

## Foreign Involvement of Terrorism in Sri Lanka during Conflict Era - An Appraisal

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**Abstract**— *This paper discusses more than 25 years long period of terrorism in Sri Lanka and influence of foreign elements. It further elaborates how an organization formed by handful of youths became one of the most ruthless terrorist organizations which was able to assassinate a Sri Lankan President, an Indian Prime Minister and acquired aircraft and submarine building technology. The purpose of this paper was to research whether it was merely foreign influence which fueled this whole drama or were there any other factors. Research found that migrants in Europe and politicians narrowly aiming the votes of migrated Tamils in UK and Canada have played a major role in this aspect. Due to limited space the research was also limited to terrorism created by Tamil militants in Sri Lanka. There were two insurgent activities raised by a communist movement in 1971 and 1989 but those incidents were purposely avoided from the paper as there was no foreign involvement revealed during the subsequent trials and investigations. It was found during the research that Indian state support through Research and Analysis Wing during 1980 – 1989, Tamil migrants to countries including Canada, UK, USA, Norway, Switzerland and Australia, supports received from South Africa due to their own Tamil community and inherent lacunas in Canadian constitution have assisted a lot as effective foreign elements for Sri Lankan terrorism. Contribution received from USA, UK, Norway and Japan after the clues on availability of oil and gas reserves in Western and North Western part of Sri Lanka also cannot be ruled out. The research recommends that bi-lateral relationships with major players in South Asia, especially India and effective diplomacy play a major role to counter foreign possible involvement of terrorism in Sri Lanka.*

**Keywords**— *Terrorism, Foreign influence, Sri Lanka*

### I. INTRODUCTION

*"I invite those countries that have banned us, to understand the deep aspirations and friendly overtures of our people, to remove their ban on us and to recognize our just struggle. I wish to express my love and gratitude*

*at this juncture to the people and leaders of Tamil Nadu for the voice of support and love they have extended. I would cordially request them to raise their voice firmly in favour of our struggle for a Tamil Eelam state, and to take appropriate and positive measures to remove the ban which remains an impediment to an amicable relationship between India and our movement."*

These were the words of Late LTTE Leader Velupillai Prabhakaran during a speech he made on 27 November 2008. It implies as to how foreign support was important to activities of Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE).

On 5 May 1976, Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) was formed by a handful of Tamils under the leadership of Velupillai Prabhakaran, demanding an independent Tamil homeland called Tamil Eelam, which includes 1/3 of land territory and 2/3 of sea coast of total territory of Sri Lanka.

India and Sri Lanka had better relations until 1980. However, Indo-Sri Lanka relations became worse during the period of Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi (from 14 January 1980 to 31 October 1984) and Sri Lankan President JR Jayewardene (from 1977 to 1988). India's strategic aims and personal differences of these two leaders caused India to support number of Tamil militant Organizations in Sri Lanka. Indian support and sympathy from the Western world to Tamil militancy increased after communal riots in Sri Lanka in 1983. India's maximum involvement marked with the arrival of Indian Peace Keeping Forces (IPKF) to Sri Lanka in 1987.

LTTE was a proscribed terrorist organization in 31 countries, which included Sri Lanka, India, USA, Canada, Australia, Malaysia and European Union. Many countries which advocated Sri Lanka merely for negotiations initially, have later advocated LTTE to lay down arms and to negotiate with the government.

### II. METHODOLOGY

Since this is being a qualitative research, the methodology will be a case study. Primary data such as

Indo Sri Lanka Peace Accord, UN Security Council Resolution 1373, 28<sup>th</sup> September 2001, UN Sri Lanka Statement, 16<sup>th</sup> February 2009. Press release of UNICEF, Colombo, and 17 February 2009. Secondary sources such as national newspapers of India and Sri Lanka, books written on Indo-Sri Lanka relations and conflicts and crisis of Sri Lanka and authenticated websites has been used.

