

An Opinion Survey on the LLRC Report

Based on Views of some Witnesses of the Lessons Learnt
and Reconciliation Commission and the
Participants in Awareness Workshops

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Centre for Policy Alternatives

ISBN: 978-955-4746-03-9

Printers: Globe Printing Works, Tel: +94 (11) 2689259

Design By: Kamaladevi Sasichandran

Friedrich Naumann
STIFTUNG **FÜR DIE FREIHEIT**

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CENTRE FOR POLICY ALTERNATIVES

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மீதாற்றல் கொள்கைகளுக்கான நிலையம்

The Centre for Policy Alternatives (CPA) is an independent, non-partisan organization that focuses primarily on issues of governance and conflict resolution. Formed in 1996 in the firm belief that the vital contribution of civil society to the public policy debate is in need of strengthening, CPA is committed to programmes of research and advocacy through which public policy is critiqued, alternatives identified and disseminated.

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Opinion Survey on the LLRC Report

The Lessons Learnt and Reconciliation Commission (LLRC) was appointed with the objective of finding a lasting solution to the ethnic problem of the country, after the defeat of the LTTE militarily. Since there was no initiative to create a public discourse on the content of the report of this commission there was a risk of society getting a negative idea about the commission and its report.

The Centre for Policy Alternatives intervened at this point to build up the missed public discourse with the objective of preparing the background for implementing the important recommendations contained in the report.

Accordingly CPA took steps to translate and publish the ninth chapter of the LLRC report which contain its recommendations, in a simplified form in Sinhala and Tamil, at a time when there was no sign of translating the report to Sinhala and Tamil Languages.

Further, 48 trainers were selected from as many civil society organizations in a way they represent all the districts in the country. Following a 5 day Training, they returned to their respective areas where each one of them conducted between 20 to 30 workshops with the attendance of over 30,000 participants from allthroughout the country, for making them aware on the recommendations of the LLRC report. 22 district level seminars also were held. Further, 130,000 copies of the publication edited by Mr. S.G.Punchihewa, Attorney- at- law, on the LLRC recommendations as well as the “Samavimarshee”

issue on the LLRC report were also distributed among the public throughout the country.

A survey was also conducted with the participation of some selected witnesses who gave evidence before the LLRC commission to examine their current views on the subject. For this a questionnaire designed by the *Social Indicator* unit of CPA was used. This survey involved the participation of 20 witnesses from the North and 25 witnesses from Colombo and also randomly selected 1500 participants from the workshops. Data thus obtained was analyzed by the *Social Indicator* and was incorporated in to this publication which comes out as an opinion survey on LLRC report.

Views of society on this subject, and views on the importance of building a country without ethnic conflicts which appreciates coexistence as well as the obstacles to be faced in achieving that objective are reflected among other matters, in this report.

We are very grateful to Mrs Sagarika Delgoda and the team at Friedrich Naumann Stiftung (FNF) that helped us to make this effort of ours a success, and to Dr. Paikiasothy Saravanamuttu, the Executive Director of CPA who gave us guidance in this effort, to all in the *Social Indicator* who did the analysis and compilation based on information provided by us, to all the trainers who contributed to the survey and to all others who assisted us in many other ways.

Lionel Guruge

Coordinator, CPA Outreach Unit,
Centre for Policy Alternatives

I

Public Opinions on the LLRC

Methodology

In order to obtain opinion about the LLRC report, two semi structured questionnaires were designed by Social Indicator, the survey research unit of the Centre for Policy Alternatives. The two questionnaires were for those who gave testimonies to the LLRC (LLRC Witness Survey) and those who attended the LLRC awareness workshops conducted by the Outreach Unit of CPA (LLRC Workshop Participant Survey).

The questionnaire for those who gave testimonies attempted **to** gauge awareness of the content of the report and to what extent, their expectations of the LLRC, opinion **of** the report and recommendations and the implementation of the action plan. The questionnaires for workshop participants looked at respondent opinion on LLRC recommendations and the Government action plan

as well as their thoughts on implementation and the key actors of that process.

The questionnaires, which were to be self administered, were translated into Sinhala and Tamil. Organisations and individuals who testified were met with individually and given the questionnaire. Completed questionnaires were returned to the Outreach Unit. Workshop participant questionnaires were distributed to all participants to fill out at the end of the workshop.

The questionnaire for those who gave testimonies to the LLRC was completed by 47 respondents. As the workshops were held in every district of the country, 60 completed questionnaires by workshop participants were randomly selected from each district, making the sample for the workshop participant survey 1500. Once the data from both surveys were entered into a data base, the data was analysed using the Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS).

II

LLRC Witness Survey

Field visits

The following opinions are of 22 people who gave testimonies at the LLRC field visit hearings. Their current districts of residence are Batticaloa, Mannar, Mullaitivu and Killinochchi. All 22 respondents are above the age of 30.

Awareness and expectations from the LLRC

Respondent knowledge about the LLRC and its purpose is quite low. A respondent living in the Killinochchi district has specifically stated that there has been insufficient awareness in the Killinochchi and Mullaitivu district and majority of the people have not understood the LLRC.

