

Sri Lanka military behind attack on politicians - Bahu

Saturday 29 September 2012, by [Correspondent\(s\)](#), [KARUNARATNE Vickramabahu \("Bahu"\)](#) (Date first published: 28 September 2012).

The Nava Sama Samaja Party (NSSP) has accused the Sri Lankan military of being involved in an attack against opposition politicians and peaceful demonstrators.

NSSP General Secretary and Dehiwala Municipal Councillor Vickramabahu Karunaratne has informed President Mahinda Rajapaksa and that vehicles carrying Tamil National Peoples Front (TNPF) Leader Gajendrakumar Ponnambalam and him has come under attack in the northern Vanni area on the 22nd of September. They have been returning from a peaceful demonstration held in Mullaitheevu against the military grabbing civilian land and property, where protesters also had to face a crude oil attack. In a letter to the Senior Superintendent of police in the Mullaitheevu district calling for an impartial investigation Dr. Bahu says, "Since this was done while there was heavy military presence, I suspect that military was behind this".

When the demonstration was conducted opposite the Mullaitheevu government agent's office, police officers who were present have not arrested the culprits, the NSSP general secretary has also said.

Letter to police and president

Janaka Gunathilake esq.

SSP Mulative,

C/o OIC,

Police station,

Pudukuduiruppu.

May I draw your kind attention to the attacks made by some people to the peaceful demonstration conducted by us with your knowledge? We expected police protection to this protest held on 22 September 2012, opposite Mulative AG office. However during the demonstration an engine oil bag was thrown at us; police could not arrest culprits. This happened around 1 pm.

Then after the demonstration, on our return, around 2.45 pm, about 12 km from AG office, we were attacked by two men in civil clothes while two others in military uniform were present. Vehicle I used 252- 5038 was damaged; RHS mirror was smashed. Mr. Gajendrakumar Ponnambalam's vehicle was badly damaged.

Since this was done while there was heavy military presence, I suspect that military was behind this.

I expect an impartial investigation.

Vickramabahu Karunaratne
