



TAMIL WRITERS GUILD

19th April 2008

The Editor

The Hindu of India

Dear Sir

I am writing as the person named in your report under reference and hope that you will publish my letter, along with a full and unqualified apology for your defamatory remarks.

The online edition of the Hindu of Thursday, 17th April 2008 in a report titled "Panic in LTTE over arms deal with Slovakia" by B. Muralidhar Reddy stated, "A letter was handed over to Slovakian Diplomatic staff by Mr. Ivan Pedropillai a senior figure within the LTTE hierarchy in the United Kingdom and one of the LTTE's main fundraisers who has generously funded most of the meetings organised by the BTF," it said quoting unidentified sources.

I am afraid your correspondent must have been hallucinating when writing this report as I was not present at the demonstration nor am I a member of the LTTE as alleged. I dare you to prove any of your allegations or else to withdraw them.

The incontrovertible facts are:

I was not present at the Slovakian Embassy demonstration at which the petition was presented and to which your report alludes.

Therefore I could not possibly have presented the petition to the Slovakian embassy staff as stated.

I am not a member of the LTTE.

Therefore, I cannot possibly be a senior figure of the LTTE as claimed.

I am not a fundraiser for the LTTE and have not contributed a single penny to them since it was outlawed some 5 years ago.

I am a retired senior executive from one of the world's leading multi-national groups and my reputation and integrity are well established in the UK. I am involved in absolutely permissible democratic political activity in this country, where the law does not take away our rights to aspire for freedom and democracy for the oppressed Tamils of Eelam. All that I do for the Tamils is perfectly open and legal. But I must be doing something good for the Tamil community, as the paid mouthpieces of racism in Sri Lanka have started to notice me and defame me in this fashion.

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contd. -

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Every one involved as a Tamil activist knows that being a member of the LTTE or giving funds or raising funds for the LTTE or its associates is illegal in this country. I have not done any of these and your attempt to defame me is an utterly contemptible lie. An unreserved apology published in your paper in a prominent position is the least you could do to safeguard my honour and my reputation and to redeem yours.

Yours sincerely,

Ivan Pedropillai BSc., MSc., FCCA, FCMA
Chairman

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Article: <http://www.hindu.com/2008/04/17/stories/2008041762031400.htm>