It's evident that most of their interest in the LLRC was because they believed that the commission would provide answers regarding those who disappeared during the war or were arrested.

When asked how they first heard about the LLRC, 20 of the respondents said that they heard through the media. 3 people said that the purpose of the LLRC was to find a solution to those affected by the war while another 3 people said that it was committee that was set up in the pretext of finding a solution. This question went unanswered by 6 respondents. Others who answered gave the following responses –

- *A commission established to find the root causes of the 30 year ethnic conflict. (2)*
- *To release those who have been arbitrarily arrested (2)*
- *A commission appointed to find a solution to the ethnic conflict.*
- *A commission appointed to find those who have been reported missing due to the war.*

- *A commission appointed to solve the impending language issues in the country and thereby resolve the ethnic conflict*

The primary sources of information for news and updates about the LLRC have been newspapers and radio. 10 respondents who said newspapers cited Thinnakural, Veerakesari and Uthayan while 11 respondents who said their primary source was radio mentioned Shakthi FM, Sooryan FM, Vasantham FM and BBC as examples.

What were respondent expectations when they gave their testimony? 12 out of the 22 respondents stated that by giving a testimony to the LLRC, they expected answers with regard to those who have been reported missing during the war. 3 said it was because they wanted to seek justice and 2 said that they expected to see the release of people who have been arrested. 2 other individuals who answered this question gave the following answers –

- *The commission would be attentive to the information given with regard to the final stages of the war.*
- *To bring an end to human rights violations*

When asked if the final LLRC report fulfilled their expectations, 20 respondents said no while 2 did not answer the question.

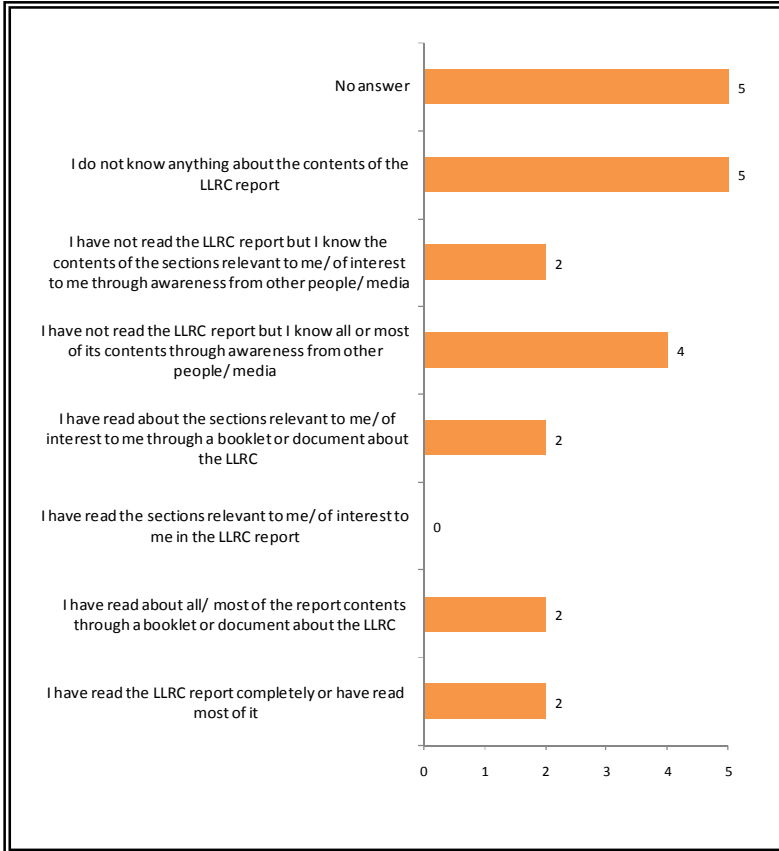
1. LLRC report and recommendations

Only 2 respondents out of the 22 were aware that the final LLRC report has been made public. This is to be expected given that the translations of the report in Sinhala and Tamil have not been made available by the Government and official Government copies of the report exists only in English.

When asked how they obtained copies of the report or document/booklet about the LLRC, 7 respondents said the Centre for Policy Alternatives, 2 said National Peace Council, while four others gave the following four responses – from a friend, from the newspaper and from an official from the commission.

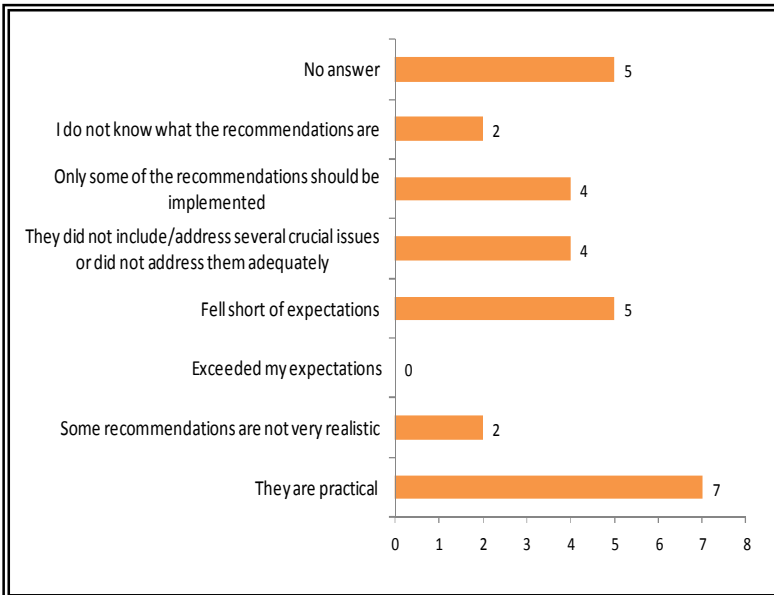
The following statements were given and respondents were asked to select the statement with which they agreed the most.

