

An Opinion Poll on Peace



# Peace Confidence Index (PCI)

TOP-LINE RESULTS

JULY 2006

Social Indicator

## ALSO IN THIS WAVE . . .

PRESENT VIOLENCE

KARUNA GROUP

LTTE REQUEST TO REMOVE EU MONITORS

JVP, UNP & THE GOVERNMENT

SPECULATIONS ON DISSOLVING THE PARLIAMENT

HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES



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## INTRODUCTION

### OBJECTIVE

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The purpose of this study is two-fold. One is to develop a numerical indicator of the level of public confidence in the peace process using a set of standardized questions, which remain unchanged with each wave. The other is to use a set of questions related to recent social, economic and political developments in order to gauge public opinion on the peace process, which by definition will change from one wave to another.

Such information, collected over a period of time, will provide civil society and policy makers a useful barometer of Sri Lankan polity's opinions, and ensure that such collective opinions are given due importance and incorporated into the policy debate.

### SCOPE & METHODOLOGY

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The survey is carried out using a structured questionnaire administered through face-to-face interviews amongst a 1300 randomly selected sample. This survey was conducted in 17 administrative districts, excluding the North and East due to the violence prevalent in the months prior. Data is weighted to reflect the actual ethnographic composition of the districts in which the sample was surveyed.

This is the twenty third wave of the PCI study, which was first conducted in May 2001. This publication presents only the top-line results of the July 2006 survey.

The results of these twenty three waves offer us data for a comparative study on changing public opinion regarding key issues, ranging from perceptions of war and peace to current political developments. The results are subjected to a 3% margin of error.

\*\* This particular wave of the PCI only covers the Sinhala, Muslim and the Up-Country Tamil communities in the areas outside North and East.



## KEY NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENTS MAY 2006 – JULY 2006\*

- The Government on May 17 expressed hope it could meet the requirements of the Sri Lanka Monitoring Mission if it was to resume sea monitoring activities suspended since May 14. (17 May 2006)- (Daily Mirror on 18 May 2006)
- The Government has not wavered from its earlier commitment to see peace talks resume, despite the LTTE's aborted attempt to attack the troop carrier Pearl Cruise II, Defence Affairs Spokesman Keheliya Rambukwella said on May 17. (17 May 2006)- (Daily News on 18 May 2006)
- The technical committee of the European Union on May 17 made a recommendation to list the LTTE as a banned organization in the European Union, highly placed diplomatic sources said. By the time this edition went to press, the 'clearing house' of the EU was going through the recommendation on May 18, and it was expected that it would make the announcement on the LTTE ban shortly. (17 May 2006)- (Daily Mirror on 19 May 2006)
- The LTTE has begun to train all children over 14 years of age in armed combat and survival. They have set up training camps in all villages for this purpose. The training is confined to two one-hour sessions per day and would continue for a period of two months. (The Island on 19 May 2006)
- President Mahinda Rajapakse is believed to have authorized acquisition of urgently required armaments as the LTTE threatened war if the EU listed it as a terrorist organisation. This comes in the backdrop of the raging controversy over the inordinate delay in bolstering the firepower of Fast Attack Craft (FAC) fleet. (The Island on 21 May 2006)
- The LTTE Batticaloa – Ampara intelligence chief and a top ranking military head of the LTTE in Batticaloa, Ramanan was killed allegedly by Karuna cadres on May 21 evening. (21 May 2006)- (Daily Mirror on 22 May 2006)
- Indian navy personnel have recovered the bodies of five Sri Lankan Tamil refugees who drowned after their boat capsized in the Palk Straits on May 20 morning. A group of 19 Tamil refugees were travelling in a boat towards the southern Indian state of Tamil Nadu when the incident took place. (20 May 2006)- (The Island on 22 May 2006)
- The United Nations and the United States on May 22 condemned May 21 attack on international NGO offices in Muttur while the government also denounced the attacks which it said was under probe. (22 May 2006)- (Daily Mirror on 23 May 2006)
- Amid fears of another war, peace broker Norway on May 22 prepared to launch a fresh salvage effort. (22 May 2006)- (Daily Mirror on 23 May 2006)
- The European Union on May 23 welcomed the government's condemnation of the attacks on INGO offices on May 15 and 21 but complained that the government had failed to take follow-up action despite its pledge to do so. (23 May 2006)- (Daily Mirror on 24 May 2006)
- Referring to a recent speech by Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M. Karunanidhi that he would intervene and speak to Indian Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh about Sri Lanka's ethnic problem if the need arises, TULF leader, V. Anandasangaree has written to Karunanidhi saying that the time is now opportune for him to intervene for settling Sri Lanka's national problem. (The Island on 24 May 2006)
- Some low-ranking Sri Lankan troops may be in contact with armed groups opposed to Tamil Tiger rebels, but there is no evidence of large-scale collusion, the head of the government's peace secretariat said on May 23. (23 May 2006)- (Daily Mirror on 24 May 2006)
- Norwegian special envoy Hanssen Bauer's visit today to Sri Lanka has been described as crucial by diplomatic sources although there is no mention of any specific proposals towards a breakthrough in the peace deadlock. (Daily News on 24 May 2006)
- Norwegian Minister and peace envoy Erik Solheim on May 23 downplayed high expectations of a breakthrough in the peace process when he visits Sri Lanka later this week, despite being the saviour when he visited the country under similar circumstances last December. (23 May 2006)- (Daily Mirror on 24 May 2006)
- An LTTE pistol gang has reportedly executed a husband and wife publicly in the Mullaitivu town on May 23 for not attending the civilian military training program held a few days ago in an LTTE camp, civilian sources said. (23 May 2006)- (Daily Mirror on 25 May 2006)

\* For the purpose of accuracy, un-dated indicators (in the reproduced news items) such as "yesterday/today/tomorrow" are edited to indicate their exact date.



- The UNP on May 25 warned there might be intervention by United Nations troops to settle the ethnic conflict in Sri Lanka if the Mahinda Rajapaksa administration did not act effectively to resume the peace process. (25 May 2006)- (Daily Mirror on 26 May 2006)
- As the European Union is finalizing a formal ban on the LTTE, Sri Lanka has called on the oil-rich Arab countries to follow suit. The plea was made by Foreign Minister Mangala Samaraweera, on May 24, in Doha. (24 May 2006)- (Daily Mirror on 26 May 2006)
- Suspected LTTE cadres on May 26 gunned down a Deputy Director of a World Bank-backed irrigation project in Batticaloa. (Daily Mirror on 27 May 2006)
- Visiting Norwegian peace envoys Jon Hanssen Bauer and International Development Minister Erik Solheim met President Mahinda Rajapaksa on May 26, in a bid to kick start the stalled truce talks, diplomatic sources said. (26 May 2006)- (Daily News on 27 May 2006)
- The Government of India has renewed its ban on the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam saying that the organisation's objective for a separate homeland for all Tamils continues to threaten the sovereignty and territorial integrity of India. (The Island on 28 May 2006)
- The Nordic truce monitoring mission on May 28 claimed that the warring LTTE factions were not interested in resolving their differences through negotiations. Maj. General. Ulf Henricsson, the Swedish head of the five-nation mission, acknowledged that there was no evidence to suggest that they were willing to talk. (The Island on 29 May 2006)
- Sri Lanka Monitoring Mission chief Gen. Ulf Henricsson on May 28 insisting that the Ceasefire Agreement still holds true, said nobody can expect miracles when working for peace. (28 May 2006)- (Daily News on 29 May 2006)
- The LTTE on May 29 formally announced it would take part in the upcoming Oslo talks on the safety of the SLMM monitors in Sri Lanka in what would be the first time the government and the rebels sit at the negotiating table since the February Geneva talks. (29 May 2006)- (Daily Mirror on 30 May 2006)
- The Co-Chair group, Norway, US, EU and Japan, will meet in Tokyo today to take stock of the current situation and to do a 'soul searching' of achievements and failures up to date. The group which will meet at a crucial juncture is expected to discuss mainly the situation in the North and East and the next round of talks to which the Government had been trying hard to get the LTTE's consent to participate, for the past few months. (Daily News on 30 May 2006)
- The LTTE has allegedly threatened Muslims living in government-controlled areas at Muttur in Trincomalee asking them to vacate the area within the next 72 hours or face the consequences while at least three soldiers were killed and one injured in suspected LTTE attacks in Batticaloa and Vavuniya on May 29. (29 May 2006)- (Daily Mirror on 30 May 2006)
- The JVP on May 29 said it was totally against the bringing in of UN troops to the country and maintained Sri Lanka was not a failed state as claimed by certain sections of the international community and some local political parties. (29 May 2006)- (Daily Mirror on 30 May 2006)
- The government on May 30 welcomed the European Union ban on the LTTE whilst reiterating its commitment to a negotiated settlement to the country's ethnic issue. (30 May 2006)- (Daily Mirror on 31 May 2006)
- Hours after the European Union imposed a ban on the LTTE, suspected Tiger cadres shot dead twelve civilians and injured two at Omathiyamadu area in Welikanda early on May 30, military spokesman Prasad Samarasinghe said. (30 May 2006)- (Daily Mirror on 31 May 2006)
- The Tokyo Co-chairs on May 30 called on the Government and the LTTE to "take immediate steps to reverse the deteriorating situation and put the country back on the road to peace".(30 May 2006)- (The Island on 31 May 2006)
- In a move that would give a boost to the fragile peace process in the country, the Government May 31 said it was willing to meet the LTTE in Oslo to discuss matters pertaining to ceasefire monitors. Government Peace Secretariat Head, Palitha Kohona told the Daily Mirror that the Government was ready to take part in talks in Oslo on June 8 – 9 with regard to the security of the Sri Lanka Monitoring Mission. (8-9 June 2006)- (Daily Mirror on 01 June 2006)
- President Mahinda Rajapakse on June 2 called upon all political parties to cooperate in finding a solution to the national question with an understanding of today's realities. (02 June 2006)- (The Island on 03 June 2006)
- The government on June 2 claimed that underaged LTTE recruits had taken part in last May 30 massacre of 12 civilians at Omathiyamadu in Welikanda. (02 June 2006)- (Daily Mirror on 03 June 2006)



