

**PRESS RELEASE**

Text of the D.O. letter dated 25.8.2012 addressed by **Selvi J Jayalithaa**, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu to **Dr.Manmohan Singh**, Hon'ble Prime Minister of India is reproduced below:-

"I would like to draw your attention to my D.O. letter dated 16.7.2012 wherein I have expressed in no unclear terms the strong views of my Government on imparting training to defence personnel belonging to Sri Lanka. Because of my vehement opposition nine personnel belonging to the Sri Lankan Air Force who were undergoing technical training at the Air Force Station, Tambaram, Tamil Nadu, were relocated to the Yelahanka Air Force Station, Bengaluru. This action itself was not proper because instead of sending these personnel back to Sri Lanka, the Government of India exhibited excessive enthusiasm and concern for these personnel by relocating them to Yelahanka Air Force Station, Bengaluru, in order to enable them to complete their training.

Such a reprehensible attitude on the part of the Government of India is even now reflected in permitting two defence personnel of the Sri Lanka namely (1) Major Dissanayaka Mohottalalage Vengra, of the Sri Lankan Army and (2) Captain Hewawasam Kandaudage, of the Sri Lankan Navy to undergo 11 months training at Defence Services Staff College, Wellington, from 19.5.2012 onwards. It is very clear that this fact of ongoing training since May, 2012, has been mischievously concealed from my Government, showing scant regard for the views of my Government as well as for the sentiments of the people of Tamil Nadu.

I, therefore, request you to give suitable instructions to the Ministry of Defence to immediately halt the training being given to the Sri Lankan defence personnel at the Defence Services Staff College, Wellington, and arrange to send them back to Sri Lanka immediately."

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