

# Sri Lanka: Resolution 30/1 Implementation Monitor

*Statistical and Analytical Review No. 9*

LAW &  
GOVERNANCE

August  
2023

# Sri Lanka: Resolution 30/1

## Implementation Monitor

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The Legal Research team at Verité Research prepared this brief.

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# Background

Sri Lanka co-sponsored United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC) Resolution 30/1 in September 2015. As a result, it committed to fulfilling a range of measures dealing with human rights, accountability and transitional justice. Resolution 30/1 came to represent the main features of Sri Lanka's transitional justice agenda, particularly in relation to accountability mechanisms for abuses suffered by victims of the civil war.



Source: [www.meydan.tv](http://www.meydan.tv)

Resolution 30/1 contains 36 distinct commitments that fall into five broad thematic categories:

1. Transitional justice and reconciliation
2. Rights and rule of law
3. Security and demilitarisation
4. Power sharing
5. International engagement

At the 34<sup>th</sup> UNHRC session held in March 2017, the Sri Lankan government co-sponsored a fresh resolution. Resolution 34/1 reaffirms the above commitments, and requests that Sri Lanka fully implement measures identified in Resolution 30/1 that are outstanding. Subsequently, at the 40<sup>th</sup> session held in March 2019, the government co-sponsored Resolu-

tion 40/1 which reaffirms its commitments to reconciliation envisaged in Resolution 30/1 and reaffirmed in Resolution 34/1. In February 2020, the Sri Lankan government informed the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) of its decision to withdraw from co-sponsorship of Resolution 40/1 of 2019, and its preceding Resolutions 34/1 of March 2017, and 30/1 of October 2015.<sup>1</sup> The Minister of Foreign Relations of Sri Lanka cited several reasons for the government's decision. These included: (1) the commitments made were 'impractical, unconstitutional and undeliverable'; (2) it damaged the reputation of Sri Lanka in the international realm; and (3) the changes made following the co-sponsorship of Resolution 30/1 'undermined the national interest and compromised national security including weakening national intelligence operations'.<sup>2</sup> The OHCHR

submitted a comprehensive report of Sri Lanka’s implementation of Resolution 30/1, pursuant to Resolution 40/1, which was taken up for discussion at the UNHRC’s 46<sup>th</sup> session in February and March 2021. Moreover, Resolution 46/1 was adopted during this session on 23 March 2021 to establish a new accountability framework to collect, analyse and preserve evidence of international crimes committed in Sri Lanka for use in future prosecution.<sup>3</sup>

At the UNHRC’s 51<sup>st</sup> session in September and October 2022, Resolution 51/1 was adopted.<sup>4</sup> The Sri Lankan government rejected Resolution 51/1. It particularly opposed operative paragraph 8 which

extends the mandate of the OHCHR in Sri Lanka to gather evidence of human rights violations,<sup>5</sup> and the provisions that relate to economic policy, both of which the government considers to be outside the UNHRC’s mandate.<sup>6</sup> The OHCHR is to present a written update on Sri Lanka’s progress at the 54<sup>th</sup> UNHRC session on 11 September 2023.

Verité Research released analyses of progress in fulfilling the 36 actionable commitments in Resolution 30/1 in June 2016, March 2017, February 2018, March 2019, February 2020, February 2021, March 2022 and February 2023. **This brief contains an updated analysis of progress from March 2023 until August 2023.**

## Methodology

The methodology of this study has been developed in an attempt to create, as far as possible, an objective basis for monitoring progress.

Performance Indicators				
	Fully Met	Partially met	Poorly met	Not met
Workable	Complete	Partial progress	Poor progress	Poor progress
Flawed				No progress
No plan				

**The methodology involves two assessments:**

**1. Assessment of performance indicators:**

**Step 1:** Quantitative and qualitative assessment of progress in terms of ‘performance indicators’. Each indicator aims to capture full accomplishment of actions envisaged in a commitment. For instance, a commitment and its indicator can be devised as follows:

Commitment: Begin to issue Certificates of Absence to the families of missing persons as a temporary measure of relief.

Indicator: Certificates of Absence have been issued to families of missing persons.

The assessment of progress thereafter relies on publicly available information and evidence of steps taken towards achievement of each indicator. The assessment includes a qualitative evaluation of how complete and effective the government’s steps are in meeting performance indicators.

**Step 2:** Classification of all commitments into ‘completed’, ‘partial progress’, ‘poor progress’ or ‘no progress’, based on the degree to which performance indicators have been met.\*

\*N.B. Even if performance indicators have not been met to any degree, the commitment would be classified as ‘poor progress’ (as opposed to ‘no progress’) if it possesses a workable implementation plan. Therefore, the second assessment detailed below may retrospectively determine the final classification of a commitment as ‘poor progress’ or ‘no progress’.