Graph 1 - Which of the following statements do you agree with?



The following are the opinions of the respondents on the recommendations made by the LLRC.

Graph 2 - What is your opinion about the LLRC recommendations? (Can select more than one answer)



Respondents who said that the recommendations are practical also selected the answer that the recommendations did not address crucial issues and that they fell short of expectations. A respondent who said that the recommendations are practical believed so for the following reason –

- *Certain issues such as rehabilitation, release of those detained by the military, livelihood issues can be implemented*

4 respondents who also believe the recommendations are practical stated that although the recommendations can be implemented, the Government is wasting time and not committing towards implementation.

Those who stated that the recommendations fell short of their expectations, did not address several issues or did not address them adequately gave the following reasons as explanations –

- *Inadequate solution given to those affected by the war (2)*
- *Insufficient attention given to the information regarding the civilian death during the last stages of the war*
- *The white flag issue was inadequately addressed.*
- *The testimony given was not adequately perused nor published*
- *The majority of those who were affected by the war did not come up to give their testimony due to fear;*

hence their actual problems and needs are not reflected in the report

- *The report does not address the root causes of the war nor deal with the human rights violation issues*

One respondent who said that only some of the recommendations can be implemented said that only the administrative recommendations can be implemented.

2. Commitment of the Government

Respondents were asked if they thought that the Government of Sri Lanka was fully committed to implementing the recommendations of the LLRC. None of the respondents said yes, with 15 saying no, 5 saying that they were not sure or did not know and 2 respondents choosing not to answer the question.

When asked to explain why they do not think the Government is fully committed, respondents who answered 'no' to the question mentioned above said the following –

- *Recommendations not yet implemented (5)*
- *Persons arrested during the war have still not been released (2)*

- *Despite it being three years since the civil war came to an end, information concerning people who were reported missing due to the war has still not been revealed to those concerned. (2)*
- *Although the final report has been published, biased land acquisition in the North, violence against those arrested and ethnic clashes still continues*
- *The testimony given was not publicised to people and has not been implemented*
- *Although three years has lapsed since the war ended a viable solution has not been found*
- *Threats from the Government still continues*

3. Thoughts about the LLRC

The general impression received from the interviews with the 22 respondents is that there is not a lot of faith in the LLRC. As explained by one respondent *“The report does not represent the needs of those affected by the war as the majority of those affected by the war did not come forward to give in their testimonies due to fear since the military was patrolling the areas where the testimonies were being*

taken. Furthermore, even those who came up to give their testimonies were unable to do so for reasons such as limited amount of time, and certain people were unable to give testimonies due to the fact that they were asked to write in their testimonies.”

The effectiveness of the mechanism itself was questioned as respondents stated that the scope of the investigation was very narrow and limited itself within the urban areas, people in remote areas were not adequately educated about the report, the independence of the commission is doubtful due to the fact that they were appointed by the President.

With regard to the content of the report itself, some respondents believe that insufficient attention has been paid to the information regarding civilian deaths during the war (including civilians who were trapped and died in the safe zone) and the problems faced by people in the war affected areas.

III

Hearings in Colombo

25 individuals who gave testimonies at the LLRC hearings in Colombo were respondents in this survey. These individuals included Members of Parliament, members of the clergy, journalists, civil society actors, politicians.

Expectations of respondents

For 12 of the respondents, one of the main reasons they gave a testimony was to do their part towards reconciliation and development – specifically to show respect to the reconciliation process, to showcase the willingness of the society to join hands with the government for the cause of national peace, contribute to the future development of the country, to provide and

point out facts that are a hindrance to the peace and unity of the country.