### III. DISCUSSION

#### A. Indian involvement

Former Indian High Commissioner to Sri Lanka, Mr JN Dixit mentioned in his book, "Assignment Colombo", *"India should not have interfered in any way, even if developments in Sri Lanka and its Government's policies endangered India's interests. India should have tackled them domestically. Had Sri Lanka been hundred miles away from the coast of India this approach could have been adopted. But, Sri Lanka was only 18 miles away from Tamil Nadu. Inter-state relations were not governed by logic of morality. The Sri Lankan government's discrimination against its Tamils could not be considered correct or moral on any grounds. The Sri Lankan government compounded the situation by establishing external political and security equations to further Sinhalese policies, which posed a threat to Indian security. The Indian response was not just inevitable, it was imperative from New Delhi's point of view"*.

He further emphasized, *"The first step that Mrs. Gandhi took was to give support to Sri Lankan Tamil parties and Tamil militant groups from 1980 onwards"*.

Until 1991, India assisted Tamil militants in terms of safe accommodation, military assistance inclusive of training, weaponry and intelligence. Indian support intensified after eruption of communal violence against Tamils in Sri Lanka in the last week of July 1983 as a result of killing 13 soldiers by LTTE. Research and Analysis Wing (RAW) of India was the lifeline between Tamil militants and Indian central government. Tamil Eelam Liberation Organization (TELO), Eelam Revolutionary Organization of Students (EROS), Eelam People's Revolutionary Liberation Front (EPRLF), People's Liberation Organization of Tamil Eelam (PLOTE) were some of the other Tamil militant groups strengthen by RAW during this period.

Government forces launched their first major military offensive against LTTE, "OPERATION LIBERATION" on 26 May 1987 and took the control of most of the LTTE dominated areas. When Sri Lankan forces continued offensive, India violated Sri Lankan air space on 4 June 1987 and dropped food to Jaffna in the name of humanitarian aids. Only China, Pakistan and Bangladesh criticized air dropping as violation of internal affairs of a

small country. Indian intervention at that juncture prevented elimination of LTTE at a primitive stage.

The next phase was the signing of Indo-Sri Lanka Peace Accord on 29 July 1987 at Colombo. LTTE assassinated Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi on 21 May 1991 in Tamil Nadu as a revenge of IPKF operations against LTTE. India proscribed LTTE on 14 May 1992.

Even though India withdrew her support to LTTE after assassination of Mr. Rajiv Gandhi, India was careful enough to not to intervene any other county into Sri Lankan affairs. It appeared that India was totally absent on Norway's involvement of Sri Lankan peace process. However, later revealed that India supported Norway's facilitation as Norway located far away and had no territorial interest on Sri Lanka. Assistant Foreign Minister of Norway once mentioned *"I may reasonably say that the Norwegian contribution in structuring the CFA ... was, indeed, crucial. However, we could not have achieved any success without the active role played by India at every step of the negotiations. Nothing could be attempted without Indian support at every step, including the CFA."*

Being a province with 70 million Tamil population, support of Tamil Nadu for Tamil militancy was visible at every time. On 26 November 2008, Mr Vaiko, the General Secretary of Marumalarchi Dravida Munnetta Kazhagam (MDMK) party of Tamil Nadu addressed the British Parliamentarians of the All Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) and projected military operations against LTTE as genocide of Sri Lankan Tamils. Further, he requested the assistance of United Kingdom to establish Tamil Eelam in the same lines that the UK contributed to create Israel for Jews.

Indian involvement in Sri Lankan terrorism in 1980's was a failure in Indian foreign policy. As Mr. JN Dixit once said, *"India wanted only to destabilize Sri Lankan government, but not to see a separate Tamil homeland in North and East of Sri Lanka."* When India finds Sri Lankan government is under their strategic control, India does not help terrorism in Sri Lanka. India's concern on Sri Lankan Tamils was somewhat justifiable when internal pressure from Tamil Nadu is considered.

#### B. Role of the United Kingdom

LTTE opened the first overseas office in London in 1978. By May 2007, total Tamil population in Britain was around 150,000 – 200,000. High point of British concern over Sri Lankan conflict marked when there was a debate in the British House of Commons on the situation in Sri Lanka on 2 May 2007.