**2. Assessment of implementation plans:**

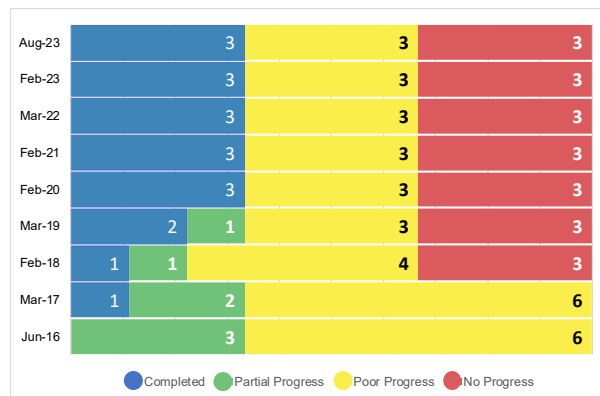
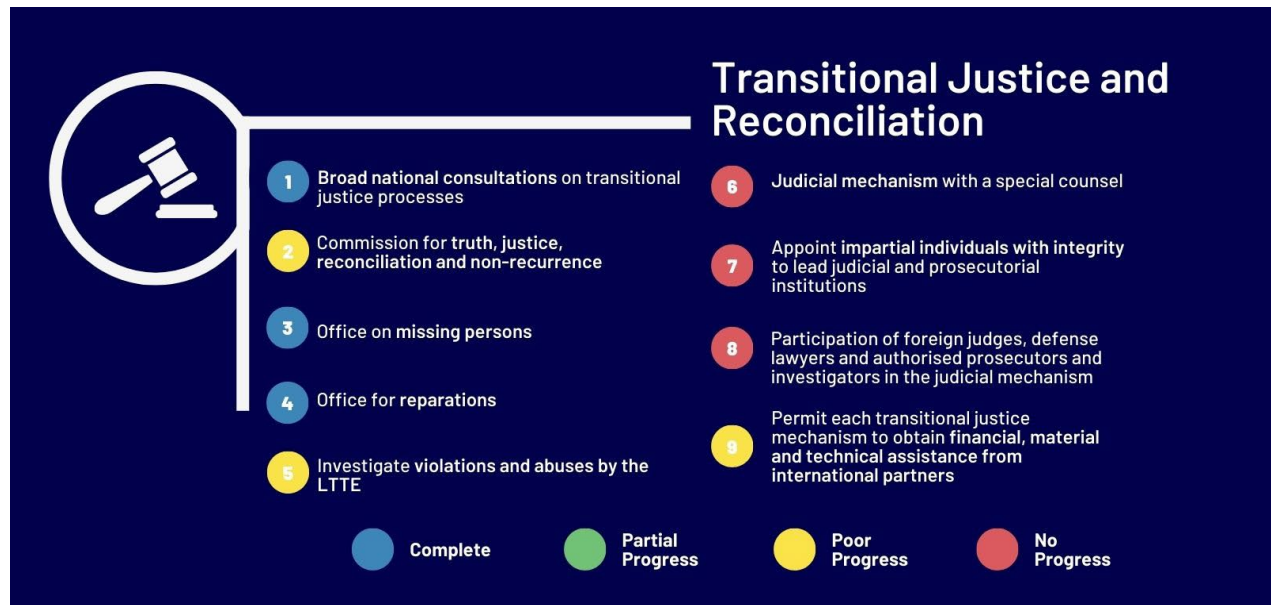
This assessment entails a determination of whether the commitment has an identifiable plan for implementation. Where there is a lack of a documented plan (such as a government action plan or roadmap), the existence of a plan may be verified by publicly available evidence of steps towards the commitment’s fulfilment (such as tabling legislation in Parliament or obtaining Cabinet approval for policy decisions).

The matrix above illustrates how the status of implementation of each individual commitment is classified. It also illustrates how the implementation plan pertaining to a commitment may determine its classification.

# Resolution 30/1: Implementation Status

## TRANSITIONAL JUSTICE AND RECONCILIATION

The government made **nine commitments** on transitional justice and reconciliation in Resolution 30/1.



In May 2023, the Cabinet approved a proposal to establish a truth and reconciliation commission in Sri Lanka.<sup>7</sup> The proposal was submitted by Minister of Justice, Wijeyadasa Rajapakshe, and Minister of Foreign Affairs, Ali Sabry. The Minister of Justice and the Minister of Foreign Affairs visited South Africa to study the experience of the South African government in establishing a truth and reconciliation commission in March 2023.<sup>8</sup> Previous governments have

been part of efforts to study the South African Truth and Reconciliation Commission, in 2014 and 2019.<sup>9</sup> However, these efforts did not progress.<sup>10</sup>

In line with commitment (1), the Sri Lankan government previously appointed a Consultation Task Force (CTF) on Reconciliation Mechanisms in 2016. The CTF completed island-wide consultations the same year and published its final report in January 2017. The CTF's final report documented a wide range of views concerning the possibility of a TRC, including the suitability of the South African model in Sri Lanka's context and the importance of following the recommendations of past commissions.<sup>11</sup> In its conclusions, the CTF noted that: the purpose, scope and tasks of the TRC should be clearly defined, the TRC should have a fixed term and present its report to Parliament and then to the public and the TRC should select and investigate particular themes including the final stages of the war.<sup>12</sup>

Commitment (2) requires the government to investigate violations and abuses by the LTTE. On 29 March 2023, the Colombo High Court sentenced Nagalingam Madanasekaran to rigorous life imprisonment after finding him guilty for attempting to detonate a bomb inside a passenger bus in Colombo on 01 September 2008.<sup>13</sup> On 16 May 2023, Sivalingam Aruran, one of the five charged with aiding and abetting the LTTE cadre who attempted to assassinate former Defence Secretary Gotabaya Rajapaksa in 2006, was acquitted by the Colombo High Court.<sup>14</sup> The court held that the accused's confession was not admissible as it was given involuntarily.<sup>15</sup> As the gov-

ernment is yet to make a systematic effort to investigate LTTE abuses, the status of this commitment remains at 'poor progress'.

