

Sri Lanka - UK diplomats and parliamentarians visiting SFHQ-J in the last 10yrs have been lied to

Security Forces Headquarters-Jaffna(SFHQ-J): News Archive - 2019, 2018, 2017, 2016, 2015, 2014, 2013, 2012, 2011, 2010, <http://www.cimicjaffna.com/NewsBackbodyMain.php>

Jaffna Army High Command has been lying to the visitors **for 10yrs** on how they have been carrying out Reconciliation and Development while the Reality has been just the opposite:

2019

"The High Commissioner and his Staff were briefed on the ongoing peace and reconciliation process carried out by the Sri Lanka Army in Northern Province." - [High Commissioner of United Kingdom Paid a Visit to Security Force Headquarters – Jaffna, 08/03/2019, http://www.cimicjaffna.com/Cimicnews_2019_03_08_2.php](http://www.cimicjaffna.com/Cimicnews_2019_03_08_2.php)

"The two parties discussed many important matters pertaining to the Reconciliation Process of the Jaffna Peninsula" - [Diplomats from the United Kingdom Meets up with Commander Security Force – Jaffna, 24/01/2019, http://www.cimicjaffna.com/Cimicnews_2019_01_24_3_1.php](http://www.cimicjaffna.com/Cimicnews_2019_01_24_3_1.php)

Reality

"The Sri Lankan government should implement the report's recommendations in full, in line with the commitments already made in the UN Human Rights Council resolution 30/1. As the High Commissioner has noted, slow progress on these commitments has resulted in few concrete results." - Sri Lanka: UN High Commissioner for Human Rights' report must be implemented, Amnesty International, 8 March 2019, <https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2019/03/sri-lanka-un-high-commissioner-for-human-rights-report-must-be-implemented/>

"We demand a transformational change in our political culture. Promises for justice and reconciliation must not be forgotten and must be carried forward expeditiously. The constitutional reform process must continue in an open and transparent manner with the full and timely participation of civil society. It should not take place behind closed doors." – The Crisis and After, *Friday Forum, 23 December 2018, <https://groundviews.org/2018/12/23/the-crisis-and-after/>

2018

"The meet up was scheduled to discuss matters pertaining to the Reconciliation process in the Jaffna Peninsula."- Delegation from the British High Commission Meets Commander Security Force – Jaffna, 21/08/2018, http://www.cimicjaffna.com/Cimicnews_2018_08_21.php

"The Commander welcomed the delegation and briefed them on post conflict engagements of the military relations, peace building efforts and reconciliation process in Jaffna Peninsula" - A Delegation led by the Chairman of the All Party Parliamentary Group on Sri Lanka in the UK met the Commander, Security Forces - Jaffna, 08/01/2018, http://www.cimicjaffna.com/Cimicnews_2018_01_08.php

Reality:

Jaffna Army Commander to the journalist: "What we have realised is that it is extremely difficult to change the mindsets of some of the adults,..... Therefore, we switched our target group from adults to young students and children." - Crucial reconciliation steps in North, 9 May 2018, <http://www.ft.lk/opinion/Crucial-reconciliation-steps-in-North/14-654694>

Army Commander to the journalist: "Then we want to discipline the society. We believe that by disciplining the society these problems will not be there.with the change of government in 2015, we are proud to say that we are not under pressure from the President/Prime Minister/Ministers." - Sri Lanka is the only country that has eradicated terrorism, 16 May 2018, <http://www.thehindu.com/opinion/interview/sri-lanka-is-the-only-country-that-has-eradicated-terrorism/article23895657.ece>

2017

http://www.cimicjaffna.com/Cimicnews_2017_08_30.php UK

2016

http://www.cimicjaffna.com/Cimicnews_2016_08_15.php UK-Geneva

http://www.cimicjaffna.com/Cimicnews_2016_07_15.php. UK

http://www.cimicjaffna.com/Cimicnews_2016_06_23.php UK

2015

http://www.cimicjaffna.com/Cimicnews_2015_05_29.php. UK

http://www.cimicjaffna.com/Cimicnews_2015_01_02.php. UK

2014

2013

"A CPA-UK delegation visited Sri Lanka 22-26 July 2013, visiting Colombo and the northern and southern provinces of the island to explore its success in achieving equitable and lasting peace and promoting inclusive politics. Prior to arriving in Sri Lanka the group visited the Maldives." – CPA-UK Annual Review 2013/2014,

<https://www.parliament.uk/documents/CPA/Publications-Annual-Reviews/FINAL-CPA-Annual-Review-2014.pdf>

Reality

"The huge military checkpoint at Omanthai still stands like an ageing dinosaur. All vehicles traversing the road at this point have to stop to be checked.