Holding a debate in British Parliament on situation of Sri Lanka itself was a success of LTTE. General idea of the British parliament was to take North Ireland as an example to resolve Sri Lankan conflict. During the debate, it appeared that Labour Party MPs had sympathy on LTTE. However, Conservative Party emphasized to continue the ban on LTTE and to root out UK based fund raising activities of LTTE.

UK as a government continued their support to the military operations of Sri Lankan government. On 12 February 2009, British Prime Minister Gordon Brown suddenly appointed Mr Des Browne, as a special envoy for Sri Lankan affairs pertaining to military operations and civilian casualties.

#### C. Role of Canada

Author of *Cold Terror*, Stewart Bell says, "*Canada is the land of opportunity for terrorists groups seeking money to finance bloody campaigns. Jobs were plentiful; welfare is generous. Everyone who sets foot in Canada is entitled to all rights of a Canadian citizen. It is easy enough to set up a charity dedicated to worthy humanitarian course and launder the money instead of terrorist causes*".

Many Tamil people including some terrorists migrated to Canada and sought asylum and the total Tamil population had increased up to 225,000 by year 2008. As per the Canadian system, people who seek citizenship were allowed to make repeated appeals even to Supreme Court, which takes a long time.

Migrated Tamil community had managed to get the support and sympathy of certain Canadian politicians including Minister of International Corporation, Maria Minna and Minister of Finance, Paul Martin for the cause of Tamil Eelam. These ministers were representing Tamil dominated areas and were targeting the votes of Canadian Tamils.

*Canada proscribed LTTE on 8 April 2006. Furthermore, World Tamil Movement (WTM) operating in Canada since Year 1986 was also proscribed on 16 June 2008. There was no concrete evidence that Canada as a country supported terrorism in Sri Lanka. However, it was well evident that LTTE had been manipulating the most humane immigration laws in Canada*

#### D. Role of Australia

Australia was one of the largest sources of funding LTTE with an estimated Tamil population of 30,000. Former, Sri Lankan Foreign Secretary Mr. Palitha Kohona disclosed on 1 May 2007 that LTTE internationally raised approximately USD 10 million to USD 30 million a month,

of which almost 20% to 30% received from Australia. It was reported that there were about 300 LTTE activists were living in Australia. Members of Parliament such as Labour Party MP John Murphy elected from Tamil populated area openly supported LTTE in Australia.

Australian Tamils Co-ordinating Committee (ATCC) and Tamil Rehabilitation Organization (TRO) were some of the leading frontal organizations of LTTE operated in Australia. TRO worked under the cover of a charity organization and it was reported to have collected approximately AUD 1.1 million as donations following the Tsunami in December 2004.

In pursuance to UN Security Council Resolution 1373, Australia proscribed LTTE under international law on 21 December 2001.

Australia as a state did not assist LTTE. However, Australia being comparatively liberal on granting citizenship to migrants, Sri Lankan Tamils manipulated process for their advantage and made a strong base there.

#### E. Role of South Africa

South African support towards LTTE was based on the influence of Indian origin Tamils in African National Congress (ANC). They viewed the LTTE terrorism through the lens of ANC struggle against apartheid. Professor Rohan Gunaratna, mentioned that LTTE had been maintaining close relationship with African National Congress (ANC) since late 1970s through their offices in London and Paris. LTTE formally entered to South Africa when Mr. Nelson Mandela assumed office on 27 April 1994.

By 1998, LTTE attempted to move their international office from London to South Africa. However, in November 1998, based on the request of then Sri Lankan President; Mrs Chandrika Bandaranaike President Mandela ordered the closing of several LTTE training camps in South Africa.