In relation to commitment (8) to involve foreign judges and investigators in the judicial mechanism, in July 2023, President Ranil Wickremesinghe stated that the government was hesitant to involve foreign judges in overseeing justice in the North and East but would consider obtaining reports from foreign observers in line with practices in other South-East Asian nations.<sup>16</sup>



## RIGHTS AND RULE OF LAW



Aug-23	2	4	8	1
Feb-23	2	4	8	1
Mar-22	2	4	8	1
Feb-21	2	4	8	1
Feb-20	2	4	8	1
Mar-19	2	7	5	1
Feb-18	2	7	5	1
Mar-17	2	7	5	1
Jun-16	2	2	10	1

● Completed 
 ● Partial Progress 
 ● Poor Progress 
 ● No Progress

There has been little progress on investigating attacks on journalists, human rights defenders, religious minorities, and civil society. The Rambukkana police shooting in April 2022 resulted in the death of one civilian, Chaminda Lakshan, and injury to 18 civilians. On 18 July 2023, the Human Rights Commission of Sri Lanka (HRCSL) handed over its recommendations of the investigation into the Rambukkana shooting to the Inspector General of Police (IGP).<sup>17</sup> The recommendations include using the findings of the report, specifically the CCTV footage, to identify the police officer who shot Chaminda Lakshan, and

forwarding such findings to the Attorney General for necessary action.<sup>18</sup> The HRCSL requested that the IGP submit a report on the implementation of these recommendations by 18 May 2023.<sup>19</sup> However the IGP has yet to submit a report, and based on publicly available information, there has been no further progress in the investigation of the incident.

There have also been more recent attacks on journalists and human rights defenders. On 10 May 2023, the former Kaduwela Deputy Mayor was arrested for assaulting Piyath Nikeshala, a social media activist.<sup>20</sup> The following day, Nikeshala was also arrested.<sup>21</sup> On 28 July 2023, journalist Tharindu Uduwaragedara, was arrested and assaulted by the police while leaving a trade union led protest that was dispersed by the police.<sup>22</sup>

Both commitments concerning the Prevention of Terrorism Act (PTA) remain at 'poor progress'. The Anti-Terrorism Bill,<sup>23</sup> proposed to replace the PTA, has drawn criticism from several civil society organizations including the Centre for Policy Alternatives,

the National Christian Council, and the Bar Association of Sri Lanka.<sup>24</sup> Although this Bill was to be tabled in early May, the government postponed tabling the Bill in Parliament.<sup>25</sup>

Commitment (5) to replace the PTA with legislation compliant with international best practices remains at 'poor progress' as the proposed Anti-Terrorism Bill is inconsistent with international best practices.<sup>26</sup> The HRCSL and the International Commission of Jurists raised concerns that the Bill provides an unclear definition of "acts of terrorism", which can be interpreted in a manner that stifles dissent and can be used to disrupt peaceful protests.<sup>27</sup> The Bill allows Detention Orders to be extended up to a year with Magistrate approval and allows the President to issue Proscription Orders against organisations when the President 'reasonably believes' that an organisation poses a threat to national security.<sup>28</sup> The Centre for Policy Alternatives raised concerns that the Bill risks prolonged detention of accused individuals without evidence of wrongdoing and risks legitimate voices against the government being targeted.<sup>29</sup>

The status of commitment number (9) to review the Public Security Ordinance remains at 'no progress'. Under section 12 of the Public Security Ordinance, President Ranil Wickremasinghe called out all armed forces to maintain public order in every district in March, April, May, June and August 2023.<sup>30</sup>

