

British Tamils Forum United Kingdom

Wednesday, 21 September 2016

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Parallel event on “*Militarisation and Land grab in Sri Lanka*” – 33rd session of the Human Rights Council

Together with Pasumai Thaayagam and United States Tamil Political Action Council (USTPAC), British Tamils Forum (BTF) is holding a side event on “*Militarisation and Land grab in Sri Lanka*” at the 33rd session of the Human Rights Council from 3 PM to 4 PM, Thursday 22nd September at Room XXVII in Palais des Nations.

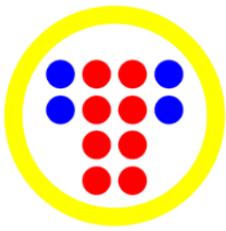
Panellists:

Anuradha Mittal, Executive Director, The Oakland Institute, USA
www.oaklandinstitute.org

Wes Streeting, Member of Parliament (UK), Vice Chair of All Party Parliamentary Group for Tamils

Paul Scully, Member of Parliament (UK), Vice Chair of All Party Parliamentary Group for Tamils

Objective of this event is to reveal the current field situation in the North and East of Sri Lanka, which has been craftily masked from the international community by the present Sri Lankan Government. We hope to enlighten the audience with research based analysis, which will reveal the extent of planning and coordination involved in effecting a long term and permanent demographic change in the Tamil homeland. This in the long term will have far reaching consequence for the Tamil people’s political and economic rights in Sri Lanka. If not stopped now, this could revive resentment and may lead to the re-ignition of the conflict.



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The present Sri Lankan regime which has morphed itself into a ‘good governance’ government at its core has the same ‘Mahavamsa’ – ideology engrained in its state apparatuses. This is the reason that through its use of land grab and intense militarisation, it is continuing on the process of colonising the strategic land and natural economic resources in the Tamil homeland. By promising a constitutional change to the Tamil political leadership and promising improvements in human rights and accountability to the international community it has bought time to effect these permanent demographic changes in the Tamil homeland. This is the reason that the Sri Lankan president and the government continuously request time to effect very minimal changes.

-Ends-

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Notes to Editors:

British Tamils Forum exists to harness the skills and the knowledge of the members of the forum, well-wishers and significant others including mainstream decision makers in the UK with the aim of alleviating the sufferings of the Tamils community in the Island of Sri Lanka and to further their right to self-determination within a democratic frame work under pinned by international law, its covenants and conventions. For more information info@britishtamilsforum.org and/or visit: www.britishtamilsforum.org