- Norway said on June 2 that it would work with the LTTE in an effort to facilitate a peace deal, despite the EU having officially added the rebel group to its terror blacklist. (02 June 2006)- (Daily Mirror on 03 June 2006)
- Despite the Nordic truce monitoring mission suspending naval monitoring consequent to the May 11 attack on a naval convoy off the Mullaitivu coast, the navy is moving men and material between Trincomalee and Kankasanthurai. (The Island on 04 June 2006)
- The LTTE said on June 5 the outcome of the Oslo talks this week would decide the future of the now suspended second round of Geneva talks with the EU ban on the rebels threatening to scuttle further progress. (05 June 2006)- (Daily Mirror on 06 June 2006)
- Many an eyebrow has been raised in security circles by the failure of the Navy to effectively patrol the area surrounding the Welisara Navy base. The LTTE cadres, who launched June 6 claymore mine attack, according to sources, had waited for a long time in a vacant block of land close to this vital camp. Had precautionary measures been adopted they could have been detected. (06 June 2006)- (The Island on 07 June 2006)
- The much awaited Oslo talks failed to kick off June 08 after the LTTE refused to sit down with a low level Government team to discuss the issues related to the operations of the Sri Lanka Monitoring Mission and its security. (08 June 2006)- (Daily Mirror on 09 June 2006)
- The LTTE has no rights in the sea or in Sri Lanka's air space according to international law, stressed the spokesperson of Sri Lanka Monitoring Mission (SLMM) Helen Olafsdottir. (Daily News on 09 June 2006)
- The Government Peace Secretariat said it would get the LTTE also involved in the task of drafting a new constitution aimed at ending the ethnic issue. Secretariat Head Palitha Kohona told the Times of India, that he was "optimistic" that the LTTE would respond positively to the move. "This will be the first time that a government will be inviting them to get involved directly in the drafting process," he said before leaving for Oslo to discuss the role of the SLMM. (02 June 2006)- (Daily Mirror on 09 June 2006)
- OSLO-Norway today blamed the European Union for contributing to a breakdown in talks between the government and the LTTE which has thrown the question of further Norwegian mediation wide open. The rebels aborted a two-day meeting in Oslo with government representatives arranged by Norway to discuss the safety of the Sri Lanka Monitoring Mission overseeing a fragile truce. They said they objected to the presence of EU members in the SLMM following a decision by the EU last month to place the LTTE on its list of terrorist organizations. (AFP). (Daily Mirror on 10 June 2006)
- The Government on June 9 expressed concern over an unfounded and prejudicial report, released on June 4, 2006 by the Sri Lanka Monitoring Mission, on the implementation of the Agreements reached between the GOSL and the LTTE at the Geneva Talks of 22-23 February 2006. It had been agreed that this report would be submitted at the second session of the CFA talks to be held from April 19 -26, 2006 in Geneva. (04 June 2006)- (The Island on 10 June 2006)
- In a move that is likely to further strain the relations between the government and the facilitators, President Mahinda Rajapaksa is to take Norway to task over the letter fired by it on Friday. The President is expected to send a strongly-worded reply claiming that Norway has made a "glaring mistake" by giving parity of status to the government and a terrorist organization in the second question. (Daily Mirror on 12 June 2006)
- Monitoring activities will continue unchanged until the government and the LTTE respond to the five questions posed by Norway in relation to the future of the ceasefire agreement and the safety of the monitors, the Sri Lanka Monitoring Mission said yesterday. "Our monitoring will go on. We will decide on the future once the parties respond to the questions posed by Norway. We expect the response by June 20," SLMM spokesman Thorfinnur Omarsson said. (Daily Mirror on 13 June 2006)
- The main opposition UNP warned the government on June 13 that the peace process was heading for a total collapse unless urgent and effective action was taken to get it back on track with the help of the Co-chairs and India. The party's assistant general secretary Tissa Attanayake told a news conference, the peace process was in tatters with the continued escalation of violence in the north and east. (13 June 2006)- (Daily Mirror on 14 June 2006)
- The LTTE would soon establish self rule in the North and East of the country, Political Wing leader S. P. Thamilselvan said addressing a press conference in Switzerland, according to reports reaching Wannai. The LTTE has been banned by the European Union, donor countries have restricted aid and the Sri Lankan government is not honest in their peace moves and under these circumstances the LTTE has no alternative other than declaring self rule, he is reported to have said. (The Island on 14 June 2006)



- In the aftermath of the breakdown of the Oslo talks last week, the Norwegian government said yesterday it would not present any new mediation or peace initiative in the Sri Lankan conflict involving the government and the LTTE. (*Daily Mirror on 14 June 2006*)
- Amnesty International has called for urgent action to locate the eight Tamils who went missing on May 6 from a Jaffna Hindu temple where they were spending the night and it has expressed grave concern for their safety. (*Daily Mirror on 14 June 2006*)
- No special treatment was given to the arriving LTTE Oslo team led by S.P. Thamilselvam at the Bandaranaike International Airport, June 14. (*Daily News on 15 June 2006*)
- The government on May 14 responded to the five questions posed by Norway while the facilitators reiterated their commitment to Sri Lanka's peace effort. "As a government we have no problem with these five points as we have already supported these factors regarding the SLMM although it might just need a bit of fine tuning," defence spokesman Keheliya Rambukwella said. (*14 June 2006*)- (*Daily Mirror on 15 June 2006*)
- The government strongly condemned June 15's Kebithigollewa massacre as "barbaric and inhuman while saying the time had come to seriously re-evaluate the fragile ceasefire agreement and restructure it if necessary. Media Minister Anura Priyadharshana Yapa said the government strongly condemned the attack carried out by terrorists with the aim of instigating a backlash to fulfill their evil designs. (*Daily Mirror on 16 June 2006*)
- The LTTE issued a media statement in Kilinochchi on June 15 condemning the Kebithigollewa as "senseless violence used for political ends," Tamilnet reported. Armed acts targeting civilians "cannot be justified under any circumstances," the LTTE said charging that Sri Lankan armed elements who have intensified their attacks on Tamil civilians for political ends, have also begun targeting Sinhala civilians with the aim of blaming the Tigers. (*Daily Mirror on 16 June 2006*)
- The breakaway LTTE eastern commander and Tamil Makkal Viduthalai Pullikal (TMVP) leader Karuna Amman in an exclusive interview with the Daily Mirror lashed out at the post Geneva SLMM report which suggests some elements within the government security forces are collaborating with Karuna cadres to attack the LTTE. (*Daily Mirror on 16 June 2006*)
- The government is to reassess its commitment to the Ceasefire Agreement and resort to deterrent military action in the light of June 15 claymore mine blast by the LTTE which killed 61 and left 45 others injured in an attack on a bus at Kongollewa (*sic*). (*The Island on 16 June 2006*)
- The LTTE said on June 16 the war environment now experienced in the country had placed the cease fire agreement as a document now remained only on paper and warned its commanders were prepared to retaliate for any further "limited operations" carried out by the government security forces. LTTE peace secretariat Head S. Puleedevan told the Daily Mirror the air and ground raids carried out by the government security forces created a "serious situation" which indicated the government was re-launching the war. (*16 June 2006*)- (*Daily Mirror on 17 June 2006*)
- The government on June 16 dismissed LTTE claims that civilian locations took the brunt of the Air Force and Army bombardments launched after Thursday's claymore attack in Kebithigollewa. Military spokesman Prasad Samarasinghe told the Daily Mirror the Air Force had confirmed that the air raids on LTTE targets in the North and East had hit intended rebel targets. (*Daily Mirror on 17 June 2006*)
- Three more damaged attack boats, left behind by the LTTE, were found by the Navy late June 17 evening, from the sea north of Mannar, as the Navy continues with its rescue operations, looking for eight missing sailors. Military sources said that the Navy and Air Force gunships had detected three LTTE attack boats, which had participated at the Mannar sea drama, being taken towards Vedithalathivu area, soon after the battle. (*Daily Mirror on 19 June 2006*)
- Two Sinhala boatmen are under interrogation for their alleged links with the LTTE hit squad apprehended Saturday morning at Pamunugama. The navy intercepted their boat off Pamunugama as they were on their way back after dropping the squad of frogmen tasked with targeting navy vessels. The suspects are now in the custody of the Criminal Investigation Department (CID) tasked with investigating the plot, which if had succeeded, would have had a catastrophic impact on the country. (*The Island on 19 June 2006*)
- The LTTE is yet to respond to the five critical questions put forward by Norway to both the Government and the LTTE, regarding the future of the SLMM with the deadline for the reply set to expire today. (*Daily Mirror on 20 June 2006*)
- Suspected LTTE cadres launched a major strike on troops guarding the Somawathi Chaitya in Polonnaruwa on June 19. The ancient Buddhist site came under attack when Tigers attacked security forces personnel using small arms around 5.50 pm. (*Daily Mirror on 21 June 2006*)