When analysing the reasons led to South African sympathy towards LTTE, it was observed that many ANC members drew parallels between apartheid rule in South Africa and LTTE suppression in Sri Lanka. However that was an incorrect assessment due to following significant reasons:

- a. ANC fought for majority rule against apartheid, which was a minority rule
- b. LTTE's struggle was for a separate state for minority in Sri Lanka whereas ANC fought for a majority in South Africa

c. ANC is a multiracial whereas LTTE was a mono-ethnic

#### F. Role of Norway

Fishing, arms trade and oil exploration were major areas of Norway's economy. According to figures published by Norway's Central Statistics Bureau (SSB), Norway was the seventh largest exporter of arms and ammunitions in 2006. International Press Services revealed that Norway does not require end-user declarations that prevent re-exports.

Norway was the facilitator for peace talks between Sri Lankan government and LTTE since October 1994. The next ceasefire commenced on 22 February 2002 with the signing of Ceasefire Agreement (CFA) between Prime Minister Ranil Wickramasinghe and LTTE leader Prabhakaran. When Mr. Mahinda Rajapaksa came to power in December 2005, peace talks commenced again and held in Thailand and Geneva. Due to the continuous violations of ceasefire agreement by LTTE, Sri Lankan government officially abrogated ceasefire agreement on 16 January 2008. With that decision, involvement of Norway in Sri Lankan affairs diminished gradually.

When analysing the role of Norway and ceasefire, it is obvious that ceasefire was a great respite to LTTE. However, it was an excellent opportunity for government to prove the world community on her dedication to find a peaceful solution to ethnic conflict in Sri Lanka. Even though there were many speculations, Norway's facilitation in Sri Lankan peace process had been commended by many countries including India, UK and European Union.

#### G. Role of Japan

Japan, one of the co-chairs in which USA, European Union and Norway also were members to oversee Sri Lankan peace process. In 2003, Japan nominated Mr Yashushi Akashi as a special envoy for Sri Lankan peace process. Mr. Akashi had referred their role in Sri Lanka as "a new phase of Japanese diplomacy".

As reported by socialist website *"Sri Lanka is of tremendous strategic importance because it lies in the primary Indian Ocean shipping lanes of big oil tankers. Its relations with Japan have traditionally been friendly"*. Another important fact that coincides with this opinion was that the Japanese acquisition of Colombo Dockyard Ltd by purchasing 51% shares in 1993. Colombo Dockyard Ltd is the only commercial dockyard available in Sri Lanka having direct access to Sri Lanka's main commercial port, Colombo harbour.

#### H. Role of United States of America

Even though USA is far away from Sri Lanka, minor action taken by USA has a great impact. USA listed LTTE as a terrorist organization in 1997. Real ban effected after passing of UN Security Council Resolution 1373 (2001) on 28 September 2001 based on 9/11 attack.

At the time of commencing the government military operations against LTTE in April 2006, USA was in a neutral position. However, USA expressed her view on 6 January 2009, justifying major success of military operations against LTTE. The US Embassy in Colombo said, *"The fall of Kilinochchi represents an important point in the 25-year war that has divided Sri Lanka. We hope that this event will help hasten an end to the conflict. The United States does not advocate that the Government of Sri Lanka negotiate with the LTTE, a group designated by the United States since 1997 as a Foreign Terrorist Organization. However, we do believe that a broad range of other Tamil voices and opinions must be brought into a political process to reach a political solution that Tamils inside and outside of Sri Lanka see as legitimate. This will help assure Tamils that their rights were protected, that they have a say over important areas of their lives in geographical areas in which they predominate, and that they were an integral and respected part of an undivided Sri Lanka. At the same time, such a process would further delegitimize and erode the support of the LTTE in Sri Lanka and abroad"*.

Since USA being the super power, Sri Lankan may have considered the above statement as an endorsement to continue military operations and banned LTTE in Sri Lanka on 7 January 2009. When analysing the present world opinion towards the military operations of Sri Lankan government, it was observed that no country had openly demanded Sri Lanka to stop military operations against LTTE. Therefore, it appeared that everybody followed the stance of USA.

