



2ND LEAD (Adds maps)

Colombo steps up Sinhalicisation of Pulmoaddai to wedge North and East

[TamilNet, Thursday, 25 July 2013, 22:45 GMT]

Tamil-speaking Muslims living in their village of Pulmoaddai, situated near the administrative border to the districts of Trincomalee in the East and Mullaitheevu in the North, now face appropriation of their lands by Sinhala Buddhist monks who have come from Hambantota in the South, news sources in the East said. Local Muslim leaders fear that the Sri Lankan State and the occupying Sri Lanka Navy are planning to colonize their traditional Muslim village with Sinhalese, outnumbering them. Pulmoaddai is situated on the edge of strategic Ma'nal-Aa'ru, which has been recently carved out as a Sinhala division to wedge the North from the East. Pulmoaddai also has one of the richest deposits of Titanium ore in the world. The sands in the area contain ilmenite and rutile, raw materials for manufacturing Titanium Dioxide.

Almost 95 percent of the population of Pulmoaddai village are Muslims.

Earlier, the SL Navy has appropriated several lands and houses belonging to Muslim residents along the coastal areas of Pulmoaddai, especially Ponmalai and other suburbs.

Recently, the SL Navy has constructed a Buddhist vihara and installed a statue of Lord Buddha in a land after forcibly evicting the Muslim residents from there.

Now Buddhist monks from the South invade and appropriate lands belonging to Muslims.

One Buddhist monk from Hambantota has appropriated around 500 acres of land allegedly for the construction of a Buddhist Vihara at Arisi Malai along the sea coast of Pulmoaddai. That monk had got the services of SL government surveyors to survey more lands.

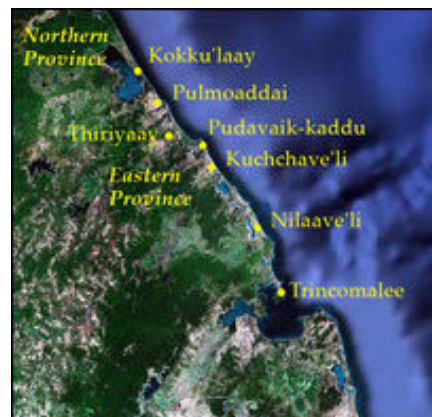
Another Buddhist monk, from Dambulla, has appropriated one acre of land for the construction of a Buddhist religious hall. In addition to this, the monk has also appropriated ten more acres of paddy field belonging to Muslim farmers to construct another Vihara there, news sources in Pulmoaddai said.

Muslim residents in the area say they possess legal and other documents to prove their ownership of the lands taken over by the SL Navy and the Buddhist monk from South.

But, the SL Navy has been refusing to hand over these lands despite the repeated appeals made to them via the Trincomalee District Co-ordinating Committee by the Muslim parliamentarians.



Shown within the box is the target area of Colombo discussed in the feature



The Eastern coast from Kokku'laay to Trincomalee [Satellite Image courtesy: Google Earth. Legend by TamilNet]



The location of Kokku'laay village and lagoon. [Satellite map courtesy: Google Earth]

Chronology:

- 14.08.13 Tamils chased away from paddy fields of 'Weli Oya'
- 26.07.13 Another link to North and East sieged by Sinhala B..
- 25.07.13 Colombo steps up Sinhalicisation of Pulmoaddai to ..
- 06.07.13 USA, India, UNHRC answerable to provincial meddlin..
- 06.07.13 Sinhalicisation, demographic wedging accelerated i..
- 30.06.13 Sinhala occupation of Kokku'laay lagoon tripled af..
- 10.06.13 Sinhala paramilitary steps up land appropriation i..
- 07.06.13 Ampaa'rai officials overstep into Batticaloa distr..
- 04.05.13 International aid complicit in Colombo's structura..
- 28.02.13 Colombo uses international aid, abetment, for stru..
- 31.01.13 Sinhala colonisation in sacred land of Tamil marty..
- 29.01.13 Colonial governor diverts more education funds to ..
- 21.10.12 Sinhalicised division formalised in Mullaitheevu..
- 15.01.12 'Structural genocide will be complete in Mullaitht..
- 06.11.11 Sinhalese forcibly take over paddy lands of Tamils..
- 27.10.11 Fertile Tamil village targeted for Sinhalicisation..
- 18.10.11 Colonising Sinhalese swindle resources while sanct..
- 18.10.11 Buddhist stupa built in Kokku'laay after brutal at..
- 18.10.11 Sinhala division starts functioning in Mullaiththe..

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