



# தமிழீழ விடுதலைப் புலிகள் Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam

(UK Branch) (பிரித்தானியக் கிளை)

Madras 000002

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## TIGERS REFUTE CHARGES

Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) wish to deny charges of atrocities against TELO members as reported by a UNI correspondent quoting sources in Jaffna. The report is distorted, exaggerated and maliciously fabricated to tarnish the image of our movement.

We wish to deny categorically that LTTE fighters shot dead young TELO members who surrendered nor was any one burnt alive. The LTTE set free all those who have surrendered. Casualties occurred in places where TELO fighters put up stiff resistance. The report that claims that LTTE guerrillas behaved in "insane frenzy" and committed "inhuman atrocities" is absolutely untrue. The correspondent has not witnessed any thing but obtained prejudiced statements from the so called eye witnesses who were TELO sympathizers.

The hartal organised by the Eelam People's Revolutionary Liberation Front (EPRLF) is not total as reported by the correspondent but rather partial. As local news papers reported, only a few shops were closed and schools and bus services ran normally. Reports that the majority of the casualties on the TELO side were from the Eastern Province is absolutely baseless concocted to justify the lack of mass protest in Jaffna peninsula.

The truth is that the people of Tamil Eelam supported our punitive action against TELO for the simple reason that TELO functioned as an anti social force committing innumerable crimes and has been harassing and intimidating the public. It is the well known fact that the TELO members were the most indisciplined and unruly crowd engaged in robberies, lootings, kidnaping and killing civilians including the two ex. MPs of the Tamil United

Liberation Front. TELO was responsible for looting hindu temples and hijacking of hundreds of private owned vehicles. By such anti social criminal behaviour , the TELO earned mass rsement in the Northern and Eastern Provinces. It is precisely because of the fact that TELO functioned as a reactionary anti popular force, the Tamil people supported LTTE|s military action against the TELO. Local news papers reported that public were jubilant and served cool drinks to Tiger fighters engaged in combat operations against TELO guerrillas.

The UNI|s correspondent|s allegation that LTTE|s military operation against the TELO was a calculated pre-planned action to undermine India|s peace mission is a malicious distortion of truth. The LTTE has always supported India|s peace initiative and this unfortunate incident occured as a consequence of murder and kidnaping of our senior members by the TELO.

The LTTE wishes to deny categorically that it is in any way responsible for the anti Indian posters that misteriously sprang up in Jaffna. This is certainly the dubious work of some mischievous elements whose objective is to drive a wedge between the LTTE and the Government of India.

S.Subramanian,  
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(This statement is re-issued in London)