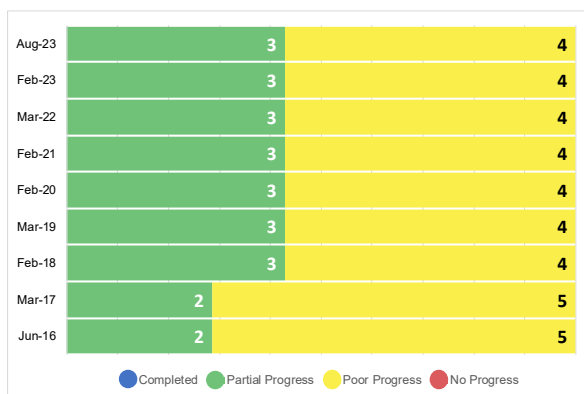
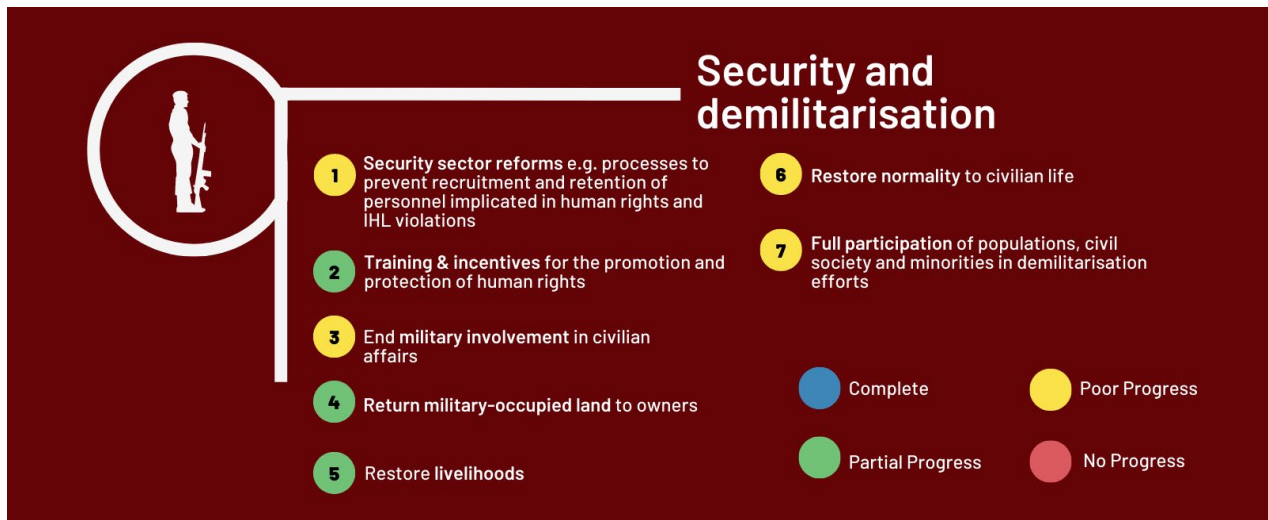
In relation to commitment (12), on 4 May 2023, the HRCSL launched its 'Recommended Guidelines to the State and Law Enforcement Officials on dealing with Civilian Protests'.<sup>31</sup> The guidelines reiterated the fundamental rights guaranteed by the Constitution in relation to the right of peaceful assembly.<sup>32</sup> At the

launch, Supreme Court Judge, Yasantha Kodagoda, stated that "the response of the Police must not be orchestrated by political motives towards the suppression of lawful protests or suppression of other forms of dissent which are being expressed through lawful means".<sup>33</sup>

Commitment number (13) to address reports of sexual and gender-based violence remains at 'poor progress'. On 27 February 2023, the Cabinet approved the National Action Plan for the Implementation of the UN Security Council's Resolution on Women, Peace and Security 2023-2027, which was launched on 8 March 2023.<sup>34</sup> The National Action Plan lists certain policy reforms and activities to address issues of sexual violence in conflict related contexts, including conducting a study on instances of sexual violence linked to conflict and creating a guideline for the armed forces and police on mechanisms to prevent sexual violence during and after periods of conflict.<sup>35</sup>

In relation to commitments (14) and (15), a draft Bill on the Assistance to and Protection of Victims of Crime and Witnesses was presented by the Minister of Justice on 25 April 2023.<sup>36</sup> The Bill was gazetted on 27 March 2023 and passed in Parliament on 8 August 2023.<sup>37</sup> Accordingly, the status of this commitment remains at 'partial progress'. The Assistance to and Protection of Victims of Crime and Witnesses Act No. 10 of 2023 lists 63 offences in relation to which protection to victims of crime and witnesses should be provided.<sup>38</sup> In addition, the Act orders impartiality and accountability of police authorities, and provides the concealment of identity of the victims and witnesses with their consent.<sup>39</sup>

## SECURITY AND DEMILITARISATION



The government has continued to facilitate trainings for the armed forces on the promotion and protection of human rights. In March 2023, the U.S. Embassy in Sri Lanka, in coordination with the Directorate of Training at the Air Force Headquarters, conducted a knowledge-sharing session for Sri Lankan Air Force and Navy officers, which encompassed a specialized training program on human rights.<sup>40</sup> In May 2023, an International Humanitarian Law and Human Rights Basic Course was conducted at the Institute of Peace Support Operations Training Sri Lanka (IPSOTSL) for members of the Sri Lankan army, navy and air force.<sup>41</sup>

In relation to commitment (3), the military has continued to be engaged in civilian functions. On 21 May 2023, the Sri Lankan Army was deployed to minimize the spread of dengue.<sup>42</sup> There have been reports of

the Sri Lankan army being involved in egg production<sup>43</sup> and agriculture ahead of the *Maha* season.<sup>44</sup> The Sri Lankan Air Force has also been involved in restoring the *Deegawapiya Stupa* and *Neelagiriseya Stupa* in July 2023.<sup>45</sup>

