



வடகிழக்கு மனித உரிமைகள் செயலகம்

North East Secretariat on Human Rights - **NESOHR**

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### Vanni Bombing and shelling victims since November – released 2 December 2008

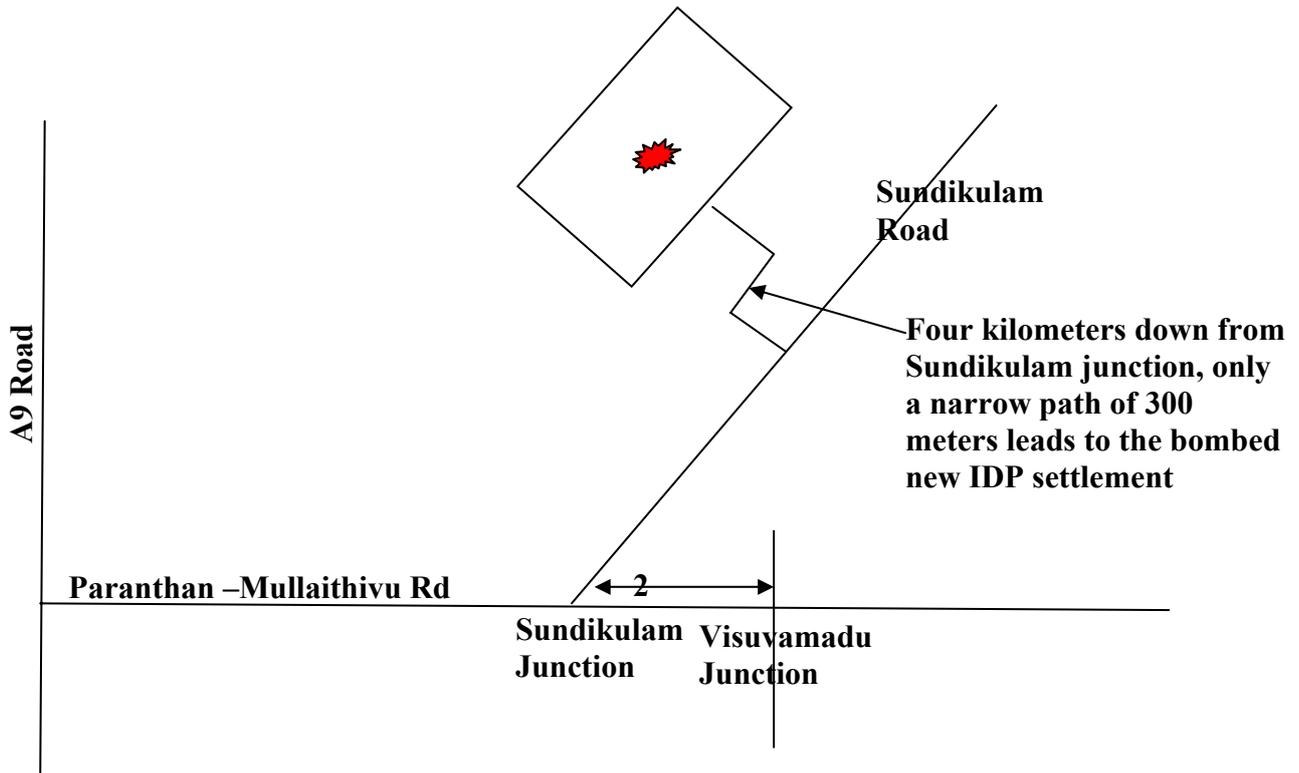
There were five major bombing and shelling attacks on civilians in Vanni during November 2008 and also one on 1 December. All five attacks caused large number of injuries among children and caused two child deaths. In total there were three civilian deaths in these attacks and a total 26 civilians were injured, including nine children. A claymore attack also took the lives of three civilians including that of a child. Details of these six attacks are described in this report. There were several other injuries and destruction caused by artillery shelling.

#### *Ulavanoor kudiyruppu bombing on 29 November*

At 1.30am on 29 November, as the IDP residents in the Ulavanoor kudiyruppu, who were just recovering from a disastrous floods, were asleep, when sixteen cluster bombs were dropped on the Ulavanoor settlement. The newly settled IDPs who due to the floods, did not even have bunkers to take cover, ran into the forests through flood water in thick darkness.

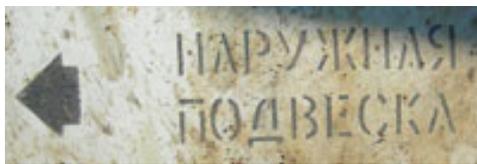
A five year old child and another civilian were killed and nineteen more civilians were seriously injured, among them are seven children. Two of the injured have lost their limbs and some suffered head and stomach injuries.

The location of the bomb site is shown below.