Other expectations of respondents includes –

- *Personal objective in providing a witness statement on the LLRC report was that someday the individuals' ideas with regard to the recommendations will be published and implemented*
- *To produce statistical evidence with regard to the destruction caused by the terrorists. However, the LLRC report did not talk about the Sinhalese people.*
- *Expected the Chairman of the LLRC to influence the President to deliver peace and reconciliation and to create a better society in Sri Lanka.*
- *Share their experiences regarding the civil war*
- *In order to prove that various allegations about the Tamil community were wrong. For example, there were claim that the LLRC was against the Tamil community - to prove this wrong*
- *During the past years there was a great deal of injustice that was caused towards the Tamil*

community by many governments. The main objective in providing this witness statement was to point out facts that would help to improve genuine ties with the minority. The recommendations that have been addressed with regard to the minorities are good and should be implemented without further delay

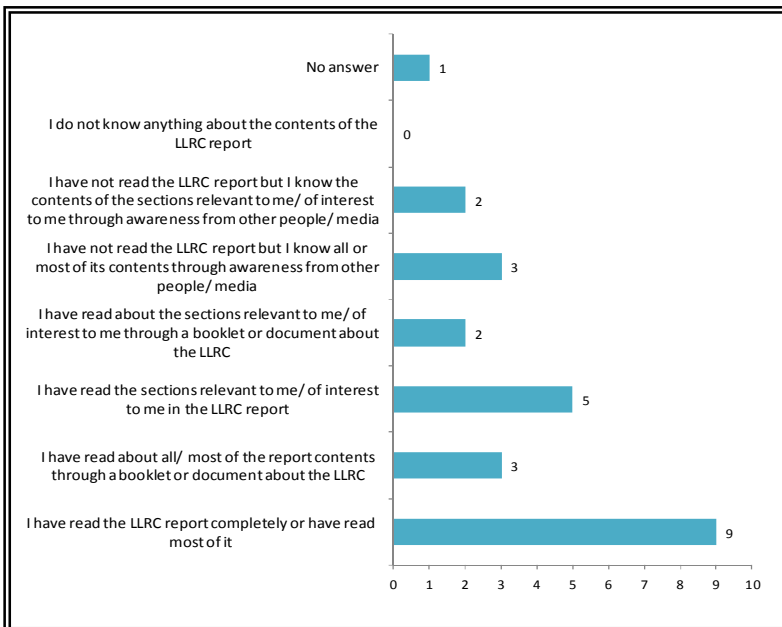
- *To find a solution to the national crisis*
- *The generation of bold unilateral gestures by the Sinhala polity towards the embittered Tamils, especially the youth*
- *The international community can only support but cannot deliver peace and reconciliation. Peace and reconciliation can only be delivered by Sri Lankans themselves. That was precisely what the LLRC was charged with providing a road map for. I expected the Chairman, in particular, to be able to influence the President.*

9 respondents said that the LLRC report fulfilled their expectations, 10 said that it did not while 3 said they were fulfilled to a certain extent.

LLRC report and recommendations

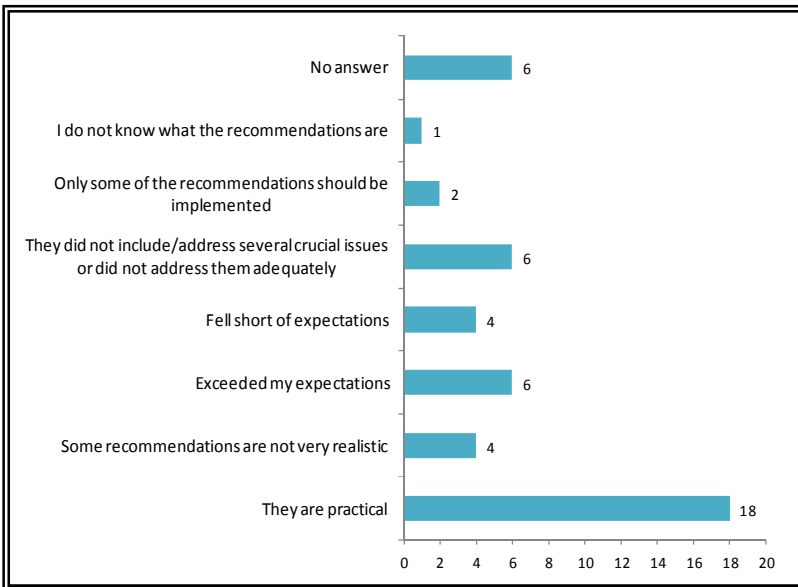
21 out of the 25 respondents were aware that the LLRC report had been made public. The following statements were given and respondents were asked to select the statement with which they agreed the most regarding the report.

Graph4 - Which of the following statements do you agree with?



Respondents had obtained copies of the report from NGO's, the internet, the LLRC staff directly, from friends or place of employment.

Graph 5 - What is your opinion about the LLRC recommendations? (Can select more than one answer)



Most respondents believe that the recommendations are practical – with some stating that the recommendations exceeded their expectations, while some said that the recommendations did not address crucial issues or that some were not very realistic.

When asked to explain the reasons for their opinion on the recommendation, the following was stated by the respondents –

- *The reason being that actions taken with regard to re-settlement of refugees, elections, structural development and actions taken with regard to demining too are a success. This is a commission that has been appointed by the government. Hence, the government is liable to abide by the recommendations mentioned there in. However, solutions with regard to the political solution in the country have not been fully addressed.*
- *The general public is unaware of what the LLRC is all about. The recommendations cannot be understood by people as the details are too in depth. It should be presented in a more simplified way.*
- *What we expected was a report, not people's ideological attitudes. The main problem with regard to the LLRC is that it is working under a certain ideology.*
- *While certain NGOs such as CPA and NPC define the recommendations on power devolution according to their own ideas, when considering the conditions set forth in those recommendations, we see that*

they can be put into action. All other recommendations can also be implemented.