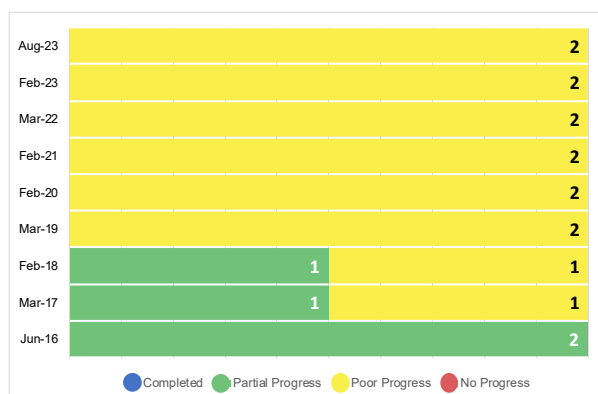
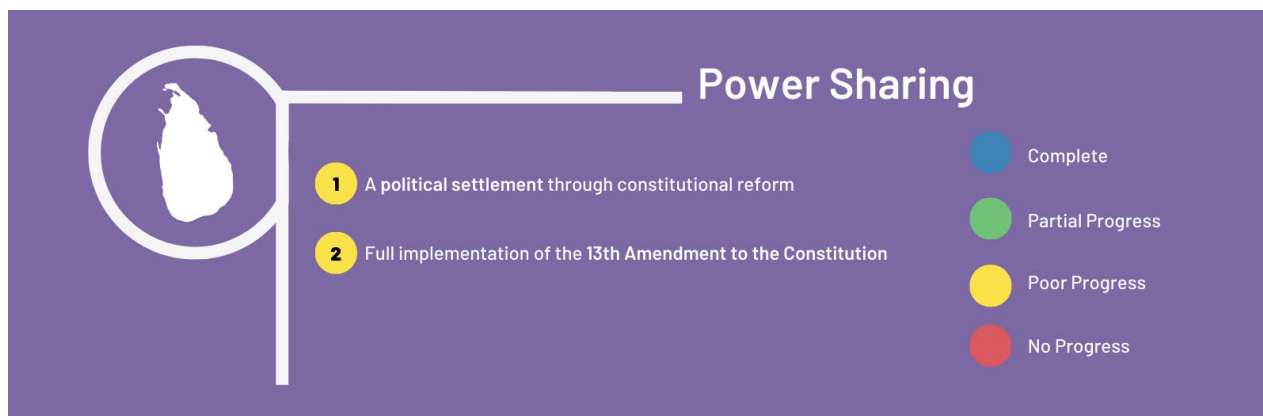
The status of commitment number (4) to return military-occupied land to owners remains at 'partial progress'. On 23 May 2023, the Sri Lanka Army released eight land plots used by the Army in the Mullaitivu district, in conformity with the government's policy of releasing civilian lands.<sup>46</sup>

In relation to commitment (5), to restore livelihoods, the government has planned to build six new investment zones in the North, East, and North-Western provinces. The State Minister of Investment Promotion, stated that these investment zones will be established for promoting agricultural exports.<sup>47</sup> In July 2023, the President announced plans for developing tourist attractions and coconut cultivation in the North and East.<sup>48</sup>

The commitment to restore normalcy to civilian life remains at 'poor progress'. In May 2023 the Trincomalee Magistrate's court issued notice to eight individuals preventing them from engaging in Mullivaikkal commemorations in Trincomalee.<sup>49</sup>

## POWER SHARING

The government made **two commitments** on power sharing in Resolution 30/1.



The status of the commitments to reach a political settlement through constitutional reform and to fully implement the 13<sup>th</sup> Amendment to the Constitution both remain at “poor progress”.

The 13<sup>th</sup> Amendment sets out the existing framework for devolution in Sri Lanka and provides for the establishment of provincial councils.<sup>50</sup> However, the 13<sup>th</sup> Amendment has to date not been fully implemented. Provincial council elections that were due in October 2019 have been delayed.<sup>51</sup> The implementation of the 13<sup>th</sup> Amendment has been particularly challenging in the areas of land and police powers, with successive governments failing to implement devolved land and police powers.<sup>52</sup>

On 25 April 2023, the amendment to the Provincial Councils Elections Act, No. 02 of 1988 was proposed by way of a private member’s bill in parliament by Member of Parliament M. A. Sumanthiran and subsequently gazetted on 10 May 2023.<sup>53</sup> The proposed bill aims to repeal the Provincial Council Election Amendment Act No. 17 of 2017 and change the voting system to restore the representative voting system that existed prior to the amendment in 2017.<sup>54</sup> This Bill was challenged in the Supreme Court in May 2023.<sup>55</sup> In June 2023, the Supreme Court determined that the Bill was consistent with the Constitution subject to certain amendments.<sup>56</sup>

Meanwhile on 15 May 2023, the Northern Province Governor Jeevan Thiagarajah, Eastern Province Governor Anuradha Yahampath, and North-Western Province Governor Admiral of the Fleet Wasantha Karannagoda were removed from their posts by President Wickremesinghe.<sup>57</sup> On 17 May 2023, President Wickremesinghe appointed Lakshman Yapa Abeywardena as the Governor of the North-Western (Wayamba) Province, P.S.M. Charles as the Governor of the Northern Province and Senthil Thondaman as the Governor of the Eastern Province.<sup>58</sup> The removal of Governors generally requires a two-third vote by the provincial council.<sup>59</sup> However as there are no

provincial councils currently, this procedure was not followed.

On 17 May 2023, Tamil parties met with President Wickremesinghe to discuss devolution.<sup>60</sup> One of the proposals discussed was to establish an interim administrative arrangement at the provincial level until provincial council elections could be held. The President agreed to have a committee appointed to review this proposal. However, the Ilankai Tamil Arasu Katchi (ITAK) opposed the proposal for an interim administration, calling for a new constitution and immediate provincial council elections.<sup>61</sup> As a result, there was no consensus reached at this discussion on devolution.

