

**A list of NGOs which attended the meeting
held on 23rd February 2006.**

INGOs

1. Sri Lanka Monitoring Mission
2. International Committee of Red Cross
3. United Nations International Children's Education Fund
4. Non- Violent Peace Force
5. Norwegian Refugee Council
6. Save the Children
7. United Nations Development Programme

NGOs

1. Consortium of Humanitarian Agencies
2. Institute of Human Rights
3. Civil Rights Movement of Sri Lanka
4. Home for Human Rights
5. INFORM
6. Centre for Policy Alternatives
7. Law & Society Trust of Sri Lanka

මගේ අංකය

எனது எண்

My No

ඔබේ අංකය

உமது எண்

Your No

දිනය

திகதி

Date



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இலங்கை மனித உரிமைகள் ஆணைக்குழு
HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION OF SRI LANKA

Chairman,
Citizen's Committee,
Mannar.

Dear Fr. Emalianuspillai,

We thank you for having met us on 3rd March, 2006 at the Mannar Kachcheri with a representative group of members of the Citizen's Committee to discuss human rights issues in your area relating to the conflict situation.

Some of the matters that were brought to our notice at the discussion were taken up with the local heads of the police and security forces in Mannar when we met them later that day. In deference to your request the responses we received from them are set out below:

Identity Cards

The police stated that they are aware that many people in Mannar do not have national identity cards. He stated that when they come across such cases they take steps to establish such persons identity. They denied that such people are harassed. When the specific instance of harassment mentioned at the meeting was brought to their notice they were surprised that such a thing had taken place and agreed to ensure that the rights of persons are not violated when the police perform their duties. They added that police officers are aware of the rights of individuals and that they know the consequences if they violate them.

Military with arms

As regard the threatening manner in which the soldiers on patrol are carrying their weapons in Mannar these days, the military told us that there is no risk of such weapons misfiring because they have to unlock the safety catch before firing. They added that in view of the heightened security situation these days, the soldiers have been instructed to carry their weapons in that manner.

Security checks on passengers

When the inconvenience being caused to travelers in and out of Mannar was brought to the notice of the police and the security forces, we were told that the recent increase in incidents against them had necessitated more rigorous checking of people moving in and out of the District. They assured us that the intensity of the checking will be relaxed as conditions improve.

As for the numerous check points in and around the Mannar Town - it was conceded that such a large number of check points were not necessary as conditions are now better. But since the situation is fluid and may change at any time they are reluctant to dismantle the check points already in existence.

Problems of three wheeler drivers

The restriction on the movement of three wheelers in Mannar at night was taken up with the police. They pointed out that there had been many instances of the detection of the transport of prohibited goods and undesirable persons in three wheelers at night. That had prompted the police to restrict their movement at night. Vehicles are frequently checked for this reason.

Problems of resettled Muslims

When asked about the sense of insecurity prevailing among the Muslims resettled in the Chilavathurai area, it was brought to our notice that this area being in the border between the cleared and uncleared areas, and the boundary running right through this area, the security forces and the police avoid getting involved with civilian matters in those areas. However they are willing to take note of any particular issues like threats to re-settlers and refer them to the appropriate forum when the occasion arises.

The issue of threatening leaflets to Muslims to leave Mannar has been brought to the notice of the security forces.

HRC's IDP Office

The comments made regarding the inadequacy of the response of the IDP's Office in Mannar has been conveyed to those responsible so that remedial steps may be taken.

Pesalai incident

The Navy Commander stated that he arrived at the scene where the navy personnel returning from leave had been blasted after about 2 hours from the time of the incident. He stated that he is not aware of any attack on the civilians or the other incidents following the incident.

High Security Zones

They stated that there cannot be any change in the situation of the people waiting to get back to the high security zones in the Thirukketheeswaram, Adampan, Talaimannar, Iranailupaikulam, Uyilankum and Periyaneelavanai until an overall change takes place in the security situation. This issue is connected to the progress of the peace process. The same is true with regard to the pass system for fishing in the Mannar sea.

Besides discussing these issues we have urged the police and the security forces to have regular meetings with civil society organizations so that their problems could be promptly brought to the notice of those concerned and remedial action taken without delay. This suggestion was well received and they have agreed to do so. It is hoped that our visit to Mannar would result in an improvement of the human rights concerns of the people of Mannar .

