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SRI LANKA

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Lawyer Wijedasa Liyanarachchi died in Colombo General Hospital on 2 September while in police custody. According to Amnesty International, Liyanarachchi had been arrested by the Tangalle Counter Subversion Unit and detained at Tangalle police station (in southern Sri Lanka) on 1 September. A post-mortem examination, held by the Additional Judicial Medical Officer following an application by the Bar Association, showed that there were over 100 internal injuries to his body. The Medical Officer's report concluded that death had been caused by shock and haemorrhage as a result of injuries inflicted on the skull and muscles by a blunt weapon. The government has said that Mr Liyanarachchi was arrested on suspicion of involvement with the Sinhalese nationalist *Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna* (JVP — People's Liberation Front), which has opposed the July 1987 Indo-Sri Lankan accord which provides a degree of autonomy for the Tamil community living in northern and eastern Sri Lanka.