President Wickremesinghe called for an All-Party Conference to discuss national reconciliation in July 2023. At the All-Party Conference, Wickremesinghe

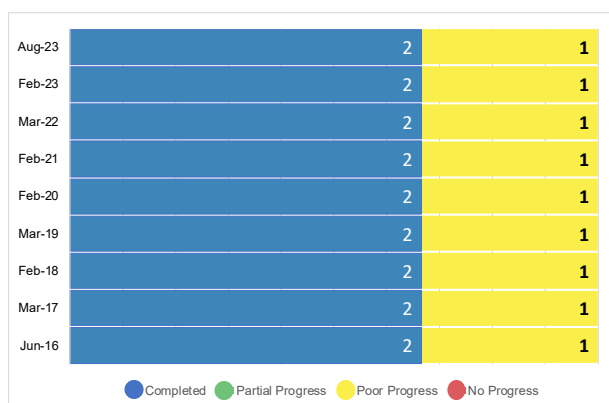
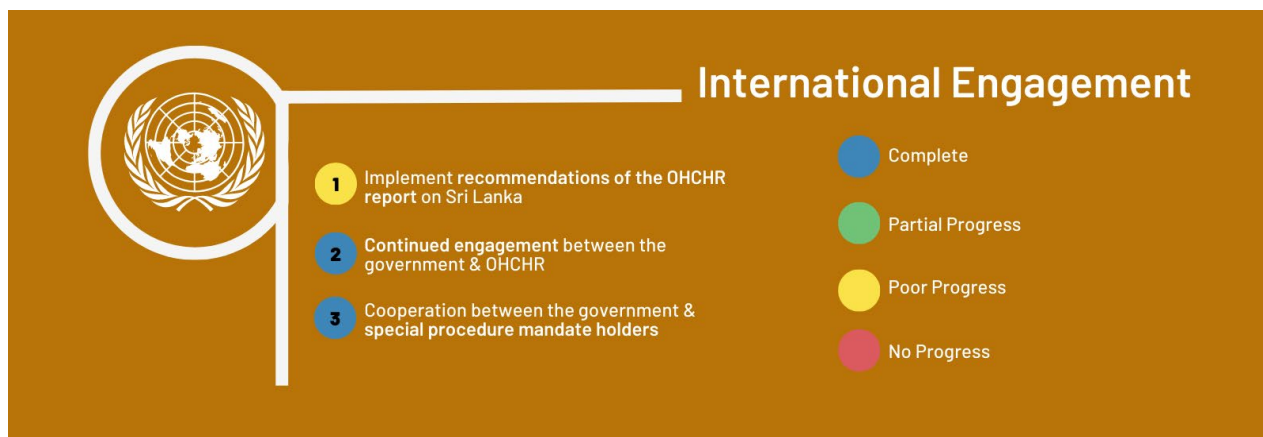
stated that the 13<sup>th</sup> Amendment would be fully implemented with all powers except police powers being granted to provincial councils.<sup>62</sup> The Tamil National Alliance rejected this offer demanding full implementation of the 13<sup>th</sup> Amendment including police powers.<sup>63</sup> No consensus was reached at the All-Party Conference on issues relating to power sharing and the 13<sup>th</sup> Amendment.

On 4 August 2023, the President's Media Division reported that all parties were requested to submit proposals on the 13<sup>th</sup> Amendment by 15 August 2023.<sup>64</sup>

In the absence of steps to fully implement the 13<sup>th</sup> Amendment to the Constitution including holding provincial council elections and granting police powers to the provincial councils, the status of commitment (2) remains at 'poor progress'.

## INTERNATIONAL ENGAGEMENT

The government made **three commitments** on international engagement in Resolution 30/1.



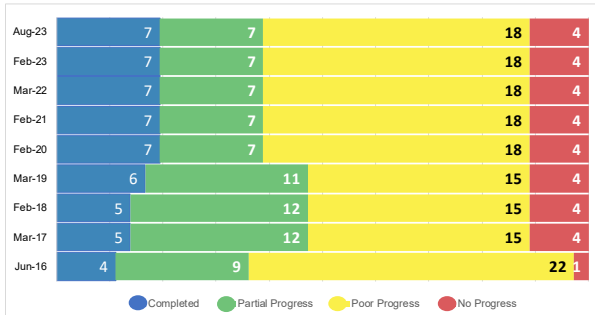
The government's progress in implementing the recommendations in the OHCHR investigation report on Sri Lanka - commitment number (1) above - remains at 'poor progress'. One of the recommendations of the report is to review all cases of those detained under the Prevention of Terrorism Act (PTA) and either release detainees or try them. On 24 May 2023, State Minister of Justice and Prison Affairs, Anuradha Jayaratne, informed Parliament that 46 individuals are currently held under the provisions of the Prevention of Terrorism Act as of that date.<sup>65</sup> The fulfilment of the recommendation to review the

cases of all those detained under the PTA and either release or try them, remains at 'poor progress'.

Commitments number (2) and (3) have been completed since June 2016. The government of Sri Lanka extended standing invitations to all thematic special mandate holders in December 2015. As noted in Verité's previous report, the commitment to cooperate with special procedure mandate holders is under further review, as some mandate holders have not had visits despite request in 2017 and 2018. However, this commitment has been assessed as completed because the government of Sri Lanka has extended a standing invitation to mandate holders since 2015.

