



# INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF TAMIL JOURNALISTS

சர்வதேச தமிழ் செய்தியாளர் ஒன்றியம்

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## Tamil reporter stabbed to death

The International Association of Tamil Journalists vehemently condemns the murder of Paranirupasingam Devakumar, a news reporter attached to the Maharaja TV in Sri Lanka. He was hacked to death at Navanthurai, a village near Jaffna town, on Wednesday, 28<sup>th</sup> May around 4 PM, by unidentified men, believed to be the members of arm militia working with the Sri Lankan armed forces.

In the recent past several media personnel of Tamil origin have been killed in Sri Lanka and some journalists are continuously detained without legal action. The international human rights organisations have warned that there is not a conducive situation for journalists to operate in Jaffna.

The dearth of willing journalists and media personnel in Jaffna peninsula due to fear for their lives has forced Jaffna dailies to depend on Colombo sources and websites for news in the recent past. Devakumar was one of the few courageous journalists who continued working their despite threats to their lives..

International Association of Tamil Journalists supports its affiliates in Sri Lanka in condemning the murder of Devakumar and in calling upon international community and fellow journalist associations to put the pressure on Sri Lankan government to stop the violence and to institute proper investigation.

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