Yours truly,

Sigd.

M.C.M.Iqbal,
Member of the Team
of the Special Rapporteur
on Conflict Related Human Rights Violations

Copies for the information of -

1. Chairperson, Human Rights Commission.
2. District Secretary & Government Agent, Mannar.
3. Brigade Commander, Tallady Army Camp, Mannar.
4. Navy Commander, Gajaba Navy Detachment, Sunny Village, Mannar.
5. Deputy Inspector General of Police, Vavuniya.
6. Supdt. of Police, Mannar.
7. Regional Co-ordinator, HRC, Vavuniya.

List of incidents
of those that have been brought to the notice of
the Special Rapporteur on Conflict Related HR Violations

Trincomalee

1. Killing of Five University Students.
2. Killing of Sinhala Mudalali at Uppuveli.
3. Four Sinhala fishermen missing for the last three months.
4. NIB Sgt. shot dead at Kantalai.
5. Sinhala Mudalali shot dead at Thambalagamam.
6. Ice Manju's involvement in the killing of Army Intelligence officer Meedin.
7. Two LTTEs killed at Nilaveli/Uppuveli (?)
8. Eight Navy personnel injured - 2 LTTEs deade on 18.1.2006.
9. Navy & 1 Police injured at A'pura Junction.
10. Ten Police killed at Mutur.
11. Thoppur - killing of Muslims & Tamils.
12. Killing of Sudar Oli newspaper correspondent.

Jaffna

1. Pungudutivu - Rape & Murder of Tharshini.
2. Jaffna Central College Principal's killing
3. Kopay Christian College Principal's killing
4. Supdt. of Police Charles Wijeyawardena's killing at Inuvil.
5. Manipay - killing of three women from the same family
6. University Students and lecturers on a procession being attacked.
7. Disappearances of persons.

Batticaloa

1. Joseph Pararajasingham's killing.
2. Two Sinhala Tailors shot dead at Valaichenai.
3. Three Policemen and a child killed by cycle bomb on 19.1.2006.
4. Ten policemen injured, 4 seriously by another bomb incident.
5. 18th January - Two Muslims Abduction Alaiadyvembu.
6. Abduction of TRO staff at Welikanda.

Amparai

1. Akkaraipattu - Five Muslims killed in Mosque - November 2005.
2. Sainthamaruthu - Two Muslims killed on beach.
3. Kalmunai - Two Intelligence Officers shot & killed.
4. Akkaraipattu Town on 17th January - two Tamils shot dead.

Mannar

1. Abduction of 3 policeman at Murunkan.
2. Blasting of a bus with Navy Personnel.
3. Complaints of five missing persons from Pesalai.
4. 100 houses being set on fire at Pesalai.

List of incidents expected to be dealt with on a priority basis by
the Special Rapporteur on Conflict Related HR Violations*

Trincomalee

- Alleged killing of Five University Students by STF.
- killing of Army Intelligence Officer, Col. Meedin at Kiribathgoda and Ice Manju's links with Sornam, EP LTTE Chief- in connection with the incident.
- Killing of Sinhala Mudalali at Uppuveli.
- Killing of Sinhala Mudalali at Thambalagamam.

Batticaloa

- Kattankudy- Killing of Divisional Secretary.
- Abduction of TRO staff at Welikanda.
- Joseph Pararajasingham's killing- CID documents & Wife's statement to the Police.

Jaffna

- Pungudutivu - Rape & Murder of Tharshini.
- Supdt. of Police Charles Wijewardena's killing at Inuvil.

Kalmunai

- Akkaraipattu- Five Muslims killed in Mosque- November 2005.
- Killing of Sudar Oli newspaper correspondent- (his family is at Veeramunai).

Mannar

- Abduction of 2 policemen at Murunkan.
- Incidents of killings and burning down of houses at Pesalai.

* However all these incidents could not be investigated before the term of the Special Rapporteur expired on 31st March 2006.

A Graphical presentation of a sample of the incidents in January 2006

Breakdown of the Incidents

for the period

1st January 2006 - 31st January 2006

(Based on the information available with the Spl. Rapp.)

