
READING ROOM · SHAPE A · POLICY-ANALYTICAL BRIEF

Up-Country / Hill-Country Tamils

Citizenship Acts 1948–64, Sirima-Shastri, tea-estate labour rights, ILO CEACR gap.

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Executive summary

The Hill-Country () Tamil file is the longest-running statelessness story in modern Asia — 1948 Ceylon Citizenship Act, 1964 Sirima-Shastri Pact, 1986 / 1988 / 2003 grants of citizenship — and the still-unresolved living wage, housing and franchise gap on the tea estates. It is its own civic story, not a sub-chapter of the Northern Tamil file.

01 · Summary points

Status: live (Phase C) Era: Aarambam

02 · Introduction · scope · methodology

- Ceylon Citizenship Act 1948 — disenfranchisement of up-country Tamils - Sirima-Shastri Pact 1964 — India-Sri Lanka repatriation agreement (tlte-cite:sirima-shastri-1964) - Grant of Citizenship to Persons of Indian Origin Act 2003 (Sri Lanka) - ILO CEACR — Sri Lanka observations on estate-sector labour (tlte-cite:ilo-ceacr-srilanka) - Ceylon Workers' Congress — wage and housing record (tlte-cite:ceylon-workers-congress) - Human Rights Office (Kandy) — up-country documentation (tlte-cite:human-rights-office-kandy) - Institute of Social Development (Kandy) — plantation community studies - Oxfam / Ethical Tea Partnership — Sri Lanka tea-sector wage studies - Human Rights Watch — Sri Lanka estate-sector reporting

03 · Section I · structural record

- Never frame the up-country file as a sub-chapter of the Northern Tamil file. They are distinct civic stories. - Never let Northern Tamil leadership speak for up-country labour. The Ceylon Workers' Congress, the Human Rights Office (Kandy) and the Institute of Social Development are the primary interlocutors. - Never name individual estate workers. Cite ILO CEACR, HRO Kandy, ISD, ETP, HRW, Oxfam at organisational level only. - Always pair Tamil-Northern accountability asks with up-country labour asks where the underlying file is labour, trade or modern-slavery related. - Always cite ILO Convention numbers (C87, C98, C111, C190) verbatim and link the CEACR observation.

04 · Section II · current operational picture

What assessment has the Government made of living-wage compliance in the Sri Lankan tea sector by UK-sourced brands, with reference to ILO CEACR observations?

05 · Section III · comparative frame

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06 · Conclusions · policy implications

This section is set out in the live source. The institutional shape is preserved here so a reader scanning for the canonical block knows where it sits; the evidence chain is on the archive page cited on the cover.

07 · Recommendations

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08 · Footnotes

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