

RESETTLEMENT OF INTERNALLY (FORCIBLY) DISPLACED MUSLIMS IN THE NORTH-EAST SRI LANKA

The ethnic conflict in Sri-Lanka has had a terrible effect on the Muslims, particularly in the North-East. The forcible eviction of more than one hundred thousand Muslims, attack on un-armed Muslim civilians, the attack on the mosques and murdering of hundreds of Muslims while in prayer, the confiscation of lands, houses business and cultural premises have caused insecurity among the Muslims in the North-East.

The Tamil militants forcibly took nearly 100,000 acres of agricultural lands and 22,000 Residential Houses, Business and cultural premises belonging to the North-East Muslims. The losses suffered by the Muslims were estimated to be more than US\$ 110 millions.

The violence perpetrated by the Tamil militants against the North-East Muslims during the last two decades has cautioned the Muslims to be vigilant in the future. The primary concern of the Muslims in the North-East is the safety and security of our people, claim for our lands and properties and the inalienable right for internal self-determination.

At the LTTE leaders' International media conference on 10th April 2002 Mr. Balasingam repeated his previous apology on behalf of the LTTE for the forcible expulsion of the Muslims from the North in 1990 and said that it was a "political blunder that could not be justified" and wanted the Muslims to forget and forgive the mistakes made in the past.

The parties to the ceasefire agreement dated 22nd February 2002 the Government of Sri Lanka (GSL) and the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Elam (LTTE) have accepted that the groups that are not directly party to the conflict have also suffered the consequences. This is particularly the case as regards the Muslim population in the North East.

The main focus of the Government of Sri Lanka (GSL) and the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) at the peace talks was on the urgent humanitarian needs to improve the day to day lives of the North East people. To this effect the parties have agreed on an accelerated Resettlement program of the Internally Displaced people.

However, the proposal submitted by the Sri Lanka Government to the Oslo Donors Conference on 25th November 2002, for immediate Humanitarian and Rehabilitation support did not mention the losses suffered by the Muslims and the funds required for the Rehabilitation and Reconstruction works in Muslim areas. The proposal submitted by the Government of Sri Lanka gave the impression that it was only the Tamils have suffered in the North East conflict. The International Donors Conference held in Tokyo – Japan had pledged US\$ 4.5 Billion for rehabilitation work in the war affected North-East and other infrastructure and Development work in Sri Lanka.

Unless the Muslims have the detail plans, estimates and a comprehensive work programme, we will not be able to obtain our share of the aid to reconstruct the Muslim areas destroyed in the conflict and resettle the 102,867 Muslims forcibly displaced, regain our agricultural lands, residential properties and business and cultural premises. This is an opportunity for the Muslims to prove that we can look after our own affairs in the predominant Muslim areas in the North-East without the interference of the Tamils or Sinhalese. This would also give an opportunity for the Muslims to prove the Government of Sri Lanka as well as the International Community the feasibility of administering of the non-contiguous predominant Muslim areas in the North East independently by the Muslims, and establish our rights for internal self-rule

Details of the internally (forcibly) Displaced Muslims from the North East who are now languishing in the following districts – Year 2002

| Districts | Families | Peoples |
|--------------|----------|---------|
| Puttalam | 15,500 | 74,140 |
| Anuradhapura | 865 | 4,070 |
| Kurunagala | 487 | 2,311 |
| Gampaha | 1,050 | 4,725 |
| Colombo | 425 | 1,912 |
| Kalutara | 395 | 1,856 |
| Matale | 85 | 517 |
| Kandy | 110 | 517 |
| Galle | 5 | 23 |
| Kegalle | 32 | 150 |
| Ampara | 110 | 523 |
| Trincomalee | 2,207 | 10,492 |
| Batticaloa | 343 | 1,631 |
| Total: | 21,614 | 102,867 |

The detail and value of assets lost by the Muslims as a result of forcibly expulsion by the LTTE during 1990 ethnic cleansing

| Description | Quantity | Value in Million Rupees |
|--|---------------|-------------------------|
| Residential properties | 22,000 | 5,500 |
| Commercial and Industrial establishments | 2,402 | 2,100 |
| Religious and Cultural Institutions | 340 | 1700 |
| Agricultural Lands | 39,400 Acres | 200 |
| Gold Jewelleries | 475,000 Grams | 300 |
| Cattle | 211,000 | 150 |
| Motor Vehicles | 320 | 160 |
| Motor Cycles | 800 | 20 |
| Carts | 750 | 4 |
| Bicycles | 4000 | 25 |
| Fishing Boats | 850 | 40 |
| Engines (Boats) | 400 | 16 |
| Fishing Nets | 1200 | 8 |
| Refrigerators | 200 | 2 |
| Television sets | 2000 | 40 |
| Radio Sets | 600 | 1 |
| Total: | | Rs.10,256 |