District	Total no of Incidents	killed	Wounded	Missing	Abducted	Grand Total
Jaffna	74	39	61	1	5	106
Trincomalee	35	16	65	13	1	95
Ampara	13	6	10	0	0	16
Mannar	11	30	1	4	0	35
Vavuniya	10	8	4	0	1	13
Batticaloa	6	8	37	0	5	50
Polonnaruwa	2	4	1	0	5	10
Total	151*	72	118	17	12	219

*Some of these incidents had more than one victim.

Total No. of victims 219

fig.1

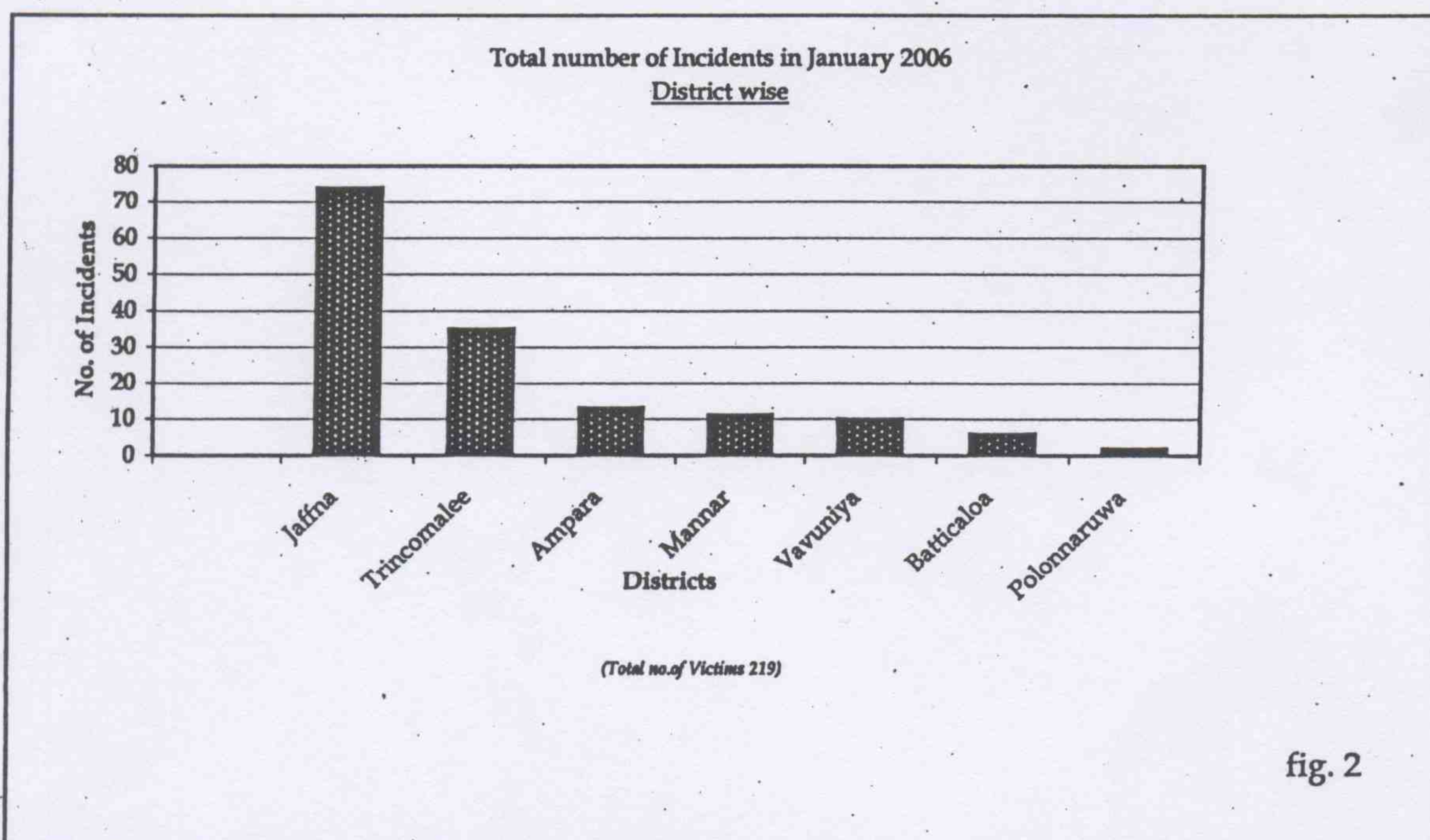


