kugamoorthy disappeared, wide international pressure is necessary. Therefore this follow-up is unlimited.

- expressing concern about the "disappearance of Kumaraguru Kugamoorthy after his arrest on 6 September;
- urging that a full, independent inquiry be immediately established to reveal his whereabouts;
- seeking assurances that if he is in custody he be humanely treated and granted immediate and regular access to lawyers and relatives;
- urging that he be released without delay unless he is to be brought to trial promptly and fairly on recognizably criminal charges.

**FURTHER APPEALS TO:**

His Excellency President R Premadasa  
 Presidential Secretariat  
 Republic Square  
 Colombo 1  
 Sri Lanka

Telegrams: President Premadasa, Colombo, Sri Lanka  
 Telexes: 22650 PRESEC CE  
 Faxes: + 94 1 54 6657

The Hon Ranjan Wijeratne  
 Minister of Plantation Industries and Minister of State for Defence  
 Ministry of Defence  
 Colombo  
 Sri Lanka

Telegrams: Minister Defence, Colombo, Sri Lanka  
 Telexes: 22229 MINDEF CE  
 Faxes: + 94 1 54 6091

Ernest Perera  
 Inspector General of Police  
 Sri Lanka Police Headquarters  
 New Secretariat  
 No 349 Galle Road  
 Colombia 1, Sri Lanka

Telegrams: Police Inspector General Perera, Colombo, Sri Lanka

**COPIES 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 7 December 1990.