

SUBRAMANIYAM SUGIRDHARAJAN was reportedly gunned down by unidentified men on motorcycles on 24 January 2006. A journalist, Subramaniyam Sugirdharajan had published photographs and news reports in the Tamil newspaper *Sudar Oli*, being critical of the army and the Karuna faction, which split from the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam in 2004.

His photographs, of five male Tamil students killed in Trincomalee on 2 January 2006, had helped contest official reports that they had been killed in a grenade explosion.

SRI LANKA: JUSTICE FOR MEDIA WORKERS

AMNESTY
INTERNATIONAL



Dear President,

At least 10 media workers have been unlawfully killed in Sri Lanka since the beginning of 2006. Others have been arbitrarily detained, tortured and allegedly disappeared while in the custody of security forces.

Amnesty International is unaware of any investigation that has led to the arrest and prosecution of those responsible for the killing of journalists and other media workers.

I therefore urge the Sri Lankan government to:

- **Protect** media workers and their rights to life, liberty and security of person, in compliance with Sri Lanka's obligations under international law;
- **Respect** media workers and publicly announce that killings, threats, or other attacks will not be tolerated;
- **Investigate** all cases of attacks, disappearances and killings of media workers promptly, independently, impartially and effectively, irrespective of the identity of perpetrators or victims;
- **Invite** the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression to visit the country without delay.

Yours sincerely,

Name:

Country:

Signature:

Attach
post stamp

MAHINDA RAJAPAKSA
His Excellency the President
Presidential Secretariat
Colombo 1
SRI LANKA

ASA 37/005/2008