The government has recently added a second compulsory checkpoint in the North in addition to the one at Omanthai. This is one at Elephant Pass at the entry/exit point of the Jaffna peninsula."

- PREPARING FOR NORTHERN ELECTIONS AND WINNING HEARTS AND MINDS, National Peace Council of Sri Lanka, 29 April 2013

"It also serves as a reminder that even four years after the war, normal civilian life and civilian administration has still not been restored. The UN (OCHA) report itself noted "The Security Apparatus is perceived to be too present or too close to people's lives.... the restoration of true peace and reconciliation requires an empowered civil administration and a military that is back in barracks where governance is concerned." - TRANSFER OF MILITARY'S ROLE IN CIVIL AFFAIRS TO ELECTED COUNCIL CAN PROMOTE RECONCILIATION IN NORTH, National Peace Council of Sri Lanka, 1 July 2013

"There is a virtual unanimity that what is most negative in governance today is the over-concentration of political power in the presidency and government, which has led to high levels of impunity and corruption caused by the breakdown of institutional checks and balances. The forthcoming provincial council election in the North is an opportunity for the government to make a shift in its policy towards the Tamil people." – ANOTHER OPPORTUNITY TO OVERCOME 30 YEARS OF MISTRUST, National Peace Council of Sri Lanka, 22 July 2013

“In the most recent development, Colombo interprets its decision to hold a Northern Provincial Council Election on 21 September 2013, after a lapse of some twenty-five years, as a means of demonstrating its apparent respect for democratic best practice. The campaign, however, has been fraught with violence, especially against candidates of the Tamil National Alliance (TNA), the main exponent of constitutional Tamil nationalism, polemical concerns over the TNA manifesto, and anti-TNA smear campaigns emanating from governmental sources.” - Forgotten woes: Sri Lanka’s neoliberal politics, Chaminda Weerawardhana, 27 September 2013, <https://www.opendemocracy.net/en/opensecurity/forgotten-woes-sri-lankas-neoliberal-politics/>
‘ A large military presence in the North has led to the militarisation of daily life and the experience of resettlement; second, the military has been systematically included in the local governance of the North, and third, the military has moved into the economic sector.' - Resettlement of conflict-induced IDPs in Northern Sri Lanka, CPA in conjunction with ODI, January 2014, <https://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/Resettlement%20of%20conflict-induced%20IDPs%20in%20northern%20Sri%20Lanka.pdf>

2012

“Maj. Gen. Hathurusinghe explained the Army’s involvement in government augmented development projects in post-war Jaffna” - [UK Parliamentary Group Meets Jaffna Commander, 7 August 2012, http://www.cimicjaffna.com/Cimicnews_2012_08_07.php](http://www.cimicjaffna.com/Cimicnews_2012_08_07.php)

Reality:

"In principle, it is the civilian administration that is tasked with IDP returns and post-conflict reconstruction. In practice, however, the military has been taking the key decisions in these areas. All humanitarian projects in the north must be approved by the Presidential Task Force(PTF), which includes the military leadership." - A hidden displacement crisis, 31 October 2012, <http://www.internal-displacement.org/south-and-south-east-asia/sri-lanka/2012/a-hidden-displacement-crisis>

"The government, UNHCR and the UN Office for Project Services launched a survey of protracted IDPs in 2011, but the project was abandoned in December 2012 due to obstacles placed on it by the PTF ” - Global Overview 2012: People internally displaced by conflict and violence, Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre, 29 April 2013, [http://www.internal-displacement.org/8025708F004BE3B1/\(httpInfoFiles\)/DB8A259305B071A8C1257B5C00268DDC/\\$file/global-overview-2012.pdf](http://www.internal-displacement.org/8025708F004BE3B1/(httpInfoFiles)/DB8A259305B071A8C1257B5C00268DDC/$file/global-overview-2012.pdf)