#### J. Elements Bolstering LTTE Activities

##### 1) Fund Raising:

LTTE had a presence in over 44 countries and structured presence in 12 countries considered as top-level contributing countries. LTTE employed multiple methods of fund raising and money transfers, which include:

- (a) Each Sri Lankan Tamil person in Europe, Canada and Australia was given a PIN number to contribute money
- (b) Event based fund raising to construct schools and hospitals etc.
- (c) Narcotics trafficking and criminal activity
- (d) Using of Front organizations such as charity organizations

- (e) Global distribution of pirated Tamil DVDs
- (f) Investing in legitimate businesses through third party
- (g) Operating of Tamil Mother Tongue schools
- (h) Transfer money to Sri Lanka under the cover of jewellery business by overrating the value
- (i) Business of prepaid phone cards by purchasing bulk call time to Asian destinations
- (j) Hindu temple management getting benefits of charitable status with minimum paper trail
- (k) Operating Tamil Television Network (TTN), a satellite television on subscription basis.

#### 2) Shipping Network of LTTE:

LTTE launched their initial shipping network in 1984 after realizing that weapon received from India through RAW were not sophisticated to fight against Sri Lankan forces. The first shipping company of LTTE was registered in Singapore as Arasu Maritime Pvt. Ltd. This company leased the first LTTE ship MV Cholan, completely unknown to India and LTTE was able to smuggle in their first consignment of arms from Lebanon. The second shipping firm; Plymouth Shipping Co., was formed later in Singapore. Another shipping firm was Vikram Holdings Pvt. Ltd., registered in Kuala Lumpur with three Malaysian Tamils. Later another company called Point Pedro Shipping was also registered in Panama.

#### 3) Boat Building and Submarine Technology

In June 2000, it was found parts of a mini submarine in a resort island of Pucket, Thailand. Five metres long vessel, which can accommodate three persons, was found at a shipyard owned by a Sri Lankan-born Tamil who was in possession of a Norwegian passport. Later it was revealed that Thailand had deported this person to Norway. Nine years after this incident; during humanitarian operations, Sri Lanka Army had found a several similar submarines at a boat construction yard in Mullative.

Submarine technology is not easy to develop through indigenous knowledge. When analysing incident observed in Thailand too there was a reasonable doubt whether any company from Norway has involved in developing boat building capability of LTTE.

#### 4) Connections with State Intelligence Agencies:

Mr. JN Dixit explained in his book Assignment Colombo that RAW representatives had assured Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi on their capability to take charge LTTE if deviated from the Indo-Lanka agreement. The words that they used were; "These were the youth whom we have dealt with, we can manage this eventuality". Mr Narayan Swamy revealed another interesting story that LTTE leader of Jaffna, Kittu, had been offered with a monthly

salary of USD 30,000 from RAW whilst performing duties as a double agent.

Initially, LTTE was mainly fuelled by RAW. However, Prabhakaran had realized that objective of RAW was to destabilize Sri Lankan government as per Indian requirements. He killed even his deputy leader, Mahattaya on 28 December 1994 at the first instant he found that Mahattaya had been conspiring with RAW.

Victor Ostrovsky and Clair Hoy in their book, *By Way of Deception* revealed that LTTE had obtained military training from Mossad. This book describes as to how Mossad trained Tamil tigers on penetration, mining of lands and sabotaging of ships similar to Dvora. It further says Sri Lankan forces were later trained as to how to deal with all techniques the Mossad had just taught to Tamil Tigers. Therefore, it became a chain reaction in acquiring professional training and military equipment to be par with each other.

When analyzing the role of state intelligence services, it appears that RAW had fuelled the Tamil cause of Eelam in order to achieve strategic objectives of India whereas Mossad had been fishing in troubled waters to promote their military trade.

#### 5) Active Role of Sri Lankan Tamil Migrants:

More than 500,000 Tamil migrants are spread around the world. Statistics has revealed that there were 225,000 in Canada, 150,000 in UK and 30,000 in Australia. France, Denmark, Norway, Switzerland and Malaysia are the other countries where there are considerable numbers of Tamil migrants.