- LTTE on June 20 reaffirmed its commitment to a truce despite a surge in violence, but said the future of ceasefire monitors from Denmark, Finland and Sweden was still in the balance. (20 June 2006)- (Daily Mirror on 21 June 2006)
- The Government on June 21 admitted in parliament that helicopter parts and some other items imported by the NGOs in the aftermath of the tsunami could be a threat to national security. This was disclosed by Minister Jagath Pushpakumara in response to a question raised by JVP MP Piyasiri Wijenayake. (Daily Mirror on 22 June 2006)
- Acting on local and international reports, President Mahinda Rajapaksa has appointed a top level military committee to probe charges relating to June 17 attack on a church in Pesalai. The Daily Mirror learns that President Rajapaksa took the decision after meeting of the National Security Council on June 21 and said he wanted an immediate report mainly on a complaint by Mannar's Bishop the Rt. Revd. Rayappu Joseph that Navy personnel were responsible for the attack on the church in which six civilians were killed and at least 47 injured. (21 June 2006)- (Daily Mirror on 23 June 2006)
- Secretary General of the Government Peace Secretariat Dr. Palitha Kohona said that the LTTE's overt rejection of peace monitors from EU countries was a mere eyewash in order to keep away from participating in the Oslo talks. (Daily News on 24 June 2006)
- The government rejects the rationale behind the LTTE's demand for the removal of SLMM monitors from EU countries. It agrees with the observation made by the Norwegian Minister of International Development Erik Solheim quoted in the Royal Norwegian Government (RNG) Media release of June 22 that "the LTTE's demand that SLMM monitors from EU countries be replaced is deeply regrettable and will weaken the SLMM in a critical period". (Daily Mirror on 24 June 2006)
- Less than 24 hours after LTTE Peace Secretariat head S.Pulithevan telling the BBC that the Tigers were ready to talk peace with the government, Defence spokesman and Plan Implementation Minister Keheliya Rambukwella accused the LTTE of looking for flimsy excuses to scuttle the peace process. (The Island on 24 June 2006)
- Confirming reports that some government security forces members are believed to be on the LTTE's payroll, the Military Police arrested a soldier, serving in the Forward Defence Line at Kalyanapura in Welioya for alleged links to the LTTE. (Daily Mirror on 26 June 2006)
- The Government says it will oppose any moves to re-appoint a Norwegian as the head of the SLMM and further raised suspicions over the actual motives behind the LTTE demanding the removal of cease-fire monitors from EU member countries. (Daily Mirror on 26 June 2006)
- The military on Friday (June 21) accused the LTTE of triggering clashes near places of religious worship as part of their strategy to discredit the government. The recent confrontation triggered by Sea Tigers off Pesalai was part of their line of attack, a senior navy official said. (The Island on 26 June 2006)
- Deputy Chief of Staff of the Sri Lanka Army Major General Parami Kulatunga and three others were killed in an LTTE suicide bomb attack at Pannipitiya on June 26. He was on his way to Army Headquarters at around 8.00 a.m. (26 June 2006)- (The Island on 27 June 2006)
- The assassination of Major General Parami Kulatunge, the Deputy Chief of Staff of the Sri Lanka Army, is another example of the LTTE's continued commitment to terrorism and its cowardly use of suicide killers, deserving of contempt and condemnation, President Mahinda Rajapaksa said in a special message on the LTTE's assassination carried out last morning. (Daily News on 27 June 2006)
- Around ten Sea Tigers and five Naval personnel were reportedly killed and two boats destroyed, when Tigers launched an attack on a fleet of Navy boats yesterday off Kalpitiya, Navy sources said. (Daily Mirror on 29 June 2006)
- New Delhi- IANS-The Indian government on June 27 said forgiving Sri Lanka's Tamil Tigers for the 1991 killing of former prime minister Rajiv Gandhi would amount to endorsing their ideology of terror. Minister of State for External Affairs Anand Sharma told NDTV in response to Tiger ideologue Anton Balasingham's comments: 'The people of India cannot forget the dastardly crime that was committed by the LTTE Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam). (27 June 2006)- (The Island on 29 June 2006)
- The Supreme Court on June 29 issued an interim order restraining former Chief of Defence Staff and Navy Commander Daya Sandagiri from functioning as the Deputy Secretary to the Ministry of Defence, Law and Order. (29 June 2006)- (Daily Mirror on 30 June 2006)
- A Tamil party - Akhila Ilankai Tamil United Front (AITUF)- in a letter to President Mahinda Rajapaksa has called for the restructuring of the All Party Conference and said the APC should not be a forum for LTTE bashing but instead a gathering of political parties to seek a consensus on solving the ethnic conflict. (Daily Mirror on 30 June 2006)





- The UNICEF on June 31 urged the LTTE to free 1,358 child soldiers in its captivity. The agency said it had met the Tamil Tiger rebels and asked them to stop recruiting underage fighters and immediately release those already enlisted. (31 June 2006)- (Daily Mirror on 01 July 2006)
- Public servants who did not report to work on June 28, the day of the Trincomalee Hartal have been deemed to have vacated their posts, according to a presidential directive. (Daily Mirror on 01 July 2006)
- The Tigers hit back today at claims by UNICEF that more than 1000 children are enlisted as soldiers, saying its reports are grossly exaggerated. (Daily Mirror on 03 July 2006)
- The government expects the international community to pressure the Tigers against using civilians for military purposes. Peace Secretariat Chief Dr. Palitha Kohona on July 2 expressed serious concern over ongoing LTTE efforts to train civilians in armed combat as part of their efforts to strengthen their fighting units. (02 July 2006) - (The Island on 03 July 2006)
- Truce monitors from European Union (EU) member states -- Denmark, Finland and Sweden must leave the country by September 1, a top Tamil Tiger rebel leader told AFP today. Some 37 out of 57 Scandinavian monitors from the three states cannot be considered neutral, after the EU put the Tigers on its list of banned terrorist groups in May, Tiger political wing leader S. P. Thamilselvan said. (Daily Mirror on 04 July 2006)
- Dozens of Tamil villagers have fled their homes in areas controlled by the LTTE to escape the insurgents' order that they must get combat training. "If we are trained to fight, then we may have to fight," said Nabarasa, 28, who fled with his wife to this government-held village near the town of Batticaloa. Nabarasa would not give his full name, fearing retribution by the rebels. (Daily Mirror on 04 July 2006)
- With the LTTE continuing to boycott the second round of Geneva talks the Government said it would this week submit a set of proposals to the parties that took part in the All Party Conference in a bid to resolve the ethnic conflict. (Daily Mirror on 05 July 2006)
- President Mahinda Rajapakse has said he wants the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) to actively participate in the efforts to evolve a lasting peaceful solution to the island's festering ethnic problem. In an interview to Indian television news channel NDTV broadcast on July 4, he said he wants to submit a set of draft proposals for discussion with the Tigers. The Tigers should consider them, respond to them and come up with their own suggestions and amendments. The idea is to evolve a solution that will be acceptable to all communities inhabiting the island. (04 July 2006) - (The Island on 05 July 2006)
- President Mahinda Rajapaksa directed the Heads of the Armed Forces and the Police to help the Human Rights Commission of Sri Lanka to 'exercise and perform its duties and functions by ensuring the fundamental rights of persons arrested or detained are respected'. (Daily Mirror on 05 July 2006)
- There is no military solution to Sri Lanka's separatist conflict, outgoing US Ambassador Jeffrey Lunstead said, as daily bloodshed has raised fears of renewed war. Lunstead, who is leaving the country after three years, also said in a statement released July 5 that a solution to Sri Lanka's civil strife would require "radical changes in the way the entire nation is governed". (The Island on 06 July 2006)
- The LTTE said on July 9 that the Tamil people would not accept a political solution that fell short of full autonomy, even as President Mahinda Rajapaksa prepared to sit down with an all party and government committee tomorrow, to discuss the framework for a solution. LTTE political head S.P. Thamilselvan, in an interview with New Delhi Television (NDTV), said that, while ideas from international devolution models could be taken into account, it could not form the basis for the solution to the conflict in Sri Lanka. (Daily Mirror on 10 July 2006)
- President Mahinda Rajapaksa in a significant step towards finding a political solution to the ethnic conflict is today expected to request political party representatives and a panel of constitutional and legal experts to formulate proposals under a broad legal and Constitutional framework within an undivided Sri Lanka. (Daily Mirror on 11 July 2006)



## FINDINGS AT A GLANCE OF THE POLL CONDUCTED FROM 14<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2006 TO 23<sup>RD</sup> JULY 2006

The following are the significant trends observed in the PCI July 2006 survey. It is important to note that this particular wave of the PCI only covers the Sinhala, Muslim and Up-Country Tamil communities in the areas outside North and East. Further, due to the total exclusion of the Tamil community in the sample, this report does not intend to present national estimations.

- ◆ When asked to rate five national issues according to their order of importance, the economy (29.5%) and the peace process (29.4%) was rated the highest by the Sinhala community. The Up-Country Tamil (Peace process- 31.3%, Economy- 24.7%) and the Muslim (Peace process- 34.8%, Economy- 30.8%) communities give high priority to the peace process followed by the economy. However, when compared to the PCI findings of May 2006, those who consider the economy (May- 27.9%, July- 29.5%) and the peace process (May- 27.1%, July- 29.4%) as the most important issue amongst the Sinhala community has slightly increased. Amongst the Up-Country Tamil community, those who consider the peace process (May- 29.3%, July- 31.3%) as the most important issue have significantly increased. Amongst the Muslim community too, those who consider the economy (May- 28.1%, July- 30.8%) and the peace process (May- 24.8%, July- 34.8%) as the most important issue have increased. (*Ref. Page 14*)
- ◆ At a moment when Sri Lanka is experiencing a 'no war, no peace' situation, a majority of the Sinhala (80.8%), Up-Country Tamil (98.5%) and Muslim (85.2%) communities believe this situation is bad and therefore, support the idea of a permanent peace settlement through negotiations. When compared to the PCI findings of May 2006, those who support a negotiated peace settlement amongst the Sinhala community has increased in July 2006 (May- 75%, July- 80.8%). Nevertheless this is still a decrease compared to PCI finding of February 2006 (95%). With regard to the Up-Country Tamil community, those who support a negotiated peace settlement have significantly increased since May 2006 (May- 78.1%, July- 98.5%). Interestingly, those who support a negotiated peace settlement amongst the Muslim community has witnessed a decrease since May 2006 (May- 96.6%, July- 85.2%). (*Ref. Page 15*)
- ◆ When asked about the Government's commitment to the peace process, a majority of Sinhala (68%) and Muslim (45.9%) communities agree that the Government is committed to find peace through talks. Amongst the Up-Country Tamil community 39.3% agree, 18% disagree and 42.6% don't know or not sure. When compared to the PCI findings of May 2006, the agreement (May- 73.2%, July- 68%) amongst the Sinhala community has decreased while the disagreement (May- 10.9%, July- 15.3%) has increased. Amongst the Up-Country Tamil community, the disagreement (May- 38.1%, July- 18%) has decreased. Amongst the Muslim community, the agreement (May- 58.6%, July- 45.9%) has decreased while the disagreement (May- 24.1%, July- 32.8%) has increased. It is noteworthy that among all three communities the percentages who believe the government is committed has dropped consistently over the last six months. (*Ref. Page 16*)
- ◆ A majority of Sinhala (49.2%) and Muslim (62.3%) communities agree that the Government is capable of finding peace through talks. Amongst the Up-Country Tamil community, 34.4% agree, 21.3% disagree and 44.3% don't know or not sure. When compared to the PCI findings of May 2006, the agreement levels amongst the Sinhala and Muslim Communities (Sinhala: May- 55.7%, July- 49.2%; Muslim May- 72.4%, July- 62.3%)