Urgent Works that have to be carried out in the Muslim areas prior to the commencement of the resettlement of forcibly displaced Muslims from the North-East

01. Demining
 - Mannar District
 - Musali DS Division
 - Chilavathurai, Kondachchi.
 - Mannar DS Division
 - Thalaimannar Pier.
 - Manthai DS Division
 - Vidathalthievu, Periyamadu, Minuka.
 - Mullaithievu DS Division
 - Mullaithievu Town, Hijirapuram.
 - Jaffna District
 - Pommaveli, Mankuman, Chavakachcheri.
02. Clearing of unlawful occupants from all residential, commercial and Industrial buildings belong to Muslims
03. Clearing of unlawful occupants from all Religious and Cultural buildings.
04. Clearing of all unlawful occupants from all Muslim Agricultural land and preparation of such land for cultivation.
05. Clearing of shrub jungles covered in the residential premises.
06. Clearing of the jungles on the access road and internal lanes
07. Renovation of Tanks and Irrigation channels.
08. Reconstruction of all residential, commercial, cultural and religious buildings.
09. Reconstruction of Infrastructure – Electricity, Water, Roads etc.
10. Reconstruction of Civic centres and public buildings Schools, Hospitals, Market, Bus Stands, Post Office, Police Station and Secretariat Offices
11. Puttalam- Mannar Western Coastal Highway and bridge should be repaired and opened immediately
12. The railway tract from Mathawatchi to Thalaimannar should be repaired and the train services should commence immediately
13. The bridge connecting the Mannar Island with the main land should be reconstructed.
14. The Causeways in Mannar, Muthur and Kinniya should be reconstructed.
15. The road from Mankulam to Mullaithievu should be reconstructed.
16. The A15 Road and the bridges from Palathopur to Trincomalee should be reconstructed.
17. The Road, from Akkaraipattu – Paddiyadipitti/ Puddampai to Sagam Tank/ Kanchirankuda Junction should be reconstructed.

RESETTLEMENT OF INTERNALLY DISPLACED MUSLIMS IN THE NORTH-EAST

| | Northern Province | | | Eastern Province | | | TOTAL | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------|--------|---------------|------------------|--------|--------|---------------|----------------|
| | Jaffna | Vanni | Total | Amp. | Batti. | Trinco | | Total |
| Internally Displaced Muslim Families | 4000 | 14,954 | 18954 | 110 | 343 | 2207 | 2660 | 21,614 |
| | 18.51% | 69.19% | 87.70% | 0.51% | 1.59% | 10.20% | 12.30% | 100% |
| Internally Displaced Muslim People | 20000 | 69,367 | 89,367 | 500 | 2000 | 11000 | 13500 | 102,867 |

FUNDS REQUIRED – DRAFT ESTIMATE

33,250.25 MILLION RUPEES (350 MILLION US \$)

