

## Press Release

7<sup>th</sup> March 2012  
New Delhi

### **SDPI Protest Demonstration today before UN Office at Delhi against Genocide of Tamils committed by Sri Lankan Rajapaksa Govt.**

Social Democratic Party of India (SDPI) conducts a protest today (7.3.2012) by 10.30am before the UN Office at Delhi demanding to try Sri Lankan President Mahinda Rajapaksa and his brother Gotabaya Rajapaksa, Defense Secretary of Sri Lankan Army and other responsible authorities before the International Court of Justice for committing genocide of Sri Lankan Tamil Civilians during the civil war.

The protest was presided by the Party's National General Secretary Hafiz Manzoor Ali Khan. Party's Tamilnadu State General Secretary Nellai Mubarak, Shuhaib from Popular Front of India Delhi Unit, Campus Front of India National General Secretary C.A. Raof and NCHRO National Secretary Adv. A Mohamed Yusuff addressed in the protest.

The speakers addressed in the meeting pointed out that more than 1,35,000 Tamil men, women and children were Killed or Disappeared during the 26 year long civil war in Sri Lanka since 1983 to 2009. More than 35,000 Tamils were killed in the year 2009 alone during the final phase of war. 11 Lakhs Tamils made to flee the country. More than 6 Lakhs Tamil Internal Refugees, internally displaced and evicted by the Sri Lankan military.

More than 20,000 Tamil orphaned children, more than 35,000 Tamil widows left abandoned Thousands of families including infants, it was reported approximately 4.5 Lakhs Tamil civilians have been kept behind barbed wire fenced internment camps operated by Sri Lankan Military aftermath of the war.

5 Lakhs Tamils kept under military rule in Jaffna peninsula (Northern Sri Lanka) that had been described as an "open prison". Thousands in custody, detention without trial, other widespread abuses. Economic embargo has been imposed on traditional Tamil areas for more than two decades

Supply of food, medicine, fuel, electricity and other essential items are controlled by the Military. Usage of banned weapons and chemical weapons - Cluster bombs, White phosphorous. Usage of heavy weapons, artillery on densely populated civilian areas against the international norms of human rights. Mass Graves and systematic violations of fundamental human rights remain uninvestigated. Hundreds of thousands of livelihoods and schools, hospitals, libraries, temples, churches, houses, villages destroyed during and aftermath of civil war.

Hundreds of protesters raised slogans demanding India and UNHRC to take stern action against Sri Lankan Rajapaksa government in the upcoming Geneva conference.

### **Memorandum submitted**

A memorandum to the UNO Director, New Delhi and Hon'ble Salman Kurshid, Union Minister for External Affairs after the protest.

### **Our Demands:**

#### **India should bring a strong resolution against Sri Lankan Rajapaksa Govt.**

We demand India should bring a strong resolution against Sri Lankan Rajapaksa government for committing Genocide against Tamil civilians in the upcoming Session of Geneva Conference and also to support the resolution sponsored by other countries in this regard.

#### **Try and Punish the Perpetrators of Vast Human Rights Violations**

We demand the Hon'ble United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights that it is the duty bound to the UNHRC, the international watch dog of human rights violations, to try and punish all the responsible authorities of the Sri Lankan government for carrying out such a large scale violation on human rights of the minority Tamil community in Sri Lanka.

#### **Pass a Strong Resolution against Genocide by Sri Lankan Rajapaksa Government:**

The evidences are more than enough, which exposes the genocide of minority Tamil Community carried out by the Mahindha Rajapaksa lead Sri Lankan government over the years. Hence, we demand the Hon'ble United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to pass a strong resolution and action against the Sri Lankan government in the upcoming session of Geneva Conference.

#### **Rajapaksa & Accompanies must be Tried before the International Criminal Court:**

We demand the Hon'ble United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, an International Judicial Inquiry must be conducted on the genocide of innocent Tamil Civilians during the civil war in Sri Lanka. Mahindha Rajapaksa, Kothapaya Rajapaksa and the authorities accompanied in the genocide of innocent Tamil Civilians in Sri Lanka must be tried in the International Criminal Court.

We also demand speedy disposal of the trial and the culprits should be punished as early as possible prior to their natural death, to avoid incident of the so-called genocide criminal Slobodan Milosevic's death in the prison, which happened few months before the verdict by establishing his charges during four year long trial in 2006.

## **Punish the Perpetrators of the Sexual Violence against Tamil Women:**

We wish to remind the the Hon'ble United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights about the spirit of the resolution No. 1820 of U.N. Security Council, which is empowered for providing services to the victims of sexual violence and prosecuting perpetrators of the crime. It is very shameful to the international institution, which is accountable to the global community for not acting upon the original spirit of the resolution even after three years of passing.

Hence, we demand the Hon'ble United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to try and punish the culprits of Sri Lankan Military before the International Criminal Court for committing a large scale of sexual violence and rape against the Tamil women during the civil war of Sri Lanka.

Yours Sincerely

**Abdul Majeed Faizy**  
National Secretary, SDPI