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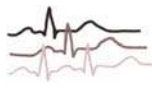
have decreased while the disagreement levels have increased (Sinhala: May- 17.1%, July- 25.3%; Muslim: May- 13.8%, July- 18%). Amongst the Up-Country Tamil community, the agreement (May- 30.6%, July- 34.4%) has slightly increased while the disagreement (May- 43.5%, July- 21.3%) has significantly decreased. *(Ref. Page 17)*

- ◆ When asked about the LTTE's commitment to the peace process, a majority of the Sinhala (74.2%) community disagree that the LTTE is committed to find peace through talks. Amongst the Up-Country Tamil community, 42.6% agree, 13.1% disagree while 44.3% don't know or not sure. Amongst the Muslim community, 27.1% agree, 35.6% disagree while 37.3% don't know or not sure. When compared to the PCI findings of May 2006, amongst the Up-Country Tamil community, the agreement (May- 50%, July- 42.6%) and the disagreement (May- 30.6%, July- 13.1%) have both decreased. Amongst the Muslim community, the agreement (May- 15.8%, July- 27.1%) has increased while the disagreement (May- 45.6%, July- 35.6%) has decreased. *(Ref. Page 18)*
- ◆ A majority of the Sinhala (45.5%) community disagree that the LTTE is capable of finding peace through talks. Amongst the Up-Country Tamil community 34.4% agree, 19.7% disagree while 45.9% don't know or not sure. A majority of the Muslim community agree (48.3%) that the LTTE is capable of finding peace through talks. When compared to the PCI findings of May 2006, the agreement (May- 17.6%, July- 26%) amongst the Sinhala community has increased while the disagreement (May- 49%, July- 45.5%) has decreased. Amongst the Up-Country Tamil community, the agreement (May- 42.6%, July- 34.4%) and disagreement (May- 34.4%, July- 19.7%) have both decreased. Similarly amongst the Muslim community too, the agreement (May- 53.6%, July- 48.3%) and the disagreement (May- 25%, July- 21.7%) have decreased. *(Ref. Page 19)*
- ◆ A majority of the Sinhala (57.3%), Up-Country Tamil (73.4%) and Muslim (77.4%) communities state, that when compared to the situation of the peace process a year ago, the country at present is 'not close at all' in approaching a permanent settlement to the ethnic conflict. In comparison with the PCI finding of May 2006, those who believe that the country is 'not close at all' in approaching a permanent settlement to the ethnic conflict, have significantly increased amongst all the three communities (Not close at all: Sinhala: May-43.4%, July- 57.3%/ Up-Country Tamil: May- 51.7%, July- 73.4%/ Muslim: May-40.7%, July- 77.4%). *(Ref. Page 20)*
- ◆ When asked who should be involved in negotiations, a majority of the Sinhala (36.6%) community state that only the Government and the LTTE should be involved in negotiations. However, a majority of the Up-Country Tamil (39.3%) and the Muslim (54.1%) communities state that the Government, Opposition, LTTE, Tamil and Muslim parties and an international third party should be involved in negotiations. *(Ref. Page 21)*
- ◆ A majority of the Sinhala (76.7%), Up-Country Tamil (63.1%) and Muslim (85.5%) communities believe that it is 'likely' a war will resume. When compared to PCI findings of May 2006, this is an increase of opinion amongst the Sinhala (May- 70.1%, July- 76.7%), Up-Country Tamil (May- 61%, July- 63.1%) and Muslim (May- 79.7%, July- 85.5%) communities. *(Ref. Page 22)*
- ◆ Of those who are aware of the CFA, a majority of the Sinhala (48.6%) community think that the CFA has not benefited the ordinary citizen. It is noteworthy this is a reversal of the PCI findings of May 2006, where a majority of the Sinhala (45.8%) community stated



that the CFA has benefited the ordinary citizen. A majority of the Up-Country Tamil (79.3%) and Muslim (85.4%) communities continue to believe that the CFA has benefited the ordinary citizen. *(Ref. Page 23)*

- ◆ Of those who think that the CFA has benefited the ordinary citizen, a majority of the Sinhala (64%) community think the ending of killing in the country is the most important benefit of the CFA. A majority of the Up-Country Tamil (94.5%) and Muslim (89.2%) communities think freedom of movement is the most important benefit of the CFA. *(Ref. Page 24)*
- ◆ Of those who think that the CFA has not been of any benefit to the ordinary citizen, a majority of the Sinhala (55.5%) community think the LTTE strengthening itself in the Government controlled areas is the main reason. *(Ref. Page 25)*
- ◆ When asked about their satisfaction in Government's commitment to the CFA, a majority of Sinhala (43.8%) and Muslim (53.7%) communities are somewhat satisfied. With regard to the Up-Country Tamil community, 48.1% are not satisfied while another 40.7% are not satisfied at all. *(Ref. Page 26)*
- ◆ When asked about their satisfaction in LTTE's commitment to the CFA, a majority of Sinhala (63.2%) community is not satisfied at all. A majority of the Up-Country Tamil (42.9%) and the Muslim (39.5%) communities are not satisfied. *(Ref. Page 27)*
- ◆ Of those who are aware of the involvement of foreign monitors, a majority of Sinhala (48.3%), Up-Country Tamil (95.7%) and Muslim (88.2%) communities think that it is essential to have a monitoring mission for the CFA to succeed. It is noteworthy that percentage of the Sinhala community who believe that an international third party is essential is lower compared to the Up-Country Tamil and Muslim communities. When compared to the last two PCI waves in 2006, those who think 'it is essential' amongst the Sinhala community (February- 69.3%, May- 53.3%, July- 48.3%) have decreased, while those who think 'it is not essential' (February- 22.2%, May- 32.9%, July- 39.7%) have increased. The level of support for the SLMM in the Up-Country Tamil and Muslim communities continue to be high. *(Ref. Page 28)*
- ◆ A majority of the Sinhala (55.9%) community disagree with the statement that the SLMM is impartial in its monitoring of the ceasefire agreement. A majority of Up-Country Tamil (56.5%) and Muslim (55.9%) communities agree with the statement that the SLMM is impartial in its monitoring of the ceasefire agreement. When compared to the PCI findings of May 2006, the agreement levels amongst the Up-Country Tamil community have decreased (May- 72.2%, July- 56.5%) while the agreement amongst the Muslim community have increased (May- 50%, July- 55.9%). *(Ref. Page 29)*
- ◆ A majority of the Sinhala (50.6%) community disagree with the statement that the SLMM is effective in its monitoring of the ceasefire agreement. A majority of Up-Country Tamil (52.2%) and Muslim (54.3%) communities agree with the statement that the SLMM is effective in its monitoring of the ceasefire agreement. When compared to the PCI findings of May 2006, the disagreement amongst the Up-Country Tamil community has significantly decreased (May- 30%, July- 4.3%). *(Ref. Page 30)*
- ◆ A majority of the Sinhala (37.7%), Up-Country Tamil (73.8%) and Muslim (77%) communities believe that an international third party is essential and will have a positive impact on the peace process. The Sinhala community who believe that an international



third party is essential and will have a positive impact on the peace process is lower compared to the Up-Country Tamil and Muslim communities. *(Ref. Page 31)*

