



HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON SW1A 0AA



26 April 2009

The All Party Parliamentary Group for Tamils (APPG-T) has received credible information that the Sri Lankan Government Forces are preparing for a final onslaught on the 'Safe Zone' by air, sea and land. This will result in a humanitarian carnage of unimaginable magnitude with an estimated, over 100,000 civilians encircled within a dense area. Such an offensive in a densely populated area could potentially cause over 10,000 civilians being killed instantly.

APPG-T welcomes the announcement made today by the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) of a unilateral ceasefire with immediate effect. The immediate implementation of the ceasefire shows the commitment on the part of the LTTE, to address this unprecedented humanitarian crisis in Sri Lanka.

It is of grave concern and disappointment that the Government of Sri Lanka (GoSL) has rejected this offer of ceasefire, which would defuse the humanitarian catastrophe. This comes despite appeals from the Whitehouse, G8 nations, the United Nations, the European Union, Humanitarian Organisations along with repeated calls by Her Majesty's Government for immediate ceasefire.

The APPG-T appeals to Her Majesty's Government, NGOs and Governments around the world, to act immediately to prevent this devastation in the 'No Fire Zone'.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "V Sharma".

Virendra Sharma MP