LTTE posthumously conferred the title of Maamaniathar (Great human being) to an Australian Tamil University lecturer named Jeyakumar. LTTE confers this title only to its hardcore cadres. Conferring such an honour to an Australian Tamil shows his contribution to LTTE.

At least eight Tamils burned themselves alive in protests between January and May 2009 in India, Malaysia, and outside the United Nations offices in Geneva.

Most of the pro-LTTE parliamentarians like Andy Love, Simon Huges in UK, Maria Minna and Paul Martin in Canada and John Murphy in Australia have been representing Tamil populated areas where these migrants have a great share of votes.

#### 6) World Tamil Movement:

Sri Lankan government was criticized on human rights violations in year 2008. The Head of UN Human Rights

Commission, Mrs. Navanethem Pillay, directly made certain allegations. When studying on her profile, it was revealed that she was an Indian origin [South African](#) Tamil. Hence, there is a reasonable doubt about the credibility on the impartiality on her comments. BBC correspondent in Colombo during the period of humanitarian operation was Mr. Anbarasan Ethirajan who was also a Tamil person and he made sympathetic views on LTTE.

Tamil population around the world is about 80 million, which is four times of total Sri Lankan population. Total Tamil population in Sri Lanka is 3.6 million whereas it is in Tamil Nadu is 70 million. However, Tamils in Tamil Nadu does not have bargaining power in India. Therefore, Indian Tamils too support the cause of Eelam in Sri Lanka.

#### 7) International Aids:

Common phenomenon of international debt is a direct result of foreign aid that has become an instrument of foreign policies of aid giving countries.

*By Way of Deception*, a book written by Israel author says that Israel Mossad had convinced the then Sri Lankan president JR Jayewardene to accelerate five hydro-power projects in order to obtain foreign aids and spend the same money for weapon procurement. Authentication of these sources is doubtful; however, it is a truth that Sri Lankan government had to spend a lot of money for military procurement in parallel with major hydro-power projects.

#### K. Clues of Oil Reserves in Gulf of Mannar

From year 2000 to 2005, Norway Company called TGS NOPE had been carrying out a seismic survey to confirm the availability of oil reserves in Western coast of Sri Lanka. By September 2005 it was revealed that the availability of oil reserves in North Western and Western Coast of Sri Lanka.

By October 2008, Sri Lanka had identified eight exploration blocks in the Mannar basin. Out of the eight sites, one each had been offered to China and India without tenders considering the bi-lateral relationships. Oil exploration activities of the first site commenced by an Indian oil company, Cairns Limited in January 2009. Another three sites were up for tender. UK Company called Fugro Data Solution Company had been selected for computer modelling the tender applications and selections.

Oil exploration in Sri Lanka is in a very primitive stage. However, emergence of USA, UK, Norway, India, China and Japan are visible as interested parties in this issue.

On 14 March 2007, US Ambassador had awarded USD 474,000 advocating to promote energy security in Sri Lanka and he mentioned, “ *We hope our assistance will help Sri Lanka establish an open and transparent regulatory system that both protects Sri Lanka interests and gives investors confidence that they can earn a worthwhile return on their investments*”. The term, “transparent regulatory system” may be a mild warning to Sri Lanka for offering one exploration plot each to India and China without tender procedures.

When Japanese Prime Minister met Sri Lankan President in Rome in June 2008, Japan had raised their interest towards oil exploration through ministerial level consultation between Sri Lanka and Japan on oil and gas exploration, based on settlement of loans. Japan being the biggest foreign aid provider to Sri Lanka has selected the right tool at the right time.

Norway is very much capable on oil and gas exploration in deep sea. Hence, participation of Norway for the oil exploration project was mandatory. UK had shown her presence by involving a company for bid evaluation process.