- ◆ When asked about the level of satisfaction with the Norwegian role as facilitator, a majority of Sinhala (46.9%) community are not satisfied at all. A majority of the Up-Country Tamil (47.6%) and Muslim (48.4%) communities are somewhat satisfied. *(Ref. Page 32)*
- ◆ When asked if they approve or disapprove of Norway continuing to facilitate the peace process, 42.8% of the Sinhala community disapproves while 14.6% approves. A majority of the Up-Country Tamil (59.4%) and Muslim (60.7%) communities approve. *(Ref. Page 33)*
- ◆ Asked as to the most suitable country to play the role of facilitator to the peace process, 26.7% of the Sinhala community says India is the most suitable country to play the role of facilitator to the peace process. 21.2% of the Sinhala community says Norway is the most suitable country to play the role of facilitator to the peace process. However, 41.1% of the Sinhala community has no opinion in this regard. A majority of the Up-Country Tamil (40.6%) community thinks India is the most suitable country to play the role of facilitator. A majority of the Muslim (38.9%) community thinks Norway is the most suitable country to play the role of facilitator. *(Ref. Page 34)*
- ◆ When asked about the need for India's involvement in the peace process, a majority of the Sinhala (52.5%), Up-Country Tamil (82.9%) and Muslim (58%) communities believe that it will have a positive impact on the peace process. When compared to the PCI findings of May 2006, the Sinhala (May- 48.8%, July- 52.5%) and Muslim (May- 55.9%, July- 58%) opinion has increased while the Up-Country Tamil (May- 84.6%, July- 82.9%) opinion have decreased. *(Ref. Page 35)*
- ◆ When asked as to who is responsible for the present violence, a majority of the Sinhala (56.2%) community thinks that the 'LTTE only' is responsible for the violence. However, 13.7% of the Sinhala community thinks the LTTE and the Security forces are responsible while 7.1% thinks the LTTE and the Karuna faction is responsible. A majority of the Up-Country Tamil (69.5%) don't know or not sure. Nevertheless, 10.2% of the Up-Country Tamil community thinks the Security forces are responsible while another 10.2% think the LTTE, Security forces, Karuna faction and other paramilitary groups are responsible. Although 50% of the Muslim community don't know or not sure, 20.7% think the LTTE and the Security forces are responsible while 17.2% think the security forces are responsible. *(Ref. Page 36)*
- ◆ Of those who are aware of the LTTE's breakaway Karuna faction, a majority of the Up-Country Tamil (75%) and Muslim (69.2%) communities think that the group should be disarmed. The Sinhala community has a mixed opinion in this regard (should be disarmed- 36.2%, should not be disarmed- 38.9%, don't know/not sure- 24.9%). *(Ref. Page 37)*
- ◆ The respondents were asked whether they believe the media reports regarding the involvement of security forces with the Karuna group. A majority in both the Sinhala and Muslim Community, 54.1% and 62.5% claim that they don't know or are not sure if the media reports are true. By contrast, a majority in the Up-Country Tamil (56.0%) community believes that the Sri Lankan armed forces are involved in assisting the Karuna group. *(Ref. Page 38)*



- ◆ When asked whether they approve or disapprove of the security forces assisting the Karuna group, a majority of the Sinhala (43.7%) and the Up-Country Tamil (73.1%) communities disapprove. In the Muslim community 37.5% approve while 45% don't know or are not sure. *(Ref. Page 39)*
- ◆ With regard to its impact on achieving peace, 13.3% of the Sinhala community thinks that it will have a positive impact while 33.1% think it will have a negative impact. However, 46.9% of the Sinhala community don't know or not sure. A majority of the Up-Country Tamil (84%) and Muslim (50%) communities think that it will have a negative impact on achieving peace. *(Ref. Page 40)*
- ◆ With regard to the recent reports on children being abducted for recruitment purposes, a majority of the Sinhala (84.6%) and Muslim (46.3%) communities think that the LTTE is responsible for these abductions. A majority of the Up-Country Tamil (68%) community don't know or not sure. Nevertheless, amongst the Up-Country Tamil community, 8% think the LTTE is responsible while 16% think other paramilitary groups are responsible. *(Ref. Page 41)*
- ◆ When people were asked whether they approve or disapprove of the removal of the SLMM monitors who happen to be from the EU member states, a majority of the Sinhala (52%) and the Muslim (46.8%) communities don't know or are not sure. However, 42% of the Sinhala community disapproves while 6% approves. Amongst the Up-Country Tamil community, 77.7% approves while 29.2% disapproves. Amongst the Muslim community, 17.7% approves while 35.5% disapproves. *(Ref. Page 42)*
- ◆ Asked about the impact of the removal of the EU monitors, on the ceasefire, 50% of the Muslim community thinks that it will have a negative impact while 41.9% don't know or not sure. In the Sinhala community, 34.3% say that it will have a negative impact while 52.5% don't know or not sure. Amongst the Up-country Tamil community, 28.1% say that it will have a negative impact while 48.4% don't know or not sure. *(Ref. Page 43)*
- ◆ At a seminar in Colombo on public sector salary anomalies on July 5<sup>th</sup> 2006, JVP-backed trade unions warned that the public sector would be forced to resort to a massive strike action since President Mahinda Rajapaksa had failed to fulfill his election pledges. People were asked whether they believe the JVP claim that the President Mahinda Rajapaksa has failed to fulfill his election pledges. In response, 42.1% of the Sinhala community disagrees while 31.3% agree. The Up-Country Tamil community has a divided opinion (Agree- 44.6%, Disagree- 44.6%). Amongst the Muslim community, a majority, 40.3% does not know or is not sure, while 37.1% agree, and 22.6% disagree. *(Ref. Page 44)*
- ◆ People were also asked if they approve or disapprove of the strike action that the JVP vowed to launch against the President's failed election pledges. A majority of the Sinhala (51.7%) and the Up-Country Tamil (57.1%) communities disapprove. A majority of the Muslim (59.1%) community approves. *(Ref. Page 45)*
- ◆ At a special convention held at the Town Hall grounds in Colombo on the 6<sup>th</sup> of July 2006, the JVP leader Somawansa Amarasinghe stated that it is high time the government shifted to military attacks when defeating terrorism. When asked whether they approve or disapprove of this statement, a majority of all the three communities disapprove of it. (Disapprove: Sinhala- 44.7%, Up-Country Tamil- 71.9%, Muslim- 62.3%). *(Ref. Page 46)*



- ◆ Of the people who are aware of the UNP's withdrawal of its support to the Government, a majority of the Sinhala (52.6%) community disapprove of the government encouraging the opposition MPs to crossover. A majority of the Up-Country Tamil (46.2%) and Muslim (45.5%) communities approve of the government encouraging the opposition MPs to crossover. *(Ref. Page 47)*
- ◆ With regard to the speculations on President dissolving the parliament and calling for a new election, a majority of the Sinhala (40.9%) community think that the President should continue as it is. A majority of the Up-Country Tamil (38.5%) community thinks that the President should form a national government with the UNP. A majority of the Muslim (38.7%) community don't know or not sure. Nonetheless, 22.6% of the Muslim community thinks the President should call for a fresh election, 21% thinks the Government should form a national government with the UNP and 17.7% thinks the President should continue as it is. *(Ref. Page 48)*
- ◆ A majority of the Sinhala (53.5%) community reject the reports of police and armed forces involvement in human rights abuses against Tamil civilians. While a majority of the Up-Country Tamil (58.5%) community accept those reports, a majority of the Muslim (42.6%) community don't know or not sure. *(Ref. Page 49)*
- ◆ When asked whether the Government is taking effective action to punish the individuals who are involved in human rights abuses, 33.3% of the Sinhala community thinks the government is taking effective action. While 13.5% think the government is not taking enough action, 53.1% don't know or not sure. A majority of the Up-Country Tamil (64.1%) and Muslim (48.4%) communities think that the Government is not taking enough action to punish the individuals who are involved in human rights abuses. *(Ref. Page 50)*
- ◆ A majority of the Sinhala (69.6%), Up-Country Tamil (87.7%) and Muslim (90.2%) communities believe that the security condition in the country has turned bad compared to the situation a year ago. However, amongst the Up-Country Tamil community 46.2% believe that the security condition has become 'very bad'. *(Ref. Page 51)*
- ◆ A majority of the Sinhala (99.1%), Up-Country Tamil (98.5%) and Muslim (96.8%) communities believe that the cost of living has increased compared to the situation a year ago. *(Ref. Page 52)*

**For further information please contact:**

Pradeep Peiris or Rangani Ranasinghe  
Social Indicator  
Centre for Policy Alternatives  
105, 5th Lane,  
Colombo 3,  
Sri Lanka.

**Tel:** +9411 2370472 **Email:** cpapoll@diamond.lanka.net

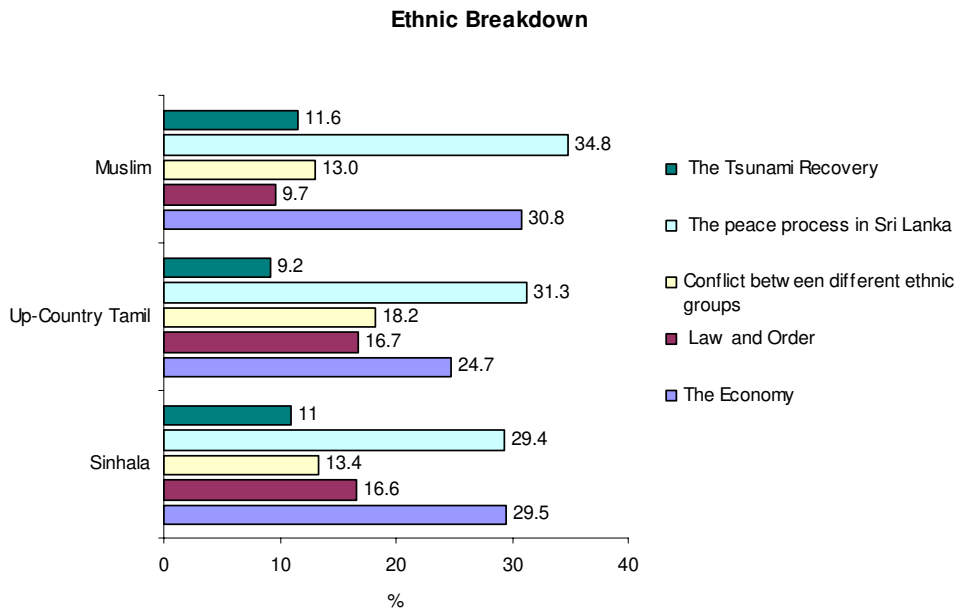
**Fax:** +9411 2370475 **Web:** <http://www.cpalanka.org>



