

வன்னி மக்கள் நலன்பேணும் அமைப்பு WANNI PEOPLE'S WELFARE ORGANIZATION

Valluvarpuram,
Redbana,
Visuvamadu.

செயலகம்
SECRETARIATE

வள்ளுவர்புரம்,
ஹெட் பானா,
விசுவமடு.

21.11.2008

The Head of Delegates,
I.C.R.C,
Head Office,
Colombo,
Sri Lanka.

Dear sir,

FOOD SCARCITY AND LIVELIHOOD. STAGNATION AND AGONY OF TRAVELLING TO SOUTH EXPERIENCED BY THE VANNI PEOPLE.

Due to the scarcity of food the entire Wanni population are facing a serious starvation and death this unholerable situation continues without any solution. Hence, to bring this disaster to your kind perusal, we have decided to conduct huge processions on behalf of our welfare Organization on the same day it self in both districts. One is at Tharmapuram in Kilinochchi district and the other at three places like Puthukkudiyiruppu, Oddusuddan and Mullaitivu in Mullaitivu district and submitting this petition to you on behalf of our people.

We are submitting this petition to your excellency on behalf of the society that maintains the welfare of the Wanni people. In order to bring forward the realism and to create awareness among the entire nations interested in human rights, about the cunning approach of the Srilankan government by means of various activities such as using supplies of food, Medicines and other inputs as weapons upon the innocent people.

Our Wanni welfare society is formed as a civil society to express its civil rights belongs to the civil communities to the developing world. Representatives of various communities are included in this society. At this stage, these requests are being expressed in order to show the planned activities carried out very recently by the Srilankan government and its military machineries against the civilians in our region.

FOOD AND ITS DISTRIBUTION.

- Transportation of food items have to be done by Lorries only.
- But the security forces are purposely reducing the number of lorries that are allowed by the government.

You must understand this situation. Some details are given below for your information.

Lorryloads required and allowed through the convoy for Non –Food Items

The details upto June, 2008 from January 2008

Months	Required No of Lorry loads	Allowed by the CGES	Allowed by the Security Forces	Sent back by the Security Forces
2008 Jan.	600	324	146	178
2008 Feb.	560	324	198	126
2008 Mar.	570	324	196	128
2008 Apri.	610	304	185	139
2008 may.	590	304	153	151
2008 Jun.	580	303	217	086

- Though the quantity and chromology of the distributions of the basic food items already decided and arranged by the UN for the displaced to ensure there food security. Preventing the distributions by means of blocking the lorries and as the result the back feeding in the WFP distributions.chromology are not delivered. Hence, the situation of the people are very pathetic, looking at their food-stamps and unable to receive there food items continues.
- The food items worth of Rs.1260/= only issued by the Commissioner of Essential Service Department to an IDP family consisting five (05) members per month. This quantity was fixed in the year 1983. But the govt, doesn't change this amount even the cost of living is very high due to the price escalation during the past two decadec. And also, these items were not issued correctly.
- Even the Transportation of food items such as juggary tamarind and dates are completely prohibited. Also banning of nourishment food items continues timeto time.
- Among the non food items such as building materials, dresses, inputs, took, vechiles and machineries are completely restricted. At this position we under the impression, whether we are not citizens of a democratic country and your excellency must realise at we are a society to whom basic need of dress is completely rejected.

FUEL.

- Transportation of electricity, pettrol, deasel Oil and tar in to the Vanni region is Complefely banned.
- For the population of more than four hundred thousands living in this region only kerosene oil is allowed as one and the only fuel.This is also because it is refined from the crude oill as a sub item and unable to sell it in other parts of the country. Several restrictions and ruductions have been made in this transportation. while transporting it even with the authorised permission. We are faching several restrictions and reduction. To show the realism the details are givin below for your kind perusal.

Districts	December, 2007	September, 2008
Kilinochchi	600,000	400,000
Mullaitivu	700,000	500,000
Mannar	130,000	Nil
Vavuniya	300,000	Nil

In this case Kerosene oil had been issued to the displaced people staying in Kilinochchi and Mullaitivu districts from Mannar and Vavuniya districts out of the kerosene oil reserved for our two districts. And also the displaced MPCSS are functioning here, but they are not reserving none of the fuel allocation.

SHELTERS FOR DISPLACED PEOPLES

In Vanni due to the occurrence to the worst human disaster and inland displacement, so for 74042 families consisting of 275,000 persons (Seventy Four thousand forty two families – Two hundred and Seventy five thousand members) have been displaced and staying under the trees and temporary shelters. All the INGOs functioned in the Wanni region had vacated from this area according to the pre-planned instructions of the government. At this stage, no actions have been taken to provide shelter facilities to these suffering people, but in case if the same thing happens in South of Sri Lanka the relief measures will be taken immediately without any delay. This indicates the step-motherly treatment very clearly.

Definitely a solution must be found to this human disaster, and also must come forward immediately to avoid the people affected by the diseases and snake bites.

AGRICULTURE INPUTS.

Almost 75% of the people living in Wanni are traditional farmers, depending mainly on cultivation. It is an agricultural area consisting 8509 hectares of paddy cultivatable land and 3476 hectares of vegetable and other crops cultivatable land. Most of the people's lands are deserted due to the ongoing displacements. Though their needs of vegetables and other food crops are managed from the local products, at this situation, due to the restrictions imposed on transporting agricultural inputs such as fertilizer and pesticides and preventing the production, have made several families lose their main occupation and income and therefore we would like to express their loss of purchasing power to your Excellency.

FISHING INDUSTRY.

Fishing is the secondary livelihood activity of Wanni population. But, due to the safety zone laws implemented by the Military, the deep sea fishing is completely prohibited. The fishermen society had become a poor community as they are unable to do their fishing due to the cannon attacks frequently taking place along the coastal areas. The government has restricted the transportation of any kind of fishing inputs into this area.

HEALTH SERVICE.

Transportation of medical items to be kept in the hospitals for the health care of Wanni population are restricted heavily. Many doctors have been killed while taking the patients for urgent treatment due to the claymore attacks. The govt. Servants and the doctors are traveling at their own risk with fear. Important medicals to safeguard the lives specially the snake bite medicines are not allowed, it seems.

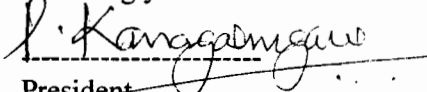
EDUCATION SECTOR.

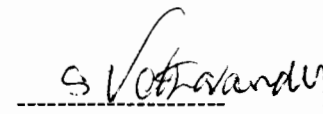
The educational development activities implemented by the govt. in various parts at this country such as issue at free school books, school uniforms are not carried out in our area properly and orderly. These free delivery items are unable to transport from South to this area due to the restrictions on Lorries and roads. As our students have to appear for the National Level Examination although there are delays in completing their subjects syllabuses they are unable to reach their targetted level due to the scarcity of these inputs.

UNSAFETY ROAD TRANSPORT.

The number of people travelling from Wanni had been decreased due to the frequent closure of the exit/entry point, harassment at security forces while checking and strict inspections on persons and vehicles. The guarantee must be given to the lives of the govt. employees convey officers and vehicle drivers as they are facing claymore attacks along the traveling route while travelling.

Thanking you


President
[P.Kanalingam]


Secretary,
[S.Vethavanam]

Copies to :-

1. Hon.Pan ke moon,
The Secretary General, U.N.O.
2. Hon Ranil Wickremasinge, Opposition Leader, Sri Lanka.
3. The High Commissioner, India / Britain,
4. The Ambassador, Norway / America,
5. The Director General, North East Secretariat for Human Rights, Kilinochchi.