

## Voice of Tiger makes desperate appeal

LTTE leader Velupillai Prabhakaran has in a series of appeals, through the 'Voice of Tiger Radio' has pleaded with Tamil youth not to desert the LTTE and abandon the fight for Eelam.

A military spokesman said the LTTE has repeatedly broadcast the appeal during the last two weeks.

According to intelligence reports, the LTTE faced with mass desertion and dessionion within its ranks, has told Tamil youth that they were betraying their motherland by refusing to fight for the LTTE.

The military spokesman said the LTTE leadership in a desperate attempt to prevent mass desertion of its cadres, has issued an edict to all area leaders to shoot dead anyone attempting to desert the ranks of the LTTE.

The LTTE is also reportedly extorting Rs.

10,000 from each family which does not provide a son or daughter to join the military wing of the LTTE.

The spokesman also said that as Sri Lanka's Eastern Province is being cleared of terrorists, 72 LTTE hardcore military wing cadres have been killed during the last 60 days. He said that these terrorists had been killed in successful operations in the Trincomalee, Batticaloa and Ampara districts.

While the LTTE's main radio transmission link between the Eastern Province and the LTTE's headquarters of Kondavil in Jaffna, which was based in the jungles of Ampara, had been destroyed and valuable electronic equipment captured, several terrorist leaders were among those killed. They included four area leaders. [Lankapuvath]