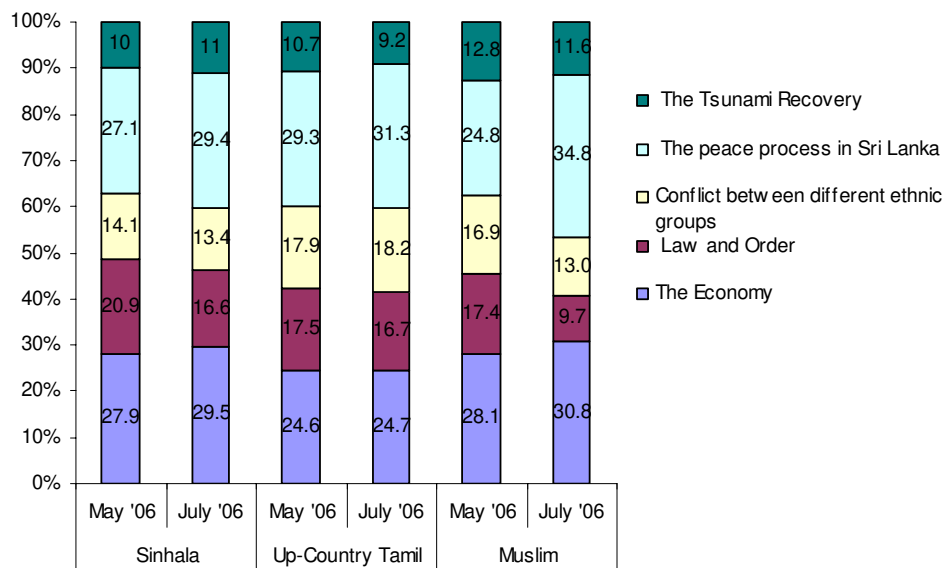
## Peace Confidence Index (PCI) May 2001 – July 2006

### Important Issues

Rating the degree of importance of five national issues.



### Changes of Opinion in Sinhala, Up-Country Tamil and Muslim communities



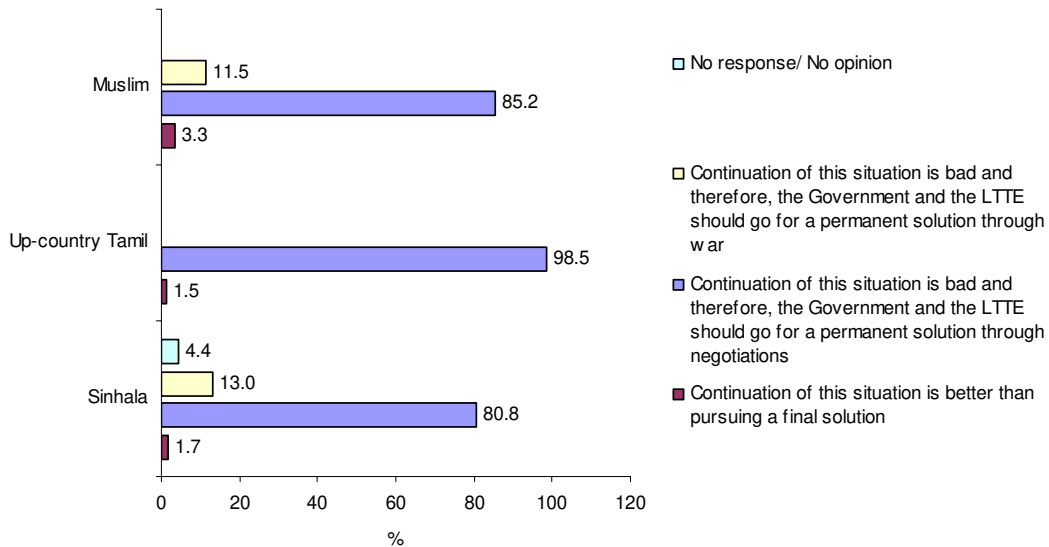




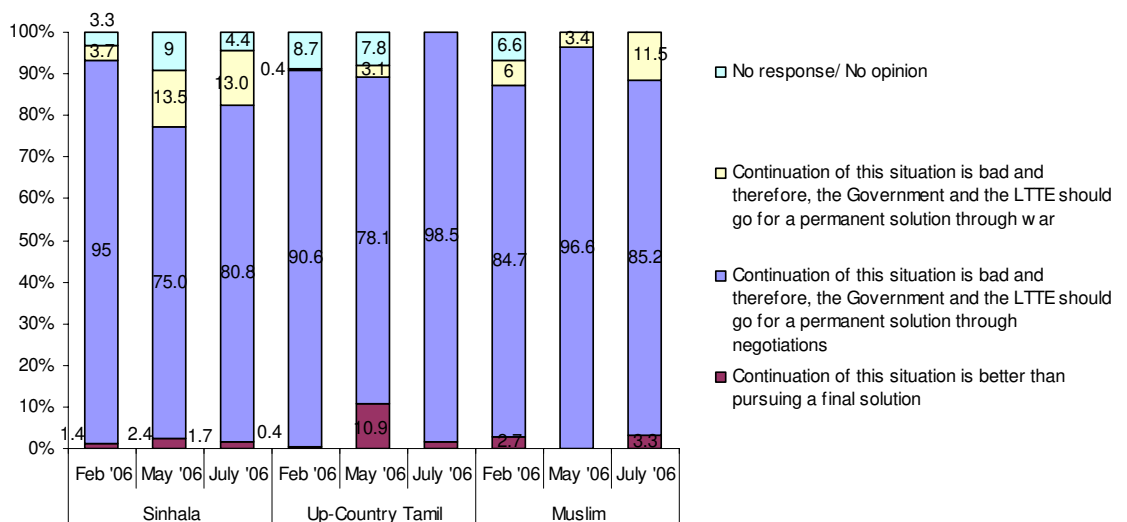
## Solutions

At the moment Sri Lanka is experiencing a 'no war, no peace' situation. Some people say that the continuation of this situation is better than pursuing a final settlement. Others argue that continuation of this situation is bad and, therefore the Government and the LTTE should go for a permanent solution, either through negotiations or war. Please tell me which of the arguments best describes your opinion.

National Breakdown



Changes of Opinion amongst the Sinhala, Up-Country Tamil and Muslim communities

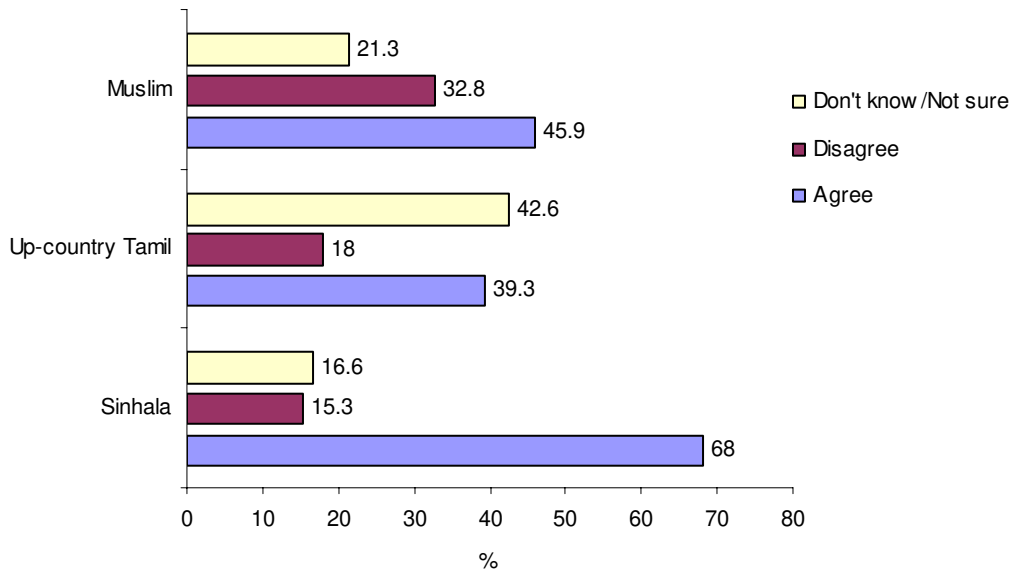




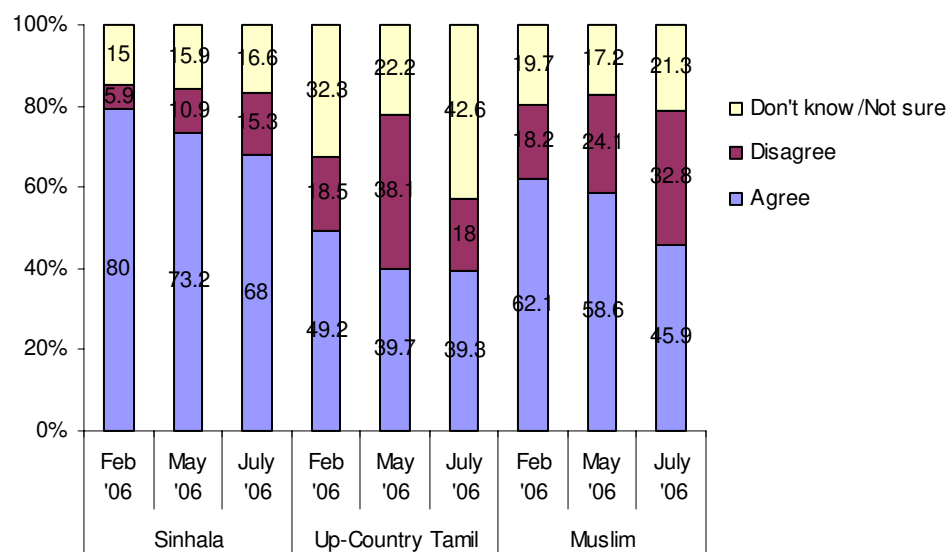
## Confidence

I think the Government is committed to find peace through talks.

