



கனடியத் தமிழர் தேசிய அவை
National Council of Canadian Tamils
Conseil National de Tamouls Canadien

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Calling for the recognition of right to self-determination meets with intensified violent crackdown



The recent escalation of violent crackdown against the Tamil people in their traditional Tamil Homeland, North and East of the island of Sri Lanka, destabilizes the Indo-Pacific region.

On Jan 15, 2023, Sri Lankan security forces violently cracked down the peaceful protest of the Tamil people by erecting barricades in the road and using water cannons during the Sri Lankan President's visit to Jaffna.

On Jan 18, 2023, Sri Lankan security forces arrested Tamil civil society leader Velan Swamigal, who participated in the protest against the Sri Lankan President's visit to Jaffna to mark Thai Pongal on January 15, 2023.

From February 4 to 7, 2023, Sri Lankan security forces used intimidation, surveillance, and other measures against the Tamil people, to stop them from freely participating in the peaceful



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North to East protest march, rejecting Sri Lanka's 75th Independence Day. February 4 is considered as a 'black day' for the Tamil people and marked as Tamil Nation Occupied Day.

On February 11, 2023, the Sri Lankan security forces violently arrested Member of Parliament Selvarajah Kajendran and lawyer Kanagaratnam Sugash, alongside 16 other protestors for holding a peaceful black flag protest during the Sri Lankan President's visit to Jaffna.

Right to protest is a fundamental human right. However, In Sri Lanka when Tamil people protest, their right to protest is being increasingly and violently suppressed. NCCT urges the international community to condemn these violent measures and subjugation perpetrated against the Tamil people by Sri Lanka.

Even at this time of economic crisis due to the seven decades of genocide against Tamil people, the Sri Lankan government continues to subjugate the Tamil people under military oppression and fail to recognize the Tamil people's right to self-determination.

The current trend in Sri Lanka continues to destabilize the Indo-Pacific region. A permanent political solution to the Tamil National question only will bring permanent peace to this region.





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