2011

"Maj. Gen. Hathurusinghe briefed the delegations on government-augmented development programmes and reconciliation process in progress in the peninsula." - [US Department of State & British Diplomatic Officials Meet SF-J Commander, 30/11/2011,http://www.cimicjaffna.com/Cimicnews_2011_11_30_2.php](http://www.cimicjaffna.com/Cimicnews_2011_11_30_2.php)

"During the brief meeting, Maj. Gen. Hathurusinghe explained the visiting diplomat about the change of Army's traditional role in Jaffna to a benevolent force which is committed to ensure wellbeing of the people in Jaffna." - [British Diplomats Satisfied with Army's Role in Jaffna,14/06/2011, http://www.cimicjaffna.com/Cimicnews_2011_06_14.php](http://www.cimicjaffna.com/Cimicnews_2011_06_14.php)

“The large scale military presence and military rule in the North and East also serves to reduce the economic potential of those areas to add to the country’s development.” – National Peace Council, 4 December 2011,

Reality:

"Contrary to the image it projects, the government has increasingly cut minorities and opponents out of decisions on their economic and political futures rather than work toward reconciliation" – Reconciliation in Sri Lanka: Harder than Ever, International Crisis Group, 18/07/2011, <https://www.crisisgroup.org/asia/south-asia/sri-lanka/reconciliation-sri-lanka-harder-ever>

"The army was deployed for civil policing. The army restricted freedom of association and assembly in the north and east, requiring prior permission even for family celebrations. Security forces required Tamil residents in these areas to register household members despite a court judgement declaring the practice discriminatory." – Amnesty International Annual Report 2012 - Sri Lanka, <https://www.refworld.org/docid/4fbe390d46.html>

2010

"During the meeting, the visiting British envoy was edified on housing and various other projects initiated by SF-(J) to uplift economic, educational and social standard of civilians in Jaffna." - British Diplomats Commend SF-J Projects Initiated to Make Better Life for Jaffna Civilians, 28/06/2010, http://www.cimicjaffna.com/Cimicnews_British_DeputyHC.php

"The delegation was pleased about the effort taken by the SF-J to improve standard of the Jaffna community life and assistance extended by the Sri Lanka Army for the development work mooted by the Sri Lankan government." - Members of CPA UK Arrives in Jaffna, 20/10/2010, http://www.cimicjaffna.com/Cimicnews_2010_10_20_2.php

Reality:

"... there have been reports of a deterioration of conditions in the Jaffna peninsula, including threats, extortions, kidnappings and killings." - Feeling of Deterioration in Jaffna Must Be Reversed Without Delay, National Peace Council of Sri Lanka, 10/05/2010

"On the A9 road every hundred meters there is a bunker and every mile or so a major military base. It certainly does not promote peace and reconciliation. ..." – Jaffna after the war, Observations by a visitor, 7 May 2010,

<http://www.groundviews.org/2010/05/07/jaffna-after-the-war-observations-by-a-visitor/>

"The area is still actually in the hands of the military, which allowed the return of the population but force them to live in absolute poverty. The military blocks any attempts to improve their lives, but does not stop abuse and violence. ... Permission has been rejected for counselling, capacity building and empowerment activities." - Vanni, northern Sri Lanka, where war has never ended, Melanie Manel Perera, 1 June 2010, <http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Vanni,-northern-Sri-Lanka,-where-war-has-never-ended-18558.html>

"The A9 highway from Omanthai until Elephant Pass is dominated by predominantly Sinhalese soldiers, who even operate the small restaurants by the roadside. This military presence seems overwhelming and stifling..... Our visit to Jaffna exposed and confirmed that all the conditions and discontent that led to the Tamil rebellion are still present today. The only ingredient that is lacking is the combustion of anti-Tamil riots such as in 1956, 1958, 1977, 1981, and 1983." - Sinhala nationalist mind set seems incapable of comprehending what Tamils are articulating: Revisiting Jaffna BY Dushy Ranetunge, 14 August 2010,

http://transcurrents.com/tc/2010/08/sinhala_nationalist_mind_set_s.html