### Ethnic Breakdown



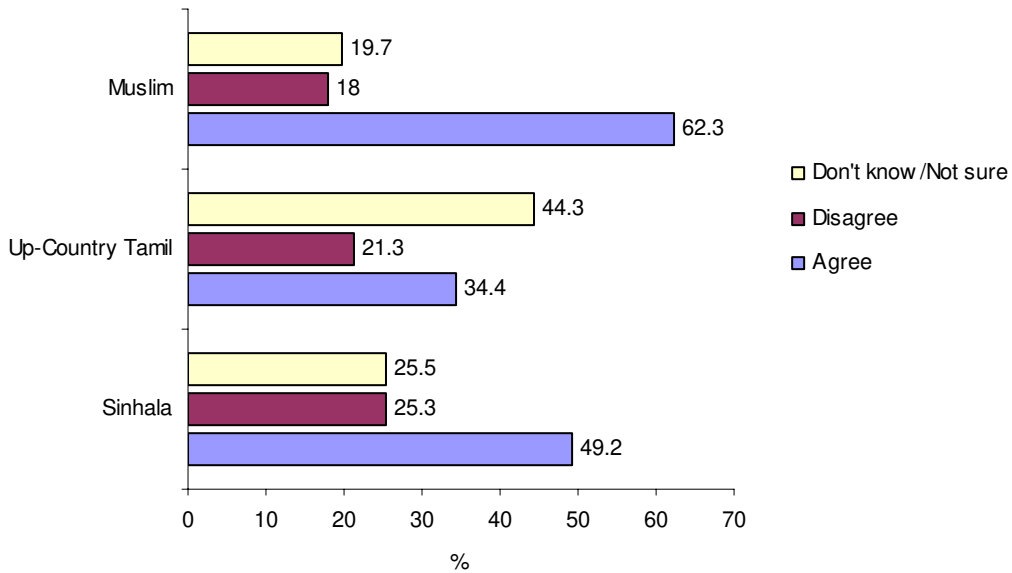
### Changes of opinion amongst the Sinhala, Up-Country Tamil and Muslim communities



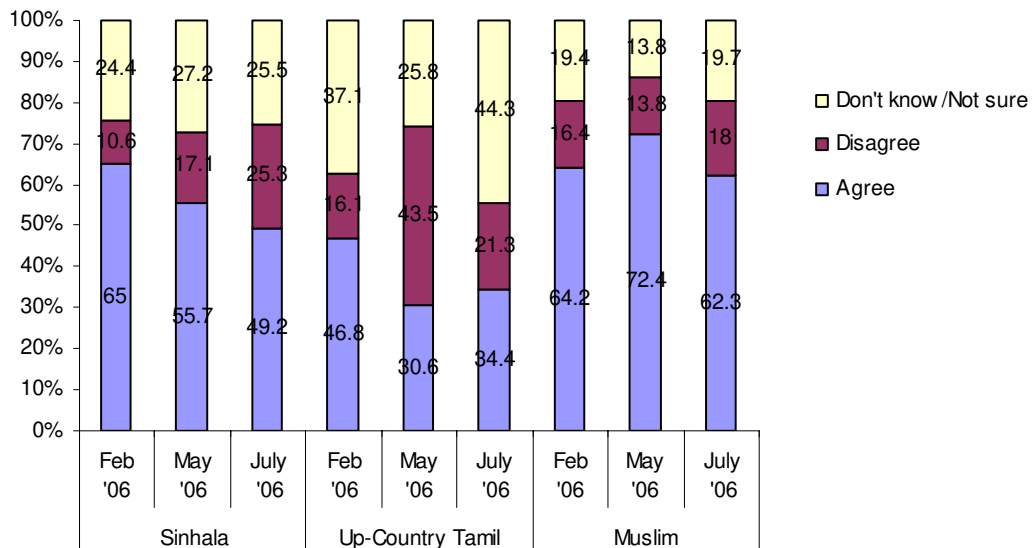


**I think the Government is fully capable of finding peace through talks.**

**Ethnic Breakdown**



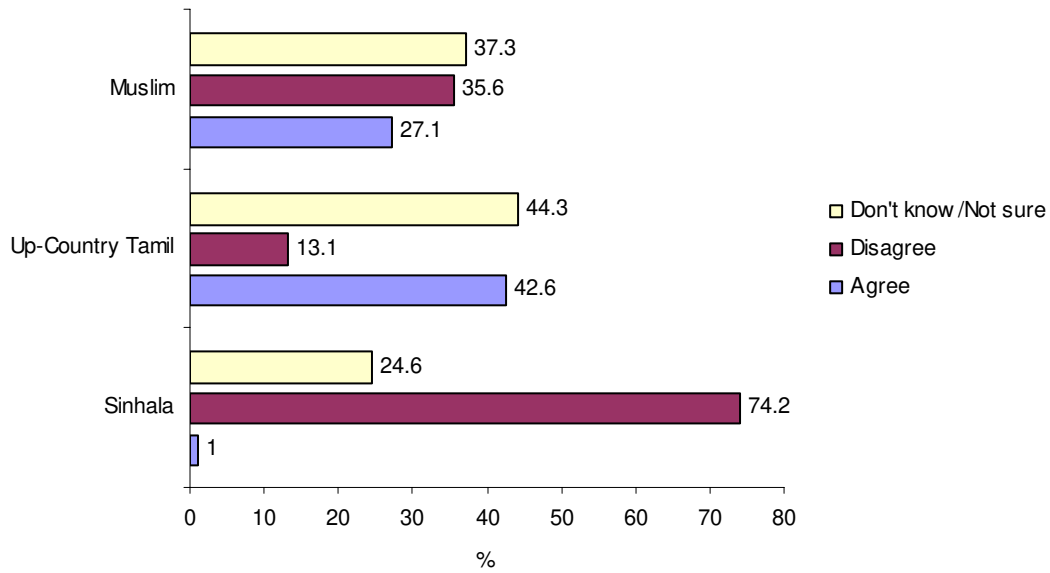
**Changes of opinion amongst the Sinhala, Up-Country Tamil and Muslim communities**



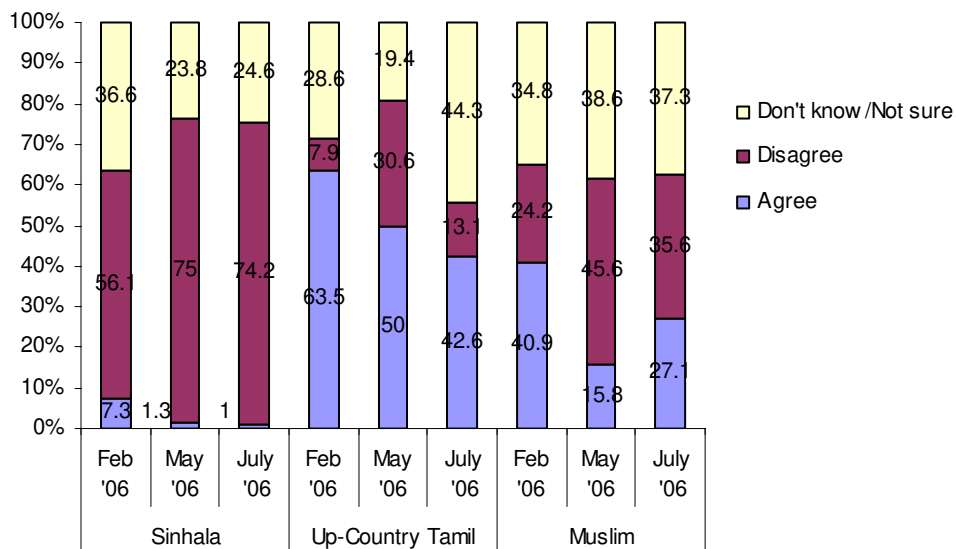


**I think the LTTE is committed to find peace through talks.**

**Ethnic Breakdown**



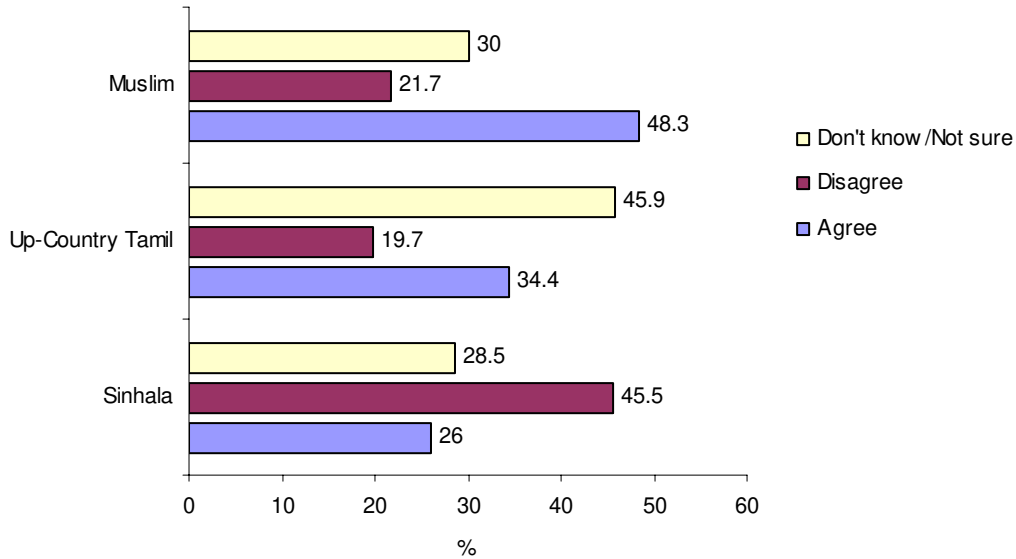
**Changes of opinion amongst the Sinhala, Up-Country Tamil and Muslim communities**



