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Title : Issue regarding human rights violation and war crimes committed against Sri Lankan Tamils in Sri Lanka.

SHRI T.R. BAALU (SRIPERUMBUDUR): Time and again I have drawn the attention of this august House for the past five years about the sad plight of the Sri Lankan Tamils. As you know, in Sri Lanka, from September, 2008 to May 2009, ninety thousand Tamil women have lost their husbands, their *mangalsutras*. More than one and a half lakh Tamils are not traceable; two lakh Tamil people have fled out of fear because of the war. As per UNHRC Report, more than 40,000 people had been killed in the last stages of the war...(Interruptions)

*At this stage, Shri Uday Singh came and stood on the floor near the Table.*

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : सिर्फ श्री बालू जी की बात रिकॉर्ड में जाएगी।

*(Interruptions) अर्थात् \**

**12.22 hrs**

*At this stage, Shri Uday Singh went back to his seat.*

SHRI T.R. BAALU : Hon. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, we have also submitted a petition to the hon. Prime Minister of India, half an hour back, today, as per the directions of our leader Dr. Kalaignar Karunanidhi who is also the President of TESO. As per the Resolution of the TESO meeting held last week, we have prevailed on the Government of India through the hon. Prime Minister of India to go before the UNHRC and demand to have a credible, independent international investigation as to the human rights violation and war crimes committed by Sri Lankan administration during the last stages of war against the Sri Lankan Tamils...(Interruptions)

The Sri Lankan efforts to deliver justice to the victims have miserably failed. Sri Lanka has no credible domestic mechanism for truth-telling or accountability process. Hon. Mr. Vikneswaran, the hon. Chief Minister of the Northern Province of Sri Lanka has also demanded for an international enquiry as to the human rights violation and war crimes that have taken place...(Interruptions)

During the last visit of Ms. Nisha Biswal, Assistant Secretary of State, US government speaking to journalists in Colombo after her visit to Sri Lanka said recently and I quote:...(Interruptions)

"Lack of progress in Sri Lanka has led to a great deal of frustration and skepticism in my government and in the international community. There has not been sufficient action taken by the Sri Lankan government to address the issues of justice and accountability. We heard from many people about people who are still unaccounted for, whose whereabouts and fates are unknown to their family members."

Sir, David Cameron, the British Prime Minister, at a Press Conference said and I quote:

"So, a frank meeting with the President of Sri Lanka of course not everything was accepted but I sense that they do want to make progress on these issues and it will help frankly by having international pressure in order to make sure that that happens."

Further, international NGOs, International Human Rights Association, (IMRV) Bremen and the Irish Forum for Peace in Sri Lanka (IFPSC), both of them have set up an 11-member peoples' tribunal.

The Eleven-member Tribunal has said:

"(a) Killing members of the group, which includes massacres, indiscriminate shelling, the strategy of herding civilians into so-called "No Fire Zones" for the purpose of massive killings, targeted assassinations of outspoken Eelam Tamil civil leaders who were capable of articulating the Sri Lankan genocide project to the outside world.

(b) Causing serious bodily or mental harm to members of the group, including acts of torture, inhumane or degrading treatment, sexual violence including rape, interrogations combined with beating, threats of death and harm that damages health or causes disfigurement or injury. "

This is the judgement made by the eleven member Peoples' Tribunal

Sir, this is an international organization which has given the above findings. ...(*Interruptions*) Sir, even now, the Government of India is keeping stoic silence and is keeping lukewarm. I urge upon the Government of India to go before the UNHRC and see that a separate Resolution is adopted in Geneva as to pleading for credible, independent international investigation agency to unearth the war crimes and human rights violations, perpetrated against Sri Lankan Tamils.