

Tamils, Muslims to be settled in Mahaweli System B. (1993, July 13).
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Ethnic proportion basis the criterion

Tamils, Muslims to be settled in Mahaweli System B

Measures have been taken to settle Tamils and Muslims in Mahaweli System B (Maduruoya - Welikanda) strictly on the ethnic proportion basis without causing any injustice whatsoever to any community under the Mahaweli Settlement Program initiated by the Lands, Irrigation and Mahaweli Development Ministry, said Lands, Irrigation and Mahaweli Development Minister Gamini Atukorale.

He was speaking at the inauguration of the pre presidential mobile service at An - Nur Mahavidyalaya Valachchenai in the Batticaloa district on Saturday.

He said that the Mahaweli Development Program was a program aimed at the development of inter-regions and settling of people would be intensified strictly on the basis of ethnic proportion.

He said that out of the 18,000 farm families scheduled to be settled on the left bank of Mahaweli System B (Maduruoya - Welikanda), steps have been taken to settle over 16,000 farmer families up to date on the ethnic proportion basis.

Minister Atukorale said that he is fully confident that the settlement of farm families in this Mahaweli System would be completed in full by the beginning of next year.

He said that the development activities along the right bank of Maduruoya, unduly delayed following terrorist activities would commence shortly.

Minister Atukorale said that 14,000 farm families are scheduled to be settled under the development process of right bank of Maduruoya, the sum expected to be expended in this direction being Rs. 8,000 million.

He said that we were even deprived of foreign funds promised in the development process of Maduruoya right bank, due mainly to the unexpected undue delays caused in initiating development work.

Minister Atukorale said that as terrorist activities in the northern region have been brought under control to a great extent and peace and harmony restored, it will without doubt be possible to embark upon the development work of Maduruoya right bank.

Commending the late President Ranasinghe Mobile

Service and taking the government machinery to the doorstep of the people, he said that people in Trincomalee and Ampara districts in the eastern region are today in high praise as most of their grave problems have been solved satisfactorily.

He also said that the next presidential mobile service under the able leadership of President D.B. Wijetunga will be conducted in Batticaloa district on July 23, 24 and 25.

Minister Atukorale said that it was because of the presidential mobile services that people were able to have their age old unresolved grievances, difficulties and problems instantly solved by placing them directly before the President and relevant Ministers.

He said that as the Lands, Irrigation and Mahaweli Development Ministry was a key Ministry extremely close to the hearts of the people at large, this Ministry has also gone to the extent of conducting mobile services in many an area and evolved solutions to problems of the people.

Eastern Region's Commander in Chief Lt. Gen. Lucky Algama said that peace and harmony has dawned on the people in the eastern region owing to their effort in unitedly fighting against the terrorists banding themselves arm in arm with the security forces.

Lands and Land Alienation Minister Asoka Wadigamangawa, Lands, Irrigation and Mahaweli Development Ministry Secretary, D.G. Premachandra, Lands and Land Alienation Secretary, O.C. Jayawardena, Irrigation State Secretary Upali Weerakoon, Surveyor General S. Berugoda, Irrigation Director, K. Yoganathan Land Commissioner P.T. Pathiraja, Forest Conservator H.M. Bandarathillake and several relevant officials evolved solutions to grievances, difficulties and problems of people under one roof.

This mobile service was the third and fourth mobile services conducted by the Lands, Irrigation and Mahaweli Development Ministry in the Batticaloa district.

Two mobile services were also successfully conducted last month in Eravur and Batticaloa.