

MP Pack #32 — Chemmani as a Standards Instrument — MP Evidence Pack

UK-facing pack converting the Chemmani court-supervised excavation (480 sets identified across phases 1–3, 479 fully exhumed at day 96 on 28 Jul 2026, with 8 still un-retained since 1999) into four standing rails: ICMP standards benchmark, OSLAP evidentiary submission, UK Magnitsky sanctions expansion built on the 24 March 2025 template, and a Peoples' Tribunal spec. Framed around the EU delegation visit of 22 Jul 2026 (Ambassadors Moreno · Francovich · Neumann · Lambert · De Boer) and the ITJP 14 Jul 2026 report. GSP+ conditionality is presented as a goal for European policymakers, not a citable EU statement.

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Audience

- UK MPs
- Lords
- FCDO
- APPG on Sri Lanka
- IDC
- Business & Trade Committee

Best used for

- PQs asking whether HMG will fund OSLAP forensic capacity and support ICMP-standard DNA-led kinship identification at Chemmani
- Letters to FCDO on UK sanctions register expansion built on the 24 March 2025 template
- IDC evidence sessions and APPG briefings following the 22 Jul 2026 EU diplomatic site visit
- UK statements at the March 2027 Human Rights Council session ahead of the next OHCHR Sri Lanka reporting cycle
- Business & Trade Committee questions on EU GSP+ conditionality logic as a comparative reference for the UK Developing Countries Trading Scheme

Tier-A evidence anchors

- Office on Missing Persons (Sri Lanka) — official mandate, reports, and statistics
- Right to the Truth — transitional-justice resource hub
- Accountability for enforced disappearances in Sri Lanka — Report of the OHCHR
- OHCHR — Sri Lanka Accountability Project (OSLAP), standing UN evidence-preservation mandate — <https://www.ohchr.org/en/countries/sri-lanka>
- UN AL LKA 1/2025 — Special Procedures allegation letter (Chemmani 1999 phase, 8 still un-retained) — <https://spcommreports.ohchr.org/>

- ITJP — Chemmani accountability failure report (14 July 2026) — <https://itjpsl.com/>
- India Today — EU delegation visits Chemmani mass-grave site (22 July 2026) — <https://www.indiatoday.in/>
- Tamil Guardian — Chemmani excavation day counts and cumulative tally — <https://www.tamilguardian.com/category/tags/chemmani>
- ICMP — DNA-led identification standards and kinship reference-sample protocol — <https://www.icmp.int/>
- UK Sanctions List — Global Human Rights sanctions register — <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-uk-sanctions-list>
- UK FCDO — Foreign Affairs Committee Q315–Q316 evidence on Sri Lanka accountability — <https://committees.parliament.uk/committee/78/foreign-affairs-committee/>
- UNGA A/RES/78/282 — International Day of Reflection on the 1995 genocide in Srebrenica — <https://digitallibrary.un.org/record/4048577>
- EEAS — EU–Sri Lanka 27th Joint Commission (Colombo, 12 February 2026) — https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/sri-lanka_en

Policy asks

- UK Government (FCDO): Publish, ahead of the next scheduled OHCHR Sri Lanka reporting cycle at the March 2027 Human Rights Council, HMG's assessment of the Chemmani court-supervised excavation and the extent to which the current forensic chain meets International Commission on Missing Persons (ICMP) DNA-led kinship identification standards.
- UK Government (FCDO): Set out HMG's position on expanding the UK Global Human Rights sanctions register in respect of Sri Lanka, using the 24 March 2025 designation template (Silva / Kariyawasam / de Silva / Chakrawartige) as the procedural model, contingent on independent evidence meeting UK designation thresholds.
- UK Government (FCDO): Support OSLAP's forensic-capacity function under HRC 60/1 with UK funding earmarked for chain-of-custody, kinship-DNA reference sampling, and independent international forensic oversight of mass-grave casework.
- UK Parliament (APPG on Sri Lanka): Convene a briefing on the 22 July 2026 EU diplomatic site visit and the ITJP 14 July 2026 report, with ICMP, OHCHR, and family-of-the-disappeared associations invited to give evidence.

Draft parliamentary questions

- [FCDO] To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs, what assessment HM Government has made of the extent to which the current court-supervised forensic chain at the Chemmani / Ariyalai Siththupaththi mass-grave site meets International Commission on Missing Persons DNA-led kinship identification standards.
- [FCDO] To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs, what representations HM Government has made to the Government of Sri Lanka on the 8 remains recovered in 1999 at the Chemmani site that remain un-returned to families, as referenced in UN allegation letter AL LKA 1/2025.
- [FCDO] To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs, what discussions HM Government has had with the European External Action Service following the 22 July 2026 EU diplomatic delegation visit to the Chemmani mass-grave site.
- [FCDO] To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs, what UK financial and technical support has been offered to the OHCHR Sri Lanka Accountability Project's forensic-capacity function under HRC resolution 60/1.
- [FCDO] To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs, whether HM

Government will publish, ahead of the next OHCHR Sri Lanka reporting cycle, its position on further designations under the Global Human Rights sanctions regime in respect of accountability for mass-grave casework in Sri Lanka.

Civic remembrance

The pack cites, it does not aggregate. Identification, cause, and accountability at Chemmani are matters only a credentialed judicial and forensic process can settle. This pack points MPs to the standing rails — OSLAP, ICMP standards, the UK sanctions template, and the Peoples' Tribunal form — so grief becomes procedure and procedure survives the news cycle.

Pack rules

- Never invents a 2026 UN Human Rights Council resolution renewal window. The 60/1 mandate is March 2025; the next scheduled reporting cycle sits ahead of the March 2027 HRC session.
- Never claims the Vatican, the ICC Prosecutor, or any state has issued a Chemmani-specific statement, indictment, or designation absent a Tier-A source on the public record.
- Never names individual perpetrators, serving or former security-force personnel — cite OHCHR / UN Special Procedures / ITJP / PEARL at institution level.
- Never aggregates counts on TLTE authority. The 480 / 479 figures are the judicial-record figures reported by court-attending journalists and cited here verbatim.
- Frames EU GSP+ conditionality linkage to Chemmani accountability as a goal for European policymakers, not a citable EU statement.
- The 24 March 2025 UK Magnitsky designation is a template only — the pack does not invent additional Chemmani-linked designations.

Transparency

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