During a recent general meeting at the 52<sup>nd</sup> session of the UNHRC on 3 March 2023, Sri Lanka's Permanent Representative to the United Nations Office in Geneva, stated that despite Sri Lanka's opposition to country-specific resolutions, the country remains open to engaging in constructive discussion with the Council, Special Procedures and Treaty Bodies.<sup>66</sup>

## RESOLUTION 30/1: OVERALL STATUS OF IMPLEMENTATION



The overall status of the government’s implementation of the 36 commitments has seen no change since March 2023 (See Annex 1 for implementation status since 2016). Eight years after co-sponsoring Resolution 30/1, the Sri Lankan government has fulfilled only seven out of thirty-six commitments on human rights, accountability and transitional justice. These commitments are to: (1) engage in broad transitional justice processes; (2) establish the Office on Missing Persons; (3) establish the Office for Reparations; (4) sign and ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearances; (5) criminalise enforced disappearances; (6) continue engagement between the Government of Sri Lanka and the OHCHR; and (7) cooperate with special procedure mandate holders.

There are seven commitments that remain partially fulfilled, including: (1) publishing previous presiden-

tial commission reports; and (2) issuing of Certificates of Absence to families of missing persons. The progress of most commitments remains at ‘poor progress’, including those to: (1) restore normality to civilian life; (2) investigate attacks on journalists, human rights defenders, religious minorities, and civil society; (3) hold perpetrators of these attacks to account; and (4) prevent such attacks in the future.

The commitments to set up a judicial mechanism with a special counsel and foreign participation to investigate violation of human rights and international humanitarian law has remained at ‘no progress’ since February 2018. Since 2015, the government has not made any progress on its commitment to review the Public Security Ordinance. As such, it has remained at ‘no progress’ throughout the last eight years.

At the 52<sup>nd</sup> session of the UNHRC in February 2023, Sri Lanka’s progress was not taken up. However, the UN Human Rights Committee reported its findings regarding Sri Lanka and voiced its concern surrounding issues such as arbitrary arrests, the Prevention of Terrorism Act (PTA), the extensive use of prolonged pretrial detention, inconsistent bail provisions and ineffective access to non-custodial alternatives.<sup>67</sup>

# Annex 1:

## IMPLEMENTATION STATUS (JUNE 2016 TO AUGUST 2023)




Category	Commitment	Implementation Status								
		June 2016	March 2017	Feb 2018	March 2019	Feb 2020	Feb 2021	Mar 2022	Feb 2023	Aug 2023
	Engage in broad national consultations on transitional justice mechanisms	Partial progress	Completed	Completed	Completed	Completed	Completed	Completed	Completed	Completed
	Establish an Office on Missing Persons	Partial progress	Partial progress	Partial progress	Completed	Completed	Completed	Completed	Completed	Completed
	Establish an Office for Reparations	Poor progress	Poor progress	Poor progress	Partial progress	Completed	Completed	Completed	Completed	Completed
	Give each mechanism the freedom to obtain financial, material and technical assistance from international partners, including the Office of the High Commissioner	Partial progress	Partial progress	Poor progress	Poor progress	Poor progress	Poor progress	Poor progress	Poor progress	Poor progress
	Establish a commission for truth, justice, reconciliation and non-recurrence	Poor progress	Poor progress	Poor progress	Poor progress	Poor progress	Poor progress	Poor progress	Poor progress	Poor progress
	Accountability and reconciliation for the violations and abuses committed by the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam	Poor progress	Poor progress	Poor progress	Poor progress	Poor progress	Poor progress	Poor progress	Poor progress	Poor progress
	Establish a judicial mechanism with a special counsel to investigate allegations of violations and abuses of human rights and violations of international humanitarian law	Poor progress	Poor progress	No progress	No progress	No progress	No progress	No progress	No progress	No progress



Category	Commitment	Implementation Status								
		June 2016	March 2017	Feb 2018	March 2019	Feb 2020	Feb 2021	Mar 2022	Feb 2023	Aug 2023
	Independent judicial and prosecutorial institutions led by impartial individuals of integrity	Poor progress	Poor progress	No progress	No progress	No progress	No progress	No progress	No progress	No progress
	Participation in a Sri Lankan judicial mechanism, including the special counsel's office, of Commonwealth and other foreign judges, defence lawyers and authorized prosecutors and investigators	Poor progress	Poor progress	No progress	No progress	No progress	No progress	No progress	No progress	No progress
	Sign and ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance without delay	Completed	Completed	Completed	Completed	Completed	Completed	Completed	Completed	Completed
	Criminalize enforced disappearances	Poor progress	Partial progress	Partial progress	Completed	Completed	Completed	Completed	Completed	Completed
	Release previous Presidential Commission reports	Completed	Completed	Completed	Partial progress*	Partial progress	Partial progress	Partial progress	Partial progress	Partial progress
	Issue certificates of absence to the families of missing persons as a temporary measure of relief	Partial progress	Partial progress	Partial progress	Partial progress	Partial progress	Partial progress	Partial progress	Partial progress	Partial progress
	Issue instructions clearly to all branches of the security forces that violations of international human rights law and international humanitarian law are prohibited and punishable	Poor progress	Partial progress	Partial progress	Partial progress	Partial progress	Partial progress	Partial progress	Partial progress	Partial progress
	Review the updated witness and victim protection law	Poor progress	Poor progress	Partial progress	Partial progress	Partial progress	Partial progress	Partial progress	Partial progress	Partial progress

