

Embassy of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka in Korea

229-18 Itaewon-dong Youngsan-Gu Seoul, Republic of Korea

(Tel) 02-735-2966

(Fax) 02-737-9577

(E-Mail) lankaemb@kornet.net

February 18, 2010

Your Excellency,

We, People's Solidarity for Participatory Democracy (PSPD) is a non-governmental organization in South Korea, working on realization of democracy based on dignity of men and human right. We are writing to you today to express our deep concern regarding the disappearance of **Mr. Pattani Razeek** who is the head of the Community Trust Fund (CTF). The CTF is a non-governmental organization based in Sri Lanka that works to protect human rights and promote equality. The CTF provides disaster emergency relief assistance as well as assistance for the people affected by the on-going civil war in Sri Lanka.

We received information that **Mr. Pattani Razeek** has been missing since Thursday, 11 February 2010. Mr. Razeek was last seen in Polonnaruwa, a town in the North-Central Province of Sri Lanka. He is also a member of Executive Committee of Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development (FORUM-ASIA) of which PSPD is a member.

Mr. Razeek, 55 years old, has been missing since Thursday, 11 February 2010. Mr. Razeek was last seen in Polonnaruwa, a town in the North-Central Province of Sri Lanka. In the afternoon of 11 February 2010, Mr. Razeek, was in Polonnaruwa in a van together with other staff of his organization, the Community Trust Fund (CTF), on their way home from a mission when their van was intercepted by another vehicle, a white van. In Sri Lanka, 'white vans' have been known to be the preferred vehicles of groups responsible for abductions and disappearances. Mr. Razeek alighted from their vehicle, approached the men in the white van and exchanged

greetings in Arabic with them, indicating that the men are Muslim. After talking to them for some minutes, Mr. Razeek went back to his colleagues and told them that he will be joining the group in the white van that according to him was heading to the Eastern provincial town of Valaichchenai. He assured his colleagues that he will be meeting up with them later.

The next day, 12 February 2010, the CTF was informed by the family of Mr. Razeek that he did not arrive home from the mission. Mr. Razeek's family, CTF, and his friends have been searching for him since then.

On 16 February 2010, the family of Mr. Razeek was able to convince the mobile phone company to release some of the phone records coming from Mr. Razeek's mobile phone. The records revealed that a number of short calls were made from Mr. Razeek's mobile phone on the evening of 11 February, the day he was last seen by his colleagues. On 15 February 2010, a call from Mr. Razeek's mobile phone was also made to a CTF driver, but it was missed. When the call was returned, there was no answer. Also on 15 February 2010, a text message was sent from Mr. Razeek's mobile phone to a member of his family. The text message said that he is in Polonnaruwa, the town where he left his colleagues and joined the men in the other vehicle, and that he would be home soon. Since then, there has been no further contact, nor responses to calls and text messages.

The family of Mr. Razeek has lodged a complaint with the local police in their hometown of Puttalam, as well as informed the Human Rights Commission of Sri Lanka of his disappearance. However, when the family of Mr. Razeek filed the complaint with the Human Rights Commission of Sri Lanka, they were not given any file or reference number which they could use to follow-up on the case. Moreover, up to this day, nobody from the Commission has been in touch with the family or friends of Mr. Razeek. It should also be noted that although this case has already been reported to police authorities, they have been lethargic and have not been actively pursuing leads to the case.

We, PSPD, express our deep concern regarding the disappearance of Mr. Pattani Razeek, and strongly urge the Sri Lankan government to take immediate steps to investigate his disappearance and ascertain his whereabouts and welfare.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be in a South Asian script, possibly Sinhala or Tamil, written in a cursive style.

Jongdae Lim

Representative, People's Solidarity for Participatory Democracy