- *Most were practical and implementable by a committed leadership*
- *Since I was somewhat cynical about the entire process, happy that at least some recommendations were made that would address the grievances of Tamil people.*
- *The report does not contain anything regarding the injustices committed towards the Sinhalese. This is a serious crime. I cannot agree with the LLRC report due to the unfairness caused by it to the Sinhalese people.*
- *Recommendations with regard to reconciliation and good governance are satisfactory. However there are certain shortcomings in the sections relevant to truth and accountability.*
- *The reason (Some recommendations not realistic) being that certain recommendations mentioned in the LLRC only target the minority communities and emphasises on ethnic conflicts. Furthermore, the topic of power sharing is irrelevant.*
- *If there are any recommendations that can be duly implemented, such recommendations have to be put into to force. However, if there are*

recommendations that cannot be implemented, then we need to find out as to why these cannot be implemented and create a system and work around it and produce our findings to the international community and gain/build their trust.

- *The commission did not address the crucial issue of the need for the state to investigate alleged war crimes. However, they included important areas not included in the TOR such as the urgent need for identification and location of missing persons, expeditions return of property and land to individuals which were acquired by the state as high security zones, the need for the state to issue a public regret to the nation for the destruction to the life and the property as a consequence of the war.*
- *Most of the LLRC recommendations are easily implemented if the will to do so is there.*
- *Apprehensions based on reported statements of a few Commissioners prior to the hearings, were largely dispelled by the seemingly genuine attempts made to assess the real situation. Seemingly beneficial recommendations lacked specificity leaving room for procrastination, delay and ultimate disregard. The unlawful incarceration of General Sarath Fonseka and the wholly indefensible 18th Amendment were apparently unaddressed.*

Commitment of the Government

Respondents were asked if they believed that the Government was fully committed to implementing the recommendations of the LLRC. Only 4 respondents said yes while 15 said no. 6 said that they believed to a certain extent that the Government was fully committed.

One respondent who answered yes believes so because of the actions taken with regard to resettlement of refugees, elections, structural development and demining have been a success.

Those who said no stated the following reasons –

- *The government lacks dedication/ responsibility in implementing the recommendations mentioned In the LLRC*
- *The LLRC was set up to please the international community and as a solution to the western pressure with regard to human rights violations etc. However this does not give solutions to the problems faced by the country. The recommendations mentioned in the LLRC are not being put into practice by the government.*
- *Recommendations that could be easily implemented have not been implemented. For example, the national anthem is not sung in both*

languages. What is being implemented is totally in contrast to what is in the LLRC. The action plan does not consist of anything of substance.

- *Up to now the government has not shown adequate progress in fulfilling the recommendations of the LLLRC. Every measure taken up to now has been only a superficial attempt to show the world that they are implementing the required reforms.*
- *The keep it as a buffer for international safety and the LLRC is used to counter attack from the accusations. They appointed a task force and allocated funds in the budget but not at all interested in the implementation process.*
- *The initial response to the report was not as expected, being a Commission appointed by His Excellency, I was under the impression that sooner the final report was out, that the Government will immediately implement the recommendations on a short term, medium term and long term basis.*
- *The Government set up the LLRC only to please the international community and not due to any commitment to address the issues facing the country. Furthermore, as the LLRC recommendations have gone beyond the objectives set for them by the Government, I doubt the current Government will implement them.*

Respondents who said they only believed to a certain extent that the Government was committed put forward the following reasons –

- *The LLRC does not indicate the destruction the LTTE caused to the socio-economic status of the country and the report does not indicate the Tamil influence on the nation. Hence, the Government of Sri Lanka is not committed in implementing the recommendations. However, there are certain recommendations that have been implemented via the Government, the Parliament and, the President.*
- *Sri Lanka may be victims of international influence as the commission came to being as a result of international pressure. Hence, it's sceptical to a certain extent on the government's commitment in this regard.*
- *There are no direct, clear policies or actions that can be seen with regard to shortcomings in the Constitution and addressing issues faced by minorities. However, on certain other issues we can see that an effort is being made to find clear solutions.*

Respondents who said that they did not know or were not sure about the Government's commitment said –

- *I do not know whether the Government is committed to implementing the recommendations but I do not believe that all the recommendations need to be implemented. The reason is that the Commission has gone beyond their mandate.*
- *Some of the recommendations in the report are short term while some are long term. We can say that the LLRC was granted the liberty to make recommendations. The President is not bound to implement them. Some recommendations have been implemented – they are implemented through the Government, through the Parliament, through the Executive. The LLRC has not recognised the socio-economic impact that the LTTE and Tamil nationalism has had on Sri Lanka.*

Thoughts about the LLRC

Following are some thoughts about the LLRC that were stated by some of the respondents –

- *LLRC and its recommendations is one positive step the government has taken thus far, putting into force the recommendations would be an advantage to the citizens of the country as it would pave the way for a better future.*

