

## Scotland Yard Investigation into DUNF Leader Lalith Athulathmudali's Death

The report of the team Scotland Yard team which reviewed the investigation into the death of Mr. Lalith Athulathmudali, Leader of the Democratic United National Front (DUNF) has now been submitted to the government. The following is the full text of a release on the subject from the Presidential Secretariat of Sri Lanka.

Detective Superintendent Alec Edwards, who led a team of 4 investigators to review the investigation into the death of Mr. Lalith Athulathmudali, has submitted his report to the government. It will be recalled that President Ranasinghe

Premadasa requested the British Government for the services of new Scotland Yard, on April 24 1993, that is, on the day after the assassination of Mr. Lalith Athulathmudali.

The Terms of Reference of the Investigating Team were

\* To independently review the circumstances surrounding the death on April 23, 1993, of Mr. Lalith Athulathmudali and the death of an unknown male subsequently found near the original incident.

\* Further to the above, to assist the Sri Lankan Police with their

investigation into this matter and to advise them if and when thought necessary.

The Investigating Team has concluded that "That the person now known to be Ragunathan, alias Appian Balasingham, shot and killed Mr. Athulathmudali and was later found dead at scene 2.

Seriously injured and fearing imminent capture, he undoubtedly took his own life by way of cyanide poisoning.

There is no evidence, direct or circumstantial, to support the allegation that this tragedy was orchestrated by or in any way linked to the Sri Lankan Government, UNP members or other official agencies, including the Police.

An analytic study of Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) modus operandi showed that this act is in total concert with their current subversive activities.

In view of the great deal of public interest on this matter as well as the misinformation and disinformation that has been disseminated, his excellency the President has directed that the full report be released to the media, July 16, 1993.

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