A Russian made bomb dropped on 29 November that did not explode is pictured to the left. Other pieces of the unexploded bombs are also shown below. Note that the middle picture appears to be a parachute. These bombs are considered to be of the type cluster bomb which contain several smaller bombs inside and cause damage to wide area thus often having disastrous effects on civilian population. For this reason there is currently an international push to ban this type of bomb. Several countries have already announced that they will not use these bombs. Sri Lanka is counted among a few countries that have a stockpile of these bombs and are continuing to use them.



The victims of the bombing grouped together in family groups are as follows:

Sivakumar family

Killed:

**Sivakumar Sutharsan, child aged 5 years**

Injured:

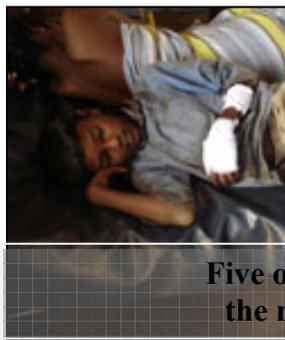
Sivakumar Sutharsiny, child aged 2 years

Sivakumar Rasakumary, mother aged 27 years



Mother of the child killed, Rasakumary's words:

*“Is this why I protected my two little ones without a husband under trees and in schools? My little treasure had not slept because of floods and only that night he was sleeping well. What can we do if bombs are dropped at night like this? How can I describe in words the condition my child was lying in? My two year old is also injured. Why did they wreck my family like this?”*



**Five of the children injured and the mother of the child killed**

Ramasamy family

Killed:

**Raman Ramasamy, husband aged 80years**

Injured:

Ramasamy –Palanyammah, wife aged 77years (her arm amputated)

Rasenthiram family

Injured:

Kasipillai Rasenthiram, grandfather aged 60years

Murugesu Rasenthiram, father aged 39 years (his left leg amputated)

Rasenthiram Rukmanithevi, mother aged 35

Rasenthiram Thavaselvi, child aged 16 years

Rasenthiram Loginy, child aged 7 years

Nallaih family

Injured:

Nallaiah Puspavally, mother aged 28years

Nallaiah Mathiyalagan, child aged 6 years

Nallaiah Jesinthan, child aged 10 years

Nallaiah Sasikumar, child aged 7 years

Ananthan family

Injured:

Ananthan Kamalathevi, mother aged 37years

Ananthan Chithra, child aged 9 years

Ananthan Velavan, child aged 18 years

Others injured:

Thaynatham Pavithiran, male aged 5years

Periyathamby Sankarapillai, male aged 55years

Kannathasan Amaravathy, female aged 40years

Nagan Sunmugam, male aged 55years

***Vaddakachchi shelling on 1 December***



A six year old girl walking home from school at 12.45pm on 1 December was killed on the spot by artillery shelling of Sri Lanka military.

Killed:

**Arulanantham Nirojini, child aged 6 years** of No 16, Hudson Road, Vaddakachchi

Injured:

Sivasampu Vinayagavel, male aged 35 also of Hudson Rd, Vaddakachchi

### ***Kumarapuram bombing on 9 November***

Aerial bombing on at 12.30 pm on 9 November in Kumarapuram caused widespread damages to civilians. Five civilians including two children were injured.

#### ***Those injured***



Manokaran, Vithuran child aged 2 years

Srikantha, Tharangan child aged 11 years

Sivarajah, Gowriambal, female aged 62 years

Sellathurai, Kamalambigai, male aged 65 years

Nagalingam, Sivarasa, male aged 54 years

### ***Claymore attack on 3 November***

A claymore attack on the vehicle that carries daily newspapers from Vavuniya to Vanni killed three of the occupants including a 12 year old child. The vehicle was returning to Vavuniya around 8.30am on 3 November after delivering the papers that morning when it came under the claymore attack near Puliyanikulam. The details of the victims are given below.

#### ***Family of Marmenthirarasa***

##### ***Killed:***

***Marmenthirarasa Naguleswaran, child aged 12 years***

***Marmenthirarasa, father aged 50 years***

##### ***Injured:***

Marmenthirarasa Pushpa, mother aged 45

#### ***Others***

##### ***Killed:***

***Karunaharan, male aged 35***

##### ***Injured:***

Muhunthan, male aged 40

### ***Paranthan shelling on 17 November***

Shelling on Paranthan in Kilinochchi on 17 November injured three women. Two of the injured women are sisters. Their names are listed below.



#### **Family of Sanagaralingam**

Injured:

Sankaralingam Thushyanthiny  
female aged 28 years

Sankaralingam Thushyanthaveny  
female aged 20 yrs

#### **Others injured:**

N.Poomany  
female aged 72 years

### ***Murippu shelling on 3 November***

Shelling on 3 November in Murippu in Mulliavallai by Sri Lankan military in Manalaru injured two brothers grazing their cows. Both brothers lost a leg each to the shelling

#### **Family of Nadanasapathy**

Injured

Nadanasapathy Ilakkunanathan, aged 30 years

Nadanasapathy Kasinathan aged 36 years