- *The issues that we face a nation are not like the issues that the Indians or the South Africans face. The LLRC report does not mention one word about the Sinhalese. The report does not mention about the efforts of Western nations to build the LTTE.*
- *The LLRC report should be a teaching tool for civil society. The LLRC comprised of people of high intelligence and who have held high positions. The report contains moderate ideas. The fact that our society has moderate people must be appreciated. This is something that is hidden in society and it must be brought out.*
- *The recommendations mentioned in the LLRC are nothing close to solving the ethnic crisis in the country. Therefore instead of taking time discussing recommendations that are of no use it is best to find out and discuss solutions to the difficulties and unfairness faced by the Tamils of the country.*
- *There are recommendations in the report to provide Government offices in areas outside the North and the East with translators to help the Tamil citizens with the issues they face with regard to the Sinhala language. However, the Tamil language is the administrative language in Government offices in the North and East which causes difficulties to the Sinhalese living in those*

areas and there were no recommendations made to provide translators regarding this.

- *The LLRC presents information with regard to the Tamil and the Muslim IDPs but does not mention Sinhalese IDPs.*
- *I personally feel that this is a fair report. The need to strengthen the unity amongst the Tamils, Muslims and Sinhalese is mandatory. We as a community should leave no opportunity for any kind of division amongst these ethnic communities.*
- *The LLRC report includes recommendations that are not relevant to the mandate – such as power sharing and the setting up of independent commissions.*
- *The LLRC recommendations are impartial despite being severely constrained by the TOR and the close allegiance of the members to the government. However, they have chosen to omit the crucial issue of war crimes which is a grave omission.*
- *The LLRC should have been used to generate the opinion that society as a whole, especially Sinhala elites were responsible for Tamil militancy. However no such feeling of wider social responsibility after the LLRC report, and Tamil people continue to feel alienated.*

- *Even though the Government is not interested in the implementation the NGOs have to take these to the grass root level. I have also not seen the religious leaders taking interest in the implementation process and they need to be enthused about it so that they in turn may take down the line.*
- *The recommendations of the LLRC are a starting point, which would show the international community that Sri Lanka is prepared to put things right. In my evidence i had highlighted the question of religious intolerance. Today this has come to the forefront. It is important that this matter be looked into very critically or the outcome will be far greater than the 30 year war that ended in 2009.*
- *Despite the fact that the war is over, reconciliation and peace for which the LLRC was established still elude us. The prevailing situation is hardly any better than that which prevailed during the thirty year war. State condoned terrorism has now replaced LTTE terrorism. Further no meaningful action has been taken on the specific recommendations of the LLRC.*
- *LLRC commissioners set out a framework and strategy not only for achieving the mission for which they were appointed but also for Sri Lanka to save face internationally and get accepted as a*

State now reformed. However the leaders have missed the boat by their foolish response strategy to date.

- *I did speak of the disappearance of the 9 priests and more especially of Rev. Fr. Francis Joseph who surrendered after the war in May 2009 and people have seen him at the camp but now he is missing. I spoke of the concept of restorative justice – it is paying compensation for the victims and the perpetrators also be punished. But these recommendations have not figured in the final report. With my recommendations I expected a solution to the national crisis.*
- *I wanted the LLRC to generate the opinion that society as a whole, especially Sinhala elites were responsible to some extent for Tamil militancy. It is in this sense of collective culpability that led to the rehabilitation of the JVP and the greater inclusion of rural Sinhala youth in our society. There is no such feeling of wider social responsibility after the LLRC report (or very little) and Tamil people continue to feel alienated.*
- *The Reconciliation and Peace, for which the LLRC was particularly established, seems to elude us. The prevailing situation is hardly better than which prevailed during the 30 year war. One cannot be blamed for believing that state condoned (if not*

sponsored) terrorism has replaced LTTE terrorism. No meaningful action was taken on the specific recommendations contained in the Interim Report of the LLRC. Did the LLRC honestly believe that their final recommendations will be treated any differently?

- *This report was written from a Tamil nationalist ideological perspective.*

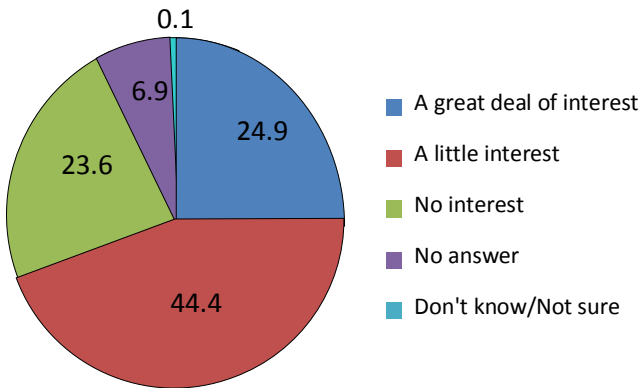
IV

LLRC Workshop Participant Survey

The following are opinions of 1500 workshop participants from 25 districts. Their age groups are:

Below age 21:	11.3%
Age 21 – 35:	39.6%
Age 36 – 50:	31.7%
Age 50 – 65:	14.3%
Age 65 and above:	3.1%