Category	Commitment	Implementation Status								
		June 2016	March 2017	Feb 2018	March 2019	Feb 2020	Feb 2021	Mar 2022	Feb 2023	Aug 2023
	Review and repeal the Prevention of Terrorism Act	Poor progress	Partial progress	Partial progress	Partial progress	Poor progress	Poor progress	Poor progress	Poor progress	Poor progress
	Replace it with anti-terrorism legislation in accordance with contemporary international best practices	Poor progress	Partial progress	Partial progress	Partial progress	Poor progress	Poor progress	Poor progress	Poor progress	Poor progress
	Investigate attacks on journalists, human rights defenders, members of religious minority groups and other members of civil society	Poor progress	Partial progress	Partial progress	Partial progress	Poor progress	Poor progress	Poor progress	Poor progress	Poor progress
	Take steps to prevent such attacks in the future	Partial progress	Partial progress	Poor progress	Poor progress	Poor progress	Poor progress	Poor progress	Poor progress	Poor progress
	Hold perpetrators of such attacks to account	Poor progress	Poor progress	Poor progress	Poor progress	Poor progress	Poor progress	Poor progress	Poor progress	Poor progress
	Develop a comprehensive plan and mechanism for preserving all existing records and documentation relating to human rights violations and abuses and violations of international humanitarian law, whether held by public or private institutions	Poor progress	Poor progress	Poor progress	Poor progress	Poor progress	Poor progress	Poor progress	Poor progress	Poor progress
	Address all reports of sexual and gender-based violence and torture	Poor progress	Poor progress	Poor progress	Poor progress	Poor progress	Poor progress	Poor progress	Poor progress	Poor progress
	Strengthen the witness and victim protection law	Poor progress	Poor progress	Poor progress	Poor progress	Poor progress	Poor progress	Poor progress	Poor progress	Poor progress
	Review the Public Security Ordinance	No progress	No progress	No progress	No progress	No progress	No progress	No progress	No progress	No progress

Category	Commitment	Implementation Status								
		June 2016	March 2017	Feb 2018	March 2019	Feb 2020	Feb 2021	Mar 2022	Feb 2023	Aug 2023
	Accelerate the return of land to its rightful civilian owners	Partial progress	Partial progress	Partial progress	Partial progress	Partial progress	Partial progress	Partial progress	Partial progress	Partial progress
	Resumption of livelihoods	Partial progress	Partial progress	Partial progress	Partial progress	Partial progress	Partial progress	Partial progress	Partial progress	Partial progress
	Increase training and incentives focused on the promotion and protection of human rights of all Sri Lankans	Poor progress	Poor progress	Partial progress	Partial progress	Partial progress	Partial progress	Partial progress	Partial progress	Partial progress
	End military involvement in civilian activities	Poor progress	Poor progress	Poor progress	Poor progress	Poor progress	Poor progress	Poor progress	Poor progress	Poor progress
	Introduce effective security sector reforms	Poor progress	Poor progress	Poor progress	Poor progress	Poor progress	Poor progress	Poor progress	Poor progress	Poor progress
	Restoration of normality to civilian life	Poor progress	Poor progress	Poor progress	Poor progress	Poor progress	Poor progress	Poor progress	Poor progress	Poor progress
	Full participation of local populations, including representatives of civil society and minorities, in these efforts	Poor progress	Poor progress	Poor progress	Poor progress	Poor progress	Poor progress	Poor progress	Poor progress	Poor progress
	Ensure that all Provincial Councils are able to operate effectively, in accordance with the thirteenth amendment to the Constitution of Sri Lanka	Partial progress	Partial progress	Partial progress	Poor progress	Poor progress	Poor progress	Poor progress	Poor progress	Poor progress
	A political settlement by taking the necessary constitutional measures on the devolution of political authority	Partial progress	Poor progress	Poor progress	Poor progress	Poor progress	Poor progress	Poor progress	Poor progress	Poor progress

Category	Commitment	Implementation Status								
		June 2016	March 2017	Feb 2018	March 2019	Feb 2020	Feb 2021	Mar 2022	Feb 2023	Aug 2023
	Continuation of engagement between the Government of Sri Lanka and the High Commissioner and the Office of the High Commissioner	Completed	Completed	Completed	Completed	Completed	Completed	Completed	Completed	Completed
	Cooperate with special procedure mandate holders	Completed	Completed	Completed	Completed	Completed	Completed	Completed	Completed**	Completed**
	Implement the recommendations contained in the report of the Office of the High Commissioner	Poor progress	Poor progress	Poor progress	Poor progress	Poor progress	Poor progress	Poor progress	Poor progress	Poor progress

\*The commitment to cooperate with special procedure mandate holders is under further review, although it has been assessed as completed because the government of Sri Lanka has extended a standing invitation to mandate holders since 2015. However, the team notes that some mandate holders have not had visits despite request in 2017 and 2018.<sup>68</sup>

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