

PETITION TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

REASONS FOR PETITIONING THE HOUSE:

The Sri Lankan government, ignoring pleas by the United Nations and its Agencies, the International Community, Human Rights and other Organizations to solve the ethnic problem by negotiation, continues to resort to and encourage acts of Genocide, War Crimes and Human Rights Violations.

Such acts include:

- Murder, including those of Tamil Parliamentarians & journalists, extrajudicial killing & abduction
- Aerial bombing of civilians
- Virtual imprisonment and starvation of Jaffna residents by closing the only trunk road preventing movement of food and medicine
- Attacks on places of worship

These acts are contrary to International Law and Conventions and are crimes under Chapter 8, Division 268 of the Criminal Code Act (1995) of the Commonwealth of Australia.

Peaceful resistance by Tamils over 35 years met with violent reprisals by the government, including State sponsored riots against Tamils causing death and destruction, and several pacts between the government and Tamils for minimal devolution of power were later unilaterally abrogated by the government, giving rise to Tamil militancy and demand for self-determination.

REQUEST FOR ACTION BY THE HOUSE:

1. Stop all aid and supply of arms to Sri Lanka, refuse entry visas to officers of the Sri Lankan government and armed forces concerned with crimes against humanity and human rights violations, and
2. Assist in the establishment of an appropriate constitutional structure, recognizing the principles of equal rights and self-determination of the Tamil People, in accordance with international law.