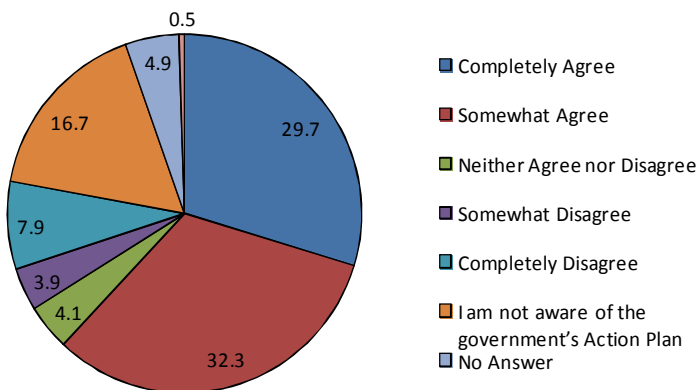
Which statement best describes your interest in the Lessons Learnt and Reconciliation Commission *prior* to this workshop?



Prior to the workshop, majority of the participants (44.4%) had a little interest in the Lessons Learnt and Reconciliation Commission while 24.9% said that they had a great deal of interest.

District wise, workshop participants with a great deal of interest in the LLRC were from the Kilinochchi (43.3%), Mannar (55%) and Mullaitivu (55%) districts. A high percentage of participants from Gampaha (56.7%), Kalutara (56.7%) and Matale (46.7%) districts said that they had no interest in the LLRC prior to the workshop.

Some say that the Government’s Action Plan to implement the LLRC recommendations is inadequate. Do you agree?



The Government of Sri Lanka released a *'National Plan of Action to Implement the Recommendations of the LLRC'*¹ in July 2012, in response to the final LLRC recommendations report. The Action Plan is categorised under five themes – International Humanitarian Law, Human Rights, Land Return and Resettlement, Restitution/Compensatory Relief and Reconciliation. Implementation details for the selected recommendations include activities, key responsible agency, key performance indicator and a time frame for each activity.

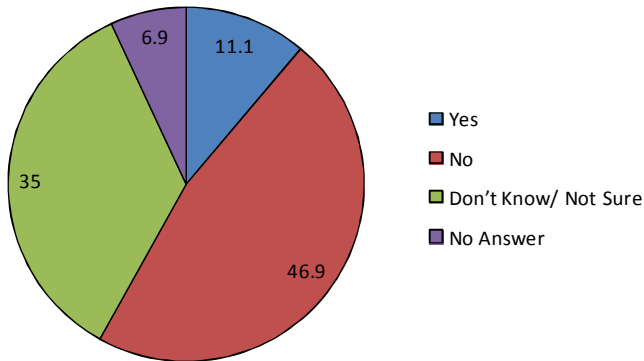
Majority of the workshop participants believe that the Government's Action Plan to implement the LLRC

¹http://www.priu.gov.lk/news_update/Current_Affairs/ca201207/National%20Plan%20of%20Action%20%20LLRC.pdf

recommendations is inadequate, with almost 30% stating that they completely agree that it is inadequate.

Participants with the least amount of faith in the Action Plan were from Mannar (73.3%), Gampaha (55%) and Kilinochchi (51.7%) districts while around 20% of participants from Ampara, Matara and Puttlam districts said that they disagree with the statement that the National Action Plan is inadequate.

Do you think the Government of Sri Lanka is fully committed to implementing the recommendations of the LLRC?

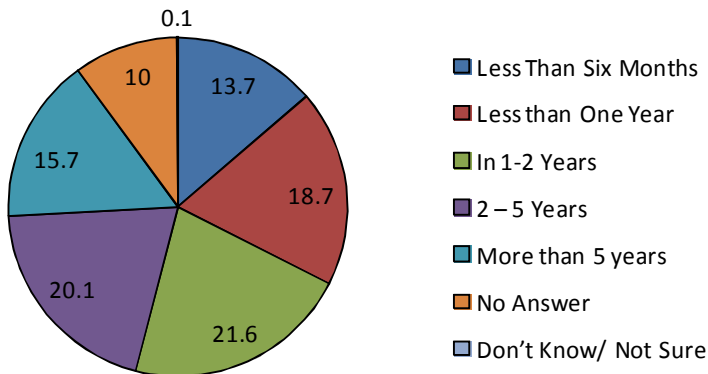


Almost 50% of the workshop participants do not think that the Government is fully committed to implementing the recommendations of the LLRC. When asked why they think so, those who answered gave reasons such as translations of the final LLRC report not being made

available in Sinhala and Tamil, there being no tangible evidence of recommendations being implemented and general lack of faith in Government appointed commissions and reports.

Looking at the opinion district wise, 88.3% of participants from Mannar district do not think that the Government is fully committed to implementing the recommendations, while 81.7% from Kilinochchi and 70% from NuwaraEliya agree with the same. The highest percentage of those who think the Government is committed to implementing the recommendations were from Trincomallee (28.3%), Monaragala (25%) and Kegalle (23.3%) districts.

What do you think is a realistic time period for the implementation of recommendations?



