

**Refugee Review Tribunal
AUSTRALIA**

RRT RESEARCH RESPONSE

Research Response Number: LKA30883
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This response was prepared by the Country Research Section of the Refugee Review Tribunal (RRT) after researching publicly accessible information currently available to the RRT within time constraints. This response is not, and does not purport to be, conclusive as to the merit of any particular claim to refugee status or asylum.

Questions

- 1. Can you find any reference to a Sri Lankan Army camp called Maavadi in Vaddukkoddai, Jaffna?**
- 2. Where was it and when did it exist?**

RESPONSE

- 1. Can you find any reference to a Sri Lankan Army camp called Maavadi in Vaddukkoddai, Jaffna?**
- 2. Where was it and when did it exist?**

A search of the sources consulted has found no information regarding a Sri Lanka Army (SLA) camp called Maavadi nor any of the following variations of that name: Maahavadi, Maahvadi, Mahaadi, Mahaavdi, Mhaavadi, Mahavaadi, Mahavadi, Mahavdi, Mahvadi, Mahvaadi and Mhavadi.

One reference was found to the military having established its presence in Vaddukkoddai late in 1996:

The military established its presence in Ponnalai, Moolai, Chulipuram, Chithenkerni and Vaddukkoddai only late last year. For many months the Ponnalai causeway which links the Karainagar island to the peninsula could not be used by the army because there apparently were not enough troops to completely dominate the northwestern sector of Jaffna. ... In these major and minor population centres complete control means military saturation. There are large and small camps, sentry points, intelligence units, Police stations etc., and above all the bunds which define the areas of control (Taraki 1997, 'All roads don't lead to Jaffna', *The Sunday Times*, 23 March – Attachment 1).

An article dated 20 November 1997 makes reference to "the Vaddukkoddai SLA camp", reporting that:

Fierce fighting broke out today around 11.30 a.m. this morning when the Liberation Tigers attacked a large Sri Lankan army patrol from the Vaddukkoddai SLA camp at Sangaraththai in Jaffna ('Fierce fighting in Jaffna' 1997, TamilNet website, 20 November <http://www.tamilnet.com/art.html?catid=13&artid=330> – Accessed 13 November 2006 – Attachment 2).

A map of the region indicates that Sangarathai (sic) is located about 3 kilometres north-east of Vaddukkoddai ('Sangarathai, Sri Lanka' 2000, *Microsoft Encarta Interactive World Atlas 2000* – Attachment 3).

Information provided on the website of the Tamil Centre for Human Rights indicates that, in September 2002, the technical college in Vaddukkoddai had been vacated by the Sri Lanka military in compliance with the Ceasefire Agreement (CFA) signed in February 2002, but that six civilian dwellings in Vaddukkoddai were "still under occupation" by the Sri Lanka military ('Sri Lanka Military occupation in the NorthEast' (sic) 2002, Tamil Centre for Human Rights website, September http://www.tchr.net/mili_occ_sep2002/zon_sep2002_jaffna.htm – Accessed 13 November 2006 – Attachment 4).

List of Sources Consulted

Internet Sources:

Search Engines

AlltheWeb search engine <http://www.alltheweb.com>

Copernic search engine

Google search engine <http://www.google.com>

Vivisimo search engine <http://vivisimo.com>

Topic Specific Links

Official Website of the Government of Sri Lanka <http://www.priu.gov.lk>

Sri Lanka Army website <http://www.army.lk>

Tamil Centre for Human Rights website <http://www.tchr.net>

TamilNet website <http://www.tamilnet.com>

Databases:

BACIS (DIMA Country Information Database)

Encarta Interactive World Atlas

FACTIVA (news database)

ISYS (RRT country Research database)

REFINFO (IRBDC (Canada) Country Information database)

RRT Library Catalogue

List of Attachments

1. Taraki 1997, 'All roads don't lead to Jaffna', *The Sunday Times*, 23 March. (CISNET Sri Lanka CX22741)

2. 'Fierce fighting in Jaffna' 1997, TamilNet website, 20 November <http://www.tamilnet.com/art.html?catid=13&artid=330> – Accessed 13 November 2006.

3. 'Sangarathai, Sri Lanka' 2000, *Microsoft Encarta Interactive World Atlas 2000*. (CDROM)

4. 'Sri Lanaka Military occupation in the NorthEast' (sic) 2002, Tamil Centre for Human Rights website, September http://www.tchr.net/mili_occ_sep2002/zon_sep2002_jaffna.htm – Accessed 13 November 2006.