

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**

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| KASIPPILLAI MANOHARAN, <i>et al.</i> , |) | |
| |) | |
| Plaintiffs, |) | |
| |) | |
| v. |) | Civil Action No. 1:11-cv-235 (CKK) |
| |) | |
| PERCY MAHENDRA RAJAPAKSA, |) | |
| |) | |
| Defendant. |) | |
| _____ |) | |

**STATUS REPORT SUBMITTED BY THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

The United States of America, by and through the undersigned counsel, respectfully files this status report concerning the Court's December 30, 2011 Order regarding a Statement of Interest:

1. Plaintiffs seek a judgment under the Torture Victim Protection Act against President Mahendra Rajapaksa of Sri Lanka for, inter alia, alleged command responsibility for extrajudicial killings of certain Sri Lankan nationals. See Kasippillai Manoharan, et al., v. Percy Mahendra Rajapaksa (Dkt. #1).

2. On December 16, 2011, Defendant filed a motion to solicit the views of the United States regarding the Defendant's entitlement to head of state immunity, the justiciability of the claims under the political question doctrine, and the applicability of the Act of State doctrine. (Dkt. #9).

3. On December 30, 2011, and in response to Defendant's motion, this Court requested that the United States indicate by January 13 whether it would file a Statement of Interest in this case and, if so, when it would be filed. (Dkt. #10).

4. The United States is filing separately on this date a Suggestion of Immunity in this case recognizing the immunity of President Mahendra Rajapaksa, the President and sitting head of state of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka. As explained in that Suggestion of Immunity, the United States believes that its determination regarding President Rajapaksa's immunity is dispositive of this matter. Therefore, the United States will not address the political question doctrine or the Act of State doctrine at this time.

Dated: January 13, 2012

Respectfully submitted,

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Assistant Attorney General

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/s/ Judson O. Littleton

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