It was obvious that Co-Chairs in peace process; USA, EU, Japan and Norway have been participating in the process of oil exploration in Sri Lanka in terms of funding, bid evaluating, discussion and seismic study. Regions identified as oil exploring plots were under constant threat from LTTE until Year 2000. Norway commenced seismic study in Year 2000 and Norwegian facilitated ceasefire agreement was signed on 22 February 2002. When the government of Sri Lanka commenced military operations in 2006 as a result of LTTE’s withdrawal from the peace process, all those countries supported the government. Hence, it was obvious that a peaceful region in Western coast of Sri Lanka was a necessity of these countries.

#### IV. CONCLUSION

Violent activities commenced by a small group of Tamil youths in Northern part of Sri Lanka with locally made weapons and landmines in late 1970’s was capable up to the extent of acquisition of missiles, air craft and underwater vehicles with the passage of time is a clear implication of foreign involvement.

Initially, India fuelled Sri Lankan terrorism in order to meet her strategic objectives. This was the only reason that Sri Lanka could not suppress LTTE at the primitive stage. Sri Lanka’s close association with USA in 1980s made India to consider Sri Lanka in a hostile angle. Sri

Lanka took long time to realize that neither military effort nor peace effort for Sri Lankan terrorism could be made successful without Indian assistance.

Clues on availability of oil reserves in Western and North Western coast of Sri Lanka appears to be an attractive factor. Countries located thousand miles away from Sri Lanka came to assist Sri Lankan peace negotiations in parallel with seismic study on availability oil reserves in Sri Lanka. Now that the peace talks with LTTE failed, they have no objection on finding an early military solution to suppress the LTTE and thereby establish peace in the region. India's statements in support of military operations in Sri Lanka despite constant pressure from Tamil Nadu, Japanese approach to write off loans, statements by US ambassador on transparency on Sri Lankan oil exploration were strong evidences to endorse their true aim on oil reserves.

Signing ceasefire agreement between government and LTTE keeping Norway as a facilitator has legitimized LTTE as a counterpart to Sri Lankan government. Relaxation of security checks and free movement of NGOs during the ceasefire have caused to free flow of resources to LTTE. Proscription of LTTE in European Union, Canada and Australia was taken place during the ceasefire period. Hence, ceasefire agreement signed with the foreign involvement has both positive and negative implications.

Many Sri Lankan Tamil migrants residing in foreign countries were fully committed to the cause of Tamil Eelam and playing a major role in funding and launching propaganda machinery with the support of certain politicians greedy on the votes of migrants. Debate in British Parliament on Sri Lankan crisis, addressing Tamil Nadu LTTE supporter Mr. Vaico before British Parliamentarians of the All Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) and nominating special British envoy by British Prime minister were major achievement gained by these Tamil migrants. South Africa being a country suffered from apartheid was of the view that LTTE too was a national movement like African National Congress (ANC).

UN Security council resolution 1373 passed after 9/11 terrorist attack has great implications on curbing LTTE internationally.

Fund raising network of LTTE is well organized and was operating with the support of Sri Lankan Tamil migrants and through several front organizations. LTTE operates efficient shipping network too in conjunction with the same fund raising network.

Domination of LTTE in BBC for their propaganda and nomination of special envoy to look after Sri Lankan

affairs by British government, denial of Thailand police arresting the head of LTTE shipping network were some of the incidences which reflects the inefficiency of Sri Lankan foreign missions.

Many countries respect UN Security council Resolution 1373 September 28, 2001 and as result of it LTTE had been banned in 25 countries including USA, UK, EU, Australia and Canada. This was the most effective achievement to Sri Lankan government. Terrorists' activities in anywhere will stop when their fuel runs out. Request made by LTTE leader Velupillai Prabhakaran to lift the ban on LTTE is the best proof for this.

Terrorism has sustained in Sri Lanka for more than 33 years because of foreign involvement. Therefore it was paramount importance to avoid international support in parallel with military operation.

Therefore, following measures are recommended to curb possible foreign involvement of terrorism in Sri Lanka.

- a. Maintain better bi-lateral relations with India
- b. Strengthen Sri Lankan Foreign Service qualitatively and quantitatively
- c. Formulate a long-term plan for oil exploration in Sri Lanka paying more attention towards the interests of neighbouring countries

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