| | | Northern Province | | | Eastern Province | | | | Total |
|------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| | | Jaffna | Vanni | Total | Amp. | Batti. | Trinco | Total | |
| Demining | Rs. | 4.50 | 11.71 | 16.21 | 3.04 | 6.20 | 6.25 | 15.49 | 31.70 |
| | US\$ | 0.05 | 0.12 | 0.17 | 0.03 | 0.07 | 0.07 | 0.16 | 0.33 |
| Roads | Rs. | 238.39 | 1175.77 | 1414.16 | 59.43 | 29.54 | 140.00 | 228.99 | 1643.15 |
| | US\$ | 2.51 | 12.38 | 14.89 | 0.63 | 0.31 | 1.47 | 2.41 | 17.30 |
| Housing | Rs. | 2163.63 | 9680.83 | 11844.46 | 107.20 | 347.79 | 2167.55 | 2622.54 | 14467.00 |
| | US\$ | 22.78 | 101.90 | 124.68 | 1.13 | 3.66 | 22.82 | 27.61 | 152.28 |
| Mosques | Rs. | 41.86 | 108.87 | 150.73 | 3.48 | 10.96 | 70.53 | 84.97 | 235.70 |
| | US\$ | 0.44 | 1.15 | 1.59 | 0.04 | 0.12 | 0.74 | 0.89 | 2.48 |
| Schools | Rs. | 41.86 | 108.87 | 150.73 | 5.53 | 17.40 | 112.04 | 134.97 | 285.70 |
| | US\$ | 0.44 | 1.15 | 1.59 | 0.06 | 0.18 | 1.18 | 1.42 | 3.01 |
| Hospitals | Rs. | 20.93 | 54.44 | 75.37 | 2.76 | 8.73 | 56.04 | 67.53 | 142.90 |
| | US\$ | 0.22 | 0.57 | 0.79 | 0.03 | 0.09 | 0.59 | 0.71 | 1.50 |
| Electricity | Rs. | 41.36 | 150.96 | 192.32 | 3.82 | 12.04 | 77.52 | 93.38 | 285.70 |
| | US\$ | 0.44 | 1.59 | 2.02 | 0.04 | 0.13 | 0.82 | 0.98 | 3.01 |
| Pub. Utility | Rs. | 20.93 | 54.44 | 75.37 | 2.76 | 8.73 | 56.04 | 67.53 | 142.90 |
| | US\$ | 0.22 | 0.57 | 0.79 | 0.03 | 0.09 | 0.59 | 0.71 | 1.50 |
| Land Prep. | Rs. | 53.80 | 190.92 | 244.72 | 60.00 | 66.82 | 60.00 | 1338.28 | 1583.00 |
| | US\$ | 0.57 | 2.01 | 2.58 | 0.63 | 0.70 | 0.63 | 14.09 | 16.66 |
| Irrigation | Rs. | 53.80 | 190.92 | 244.72 | 60.00 | 66.82 | 60.00 | 1338.28 | 1583.00 |
| | US\$ | 0.57 | 2.01 | 2.58 | 0.63 | 0.70 | 0.63 | 14.09 | 16.66 |
| Fisheries | Rs. | 11.73 | 142.71 | 154.44 | 8.27 | 24.80 | 158.74 | 191.81 | 346.25 |
| | US\$ | 0.12 | 1.50 | 1.63 | 0.09 | 0.26 | 1.67 | 2.02 | 3.64 |
| Cattle Farm | Rs. | 53.80 | 190.92 | 244.72 | 60.00 | 66.82 | 60.00 | 1338.28 | 1583.00 |
| | US\$ | 0.57 | 2.01 | 2.58 | 0.63 | 0.70 | 0.63 | 14.09 | 16.66 |
| Compensation | Rs. | 402.92 | 9956.88 | 10359.80 | 8.39 | 26.32 | 169.49 | 204.20 | 10564.00 |
| | US\$ | 4.24 | 104.81 | 109.05 | 0.09 | 0.28 | 1.78 | 2.15 | 111.20 |
| Consultancy | Rs. | 66.80 | 173.74 | 240.54 | 1.83 | 5.73 | 36.90 | 44.46 | 285.00 |
| | US\$ | 0.70 | 1.83 | 2.53 | 0.02 | 0.06 | 0.39 | 0.47 | 3.00 |
| Audit | Rs. | 16.70 | 43.44 | 60.14 | 0.46 | 1.43 | 9.22 | 11.11 | 71.25 |
| | US\$ | 0.18 | 0.46 | 0.63 | 0.00 | 0.02 | 0.10 | 0.12 | 0.75 |
| Total Rs. | | 3233.01 | 22235.42 | 25468.43 | 386.97 | 700.13 | 3240.32 | 7781.82 | 33250.25 |
| | Total US\$ | 34.03 | 234.06 | 268.09 | 4.07 | 7.37 | 34.11 | 81.91 | 350.00 |

National Digitization Project

National Science Foundation

Institute : South Eastern University of Sri Lanka

1. Place of Scanning : Main Library, South Eastern University of Sri Lanka, Oluvil

2. Date Scanned : 2018.02.15

3. Name of Digitizing Company : Sanje (Private) Ltd, No 435/16, Kottawa Rd,
Hokandara North, Arangala, Hokandara

4. Scanning Officer

Name : I. W. A. C. J. Chandrasena

Signature : *Chandrasena*

Certification of Scanning

I hereby certify that the scanning of this document was carried out under my supervision, according to the norms and standards of digital scanning accurately, also keeping with the originality of the original document to be accepted in a court of law.

Certifying Officer

Designation : Acting Librarian

Name : M. M. Mashroofa

Signature : *M. M. Mashroofa*

Date : 2018.02.15

"This document/publication was digitized under National Digitization Project of the National Science Foundation, Sri Lanka"