Workshop participants were fairly divided on a realistic time period for the implementation of recommendations. Around 20% said less than one year, 21.6% said one to two years and another 20% said two to five years.

36.7% of workshop participants from Mannar said less than six months, another 35% from Mannar said less than one year, 36.7% from Monaragala said in one to two years, 46.7% from Kandy district said two to five years and 66.7% from Ratnapura said more than five years.

V

ANNEX

Questionnaire for people who gave testimonies

D1. Age :

D2. Sex :

D3. District of residence :

1. Please list the three most critical issues you are facing at present

a.

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b.

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c.

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2. In your opinion, what was the purpose of the Lessons Learnt and Reconciliation Commission?

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3. How did you first hear about the LLRC?

- a. Media
- b. Family member/ Friend
- c. NGO/ Community group
- d. Other (*Please specify*)

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4. What was your primary source of information for news and updates about the LLRC? (***If media, please mention the name(s) of the newspaper/ television/ radio channel***)

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5. Are you aware that the LLRC final report has been made public?

- a. Yes
- b. No

6. Which of the following statements do you agree with?
 - a. I have read the LLRC report completely or have read most of it
 - b. I have read about all/ most of the report contents through a booklet or document about the LLRC
 - c. I have read the sections relevant to me/ of interest to me in the LLRC report
 - d. I have read about the sections relevant to me/ of interest to me through a booklet or document about the LLRC
 - e. I have not read the LLRC report but I know all or most of its contents through awareness from other people/ media **(Go to Q8)**
 - f. I have not read the LLRC report but I know the contents of the sections relevant to me/ of interest to me through awareness from other people/ media **(Go to Q8)**
 - g. I do not know anything about the contents of the LLRC report **(Go to Q8)**

7. From where did you get a copy of the LLRC report/ booklet or document about the LLRC?

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8. What were your expectations when you gave your testimony to the LLRC?

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9. Did the final LLRC report fulfil these expectations?
- a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. I do not know the contents of the report
10. Do you think the Government of Sri Lanka is fully committed to implementing the recommendations of the LLRC?
- a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Don't know/ Not sure

11. Please give a short explanation for your answer to Q10.
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12. What is your opinion about the LLRC recommendations? *(Can select more than one)*
- a. They are practical
 - b. Some recommendations are not very realistic

- c. Exceeded my expectations
- d. Fell short of expectations
- e. They did not include/address several crucial issues or did not address them adequately
- f. Only some of the recommendations should be implemented
- g. I do not know what the recommendations are

13. Please give a short explanation for your answer(s) to Q12.

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14. Some say that the Government’s Action Plan to implement the LLRC recommendations is inadequate. Do you agree?

- a. Completely agree
- b. Somewhat agree
- c. Neither agree nor disagree
- d. Somewhat disagree
- e. Completely disagree
- f. I am not aware of the Government’s Action Plan

15. If you have any further comments about the LLRC please state them below.

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Questionnaire for LLRC workshop participants

D1. Age :

D2. District of residence :

D3. Occupation :

1. Which statement best describes your interest in the Lessons Learnt and Reconciliation Commission ***prior*** to this workshop?
 - a. A great deal of interest
 - b. A little interest
 - c. No interest

2. What is your opinion about the LLRC recommendations?
(Can select more than one)
 - a. They are practical
 - b. Some recommendations are not very realistic
 - c. Exceeded my expectations
 - d. Fell short of expectations
 - e. They did not include/address several crucial issues or did not address them adequately

- f. Only some of the recommendations should be implemented
- g. The LLRC recommendations should not be implemented
- h. I am not aware of the LLRC recommendations
- i. Don't know/ Not sure

3. Please give a short explanation for your answer(s) to Q2.

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4. Some say that the Government's Action Plan to implement the LLRC recommendations is inadequate. Do you agree?

- a. Completely agree
- b. Somewhat agree
- c. Neither agree nor disagree
- d. Somewhat disagree
- e. Completely disagree
- f. I am not aware of the Government's Action Plan

5. What do you consider to be the most important recommendations in the LLRC report?

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6. Do you think the Government of Sri Lanka is fully committed to implementing the recommendations of the LLRC?

- a. Yes
- b. No
- c. Don't know/ Not sure

7. Please give a short explanation for your answer to Q6.

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8. What do you think is a realistic time period for the implementation of recommendations?

- a. Less than six months

- b. Less than one year
 - c. In 1 – 2 years
 - d. 2 – 5 years
 - e. More than 5 years
9. The following statements are about the translations of the LLRC report. Please select the statement that you agree with the most.
- a. Sinhala and Tamil versions of the LLRC report was released by the Government in December 2011
 - b. Sinhala and Tamil versions of the LLRC report was released by the Government one month after the English report
 - c. Sinhala and Tamil versions of the LLRC report was released by the Government six months after the English report
 - d. Sinhala and Tamil versions of the LLRC report was released by the Government eight months after the English report
 - e. Sinhala and Tamil versions of the LLRC report was released by the Government one year after the English report
 - f. Sinhala and Tamil versions of the LLRC report has not been released by the Government yet
 - g. Do not know/ Not sure