fig. 2

Particulars of the 219 Violations

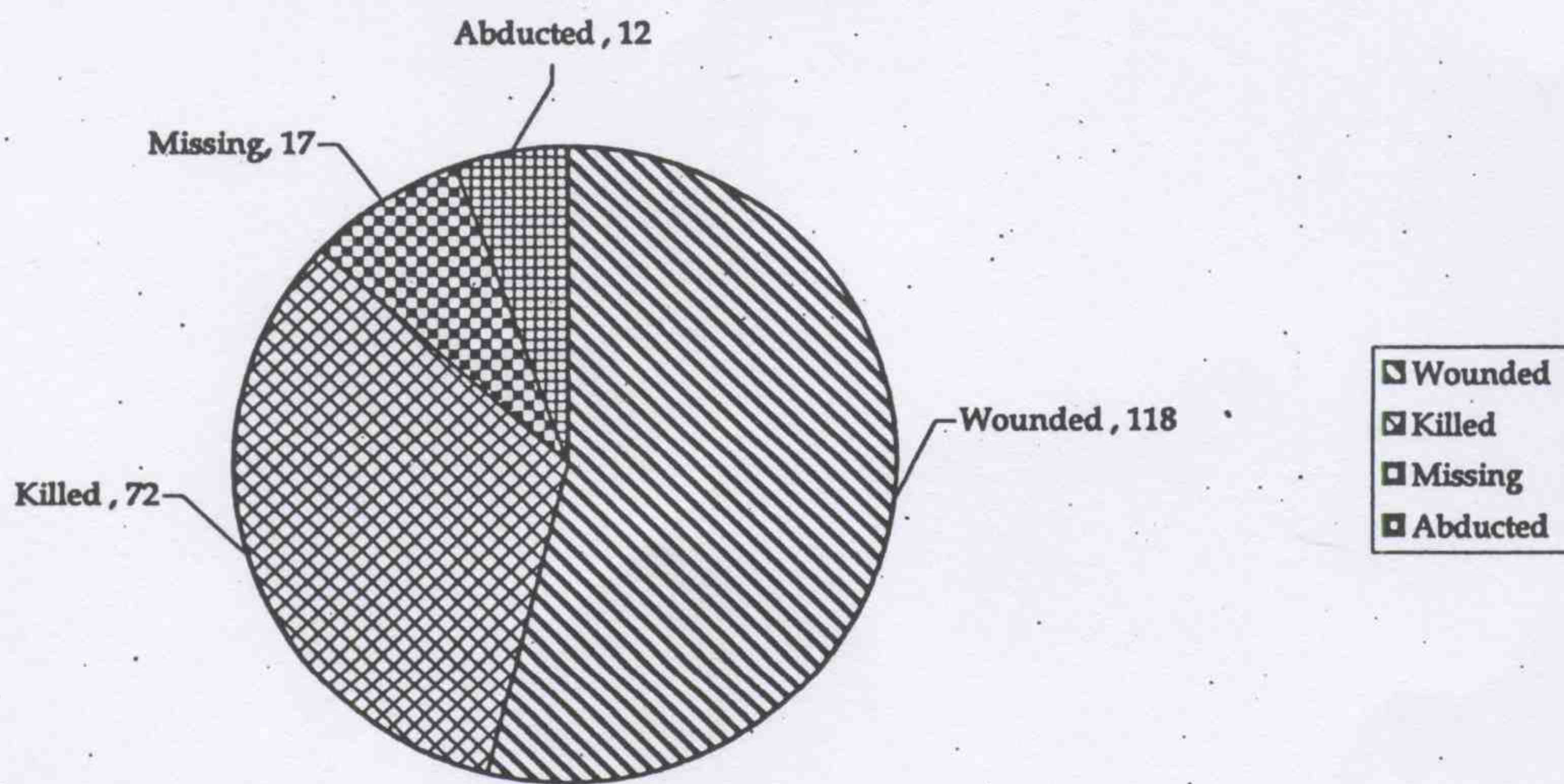


fig. 3

Percentage of incidents in January 2006 - District wise

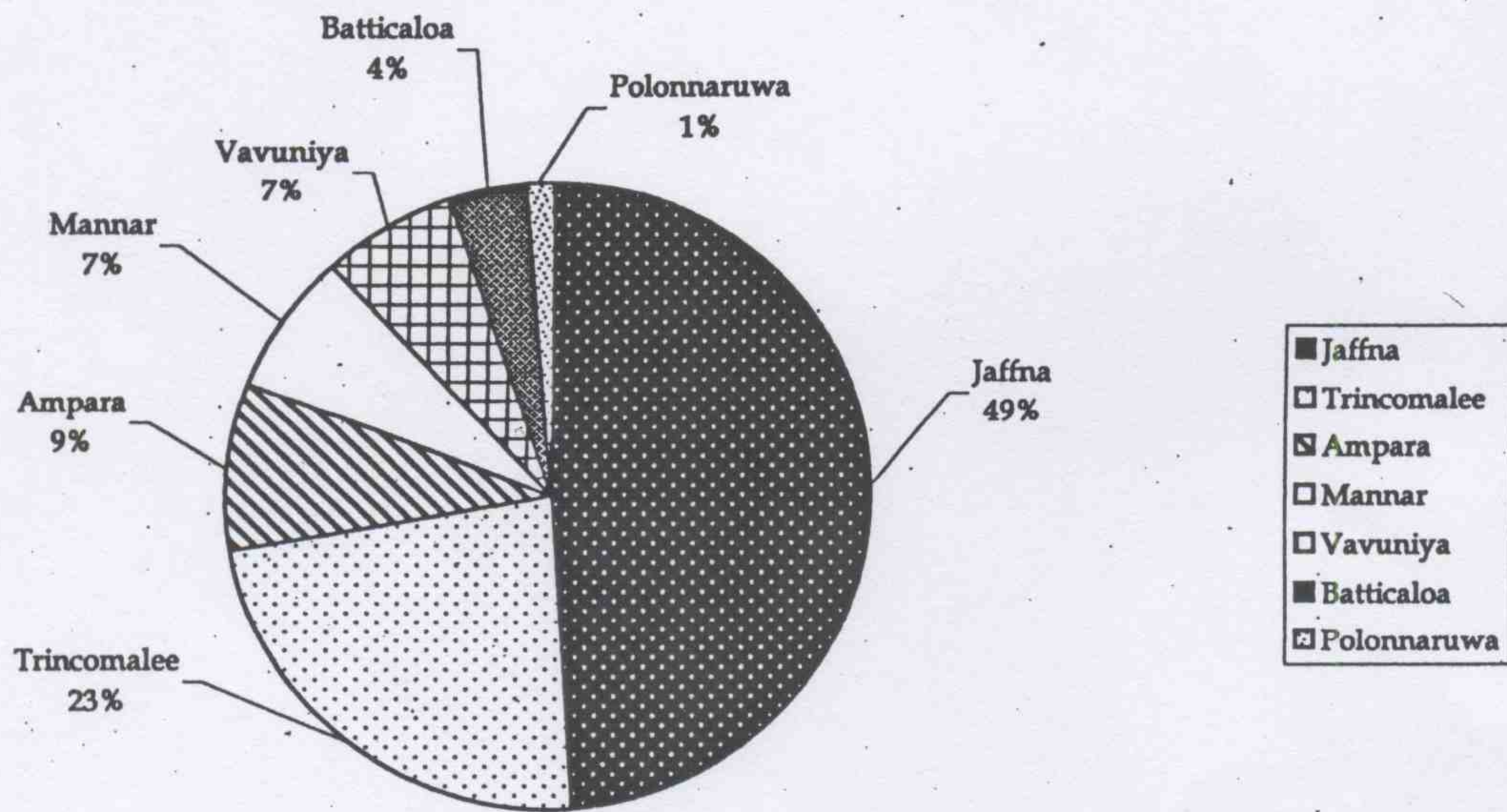


fig. 4