

Similarly, Canada regrets that a political settlement continues to elude the parties to the conflict in Afghanistan and that human rights abuses by both the Najibullah regime and by the Mujahideen opposition forces are continuing.

Canada believes that an equitable and durable resolution to the issue can only be achieved through negotiation and dialogue. It is clear that the military conflict has been completely unsuccessful in breaking the deadlock between the regime and the opposition forces.

Canada calls for a reduction in the supply of weapons to client groups so as to encourage and promote a process of national reconciliation leading to the formation of a non-aligned representative government in Afghanistan.

Canada is most perturbed that there has been no lessening of hostilities in Sri Lanka over the past year and that violence continues at a very high level. Little has been done by the government over the past year to apply new initiatives to resolving the situation.

Canada deplores the continuing appalling human rights situation in which it is apparent that civilians have been indiscriminately bombed and attacked by government forces and by secessionist forces. We urge the Government of Sri Lanka to exert all possible efforts to bring about a cessation of fighting and to open a dialogue process leading to a negotiated settlement and a durable and equitable peace. Canada calls upon the government to ensure that it forces give serious respect to the safety and human rights of civilians, and that the distribution of food, medicine and shelter is in no way hindered.

Canada recognizes the intransigent nature of the conflict which India faces in Jammu and Kashmir, Punjab and Assam, but remains concerned about human rights violations.

We are particularly concerned over the continuing violence in Jammu and Kashmir and the belated major human rights abuses resulting from efforts by the Indian Security Forces to maintain law and order and to control the flow of weapons and insurgents.

Canada calls upon the Government of India to ensure that the safety and human rights of civilians are respected and protected, and that abuses and deaths be closely investigated and resolved to ensure that these abuses are not repeated.

Canada is encouraged that the Government of India and Amnesty International have initiated a dialogue on investigations of human rights abuses. We believe such a dialogue could improve the international perception of India's position and assist in the resolution of human rights issues.

With regard to Indonesia, Canada welcomes recent initiatives such as the UN-sponsored Conference on Human Rights held in that country on January 21-22. These are encouraging signs of Indonesia's new commitment to human rights observance.

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