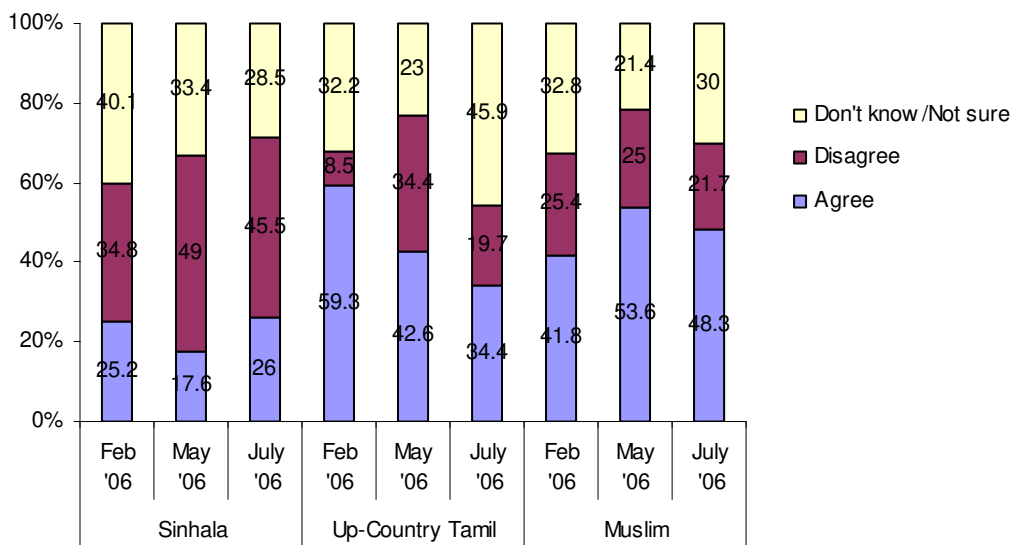


**I think the LTTE is fully capable in finding peace through talks.**

**Ethnic Breakdown**



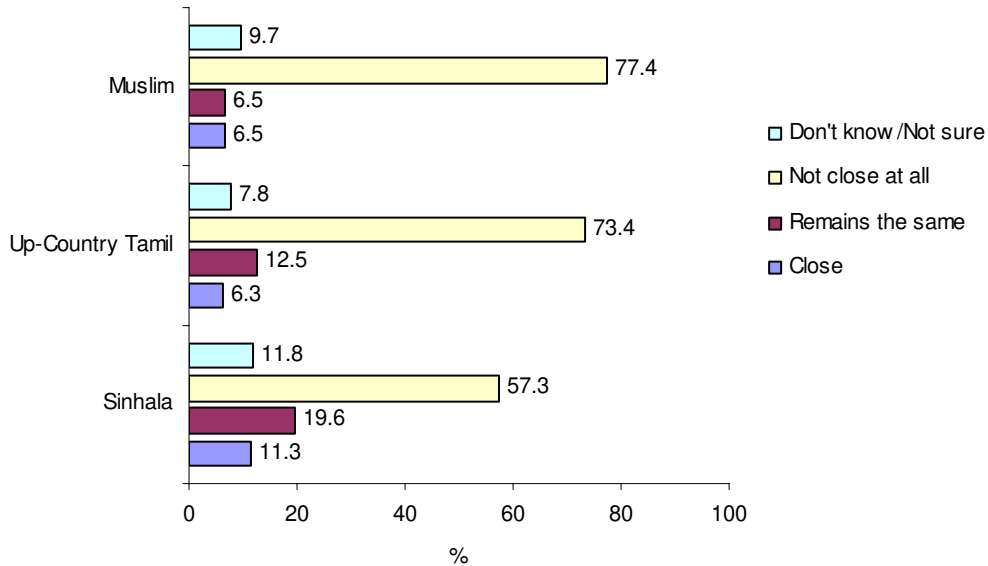
**Changes of opinion amongst the Sinhala, Up-Country Tamil and Muslim communities**



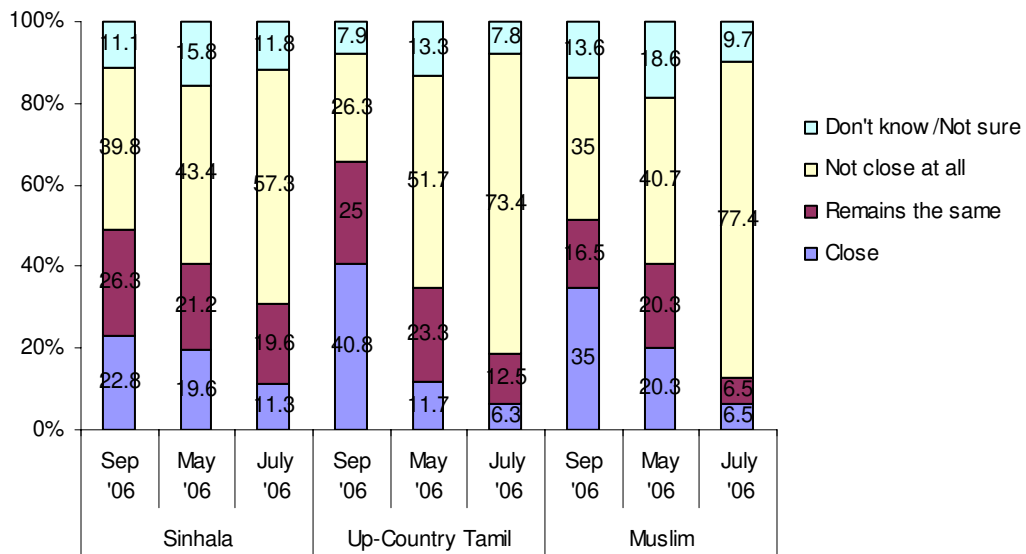


Compared to the situation of the peace process a year ago, how close do you think is the country, at present, in approaching a permanent settlement to the ethnic conflict?

**Ethnic Breakdown**



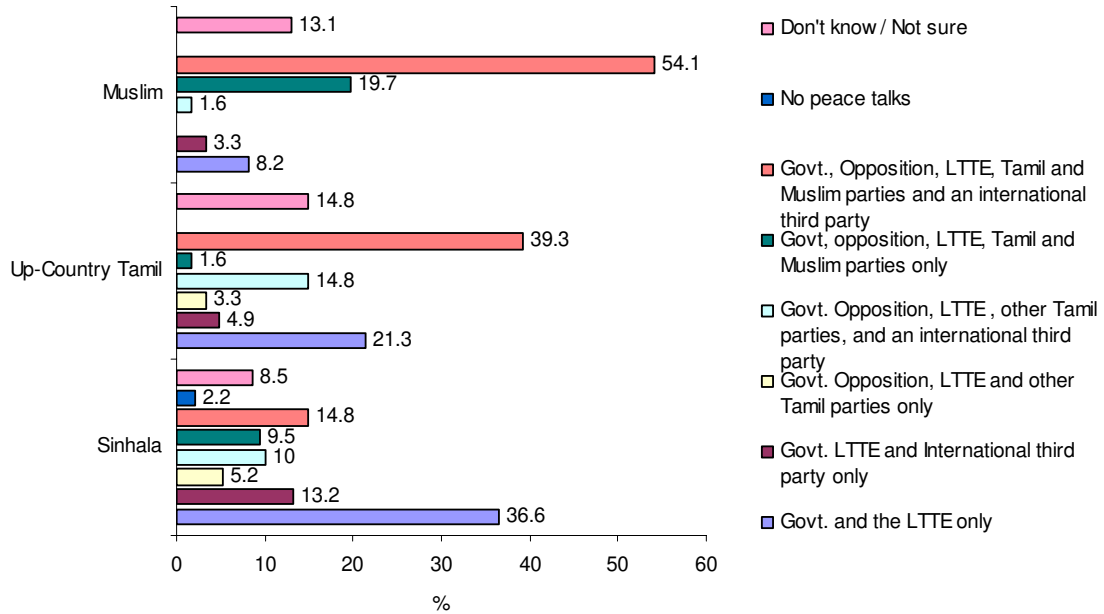
**Changes of opinion amongst the Sinhala, Up-Country Tamil and Muslim communities**





**If peace is to be found through negotiations, according to your opinion, who should be involved in negotiations?**

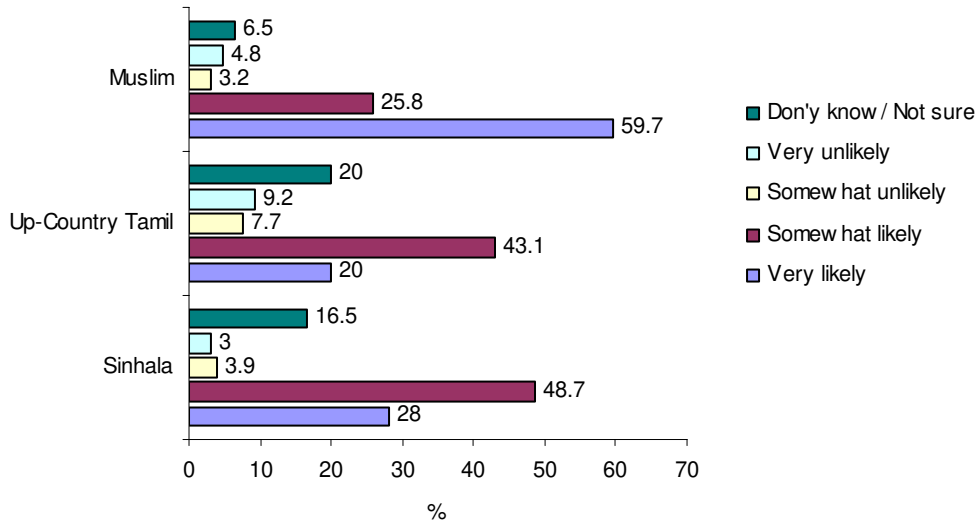
**Ethnic Breakdown**



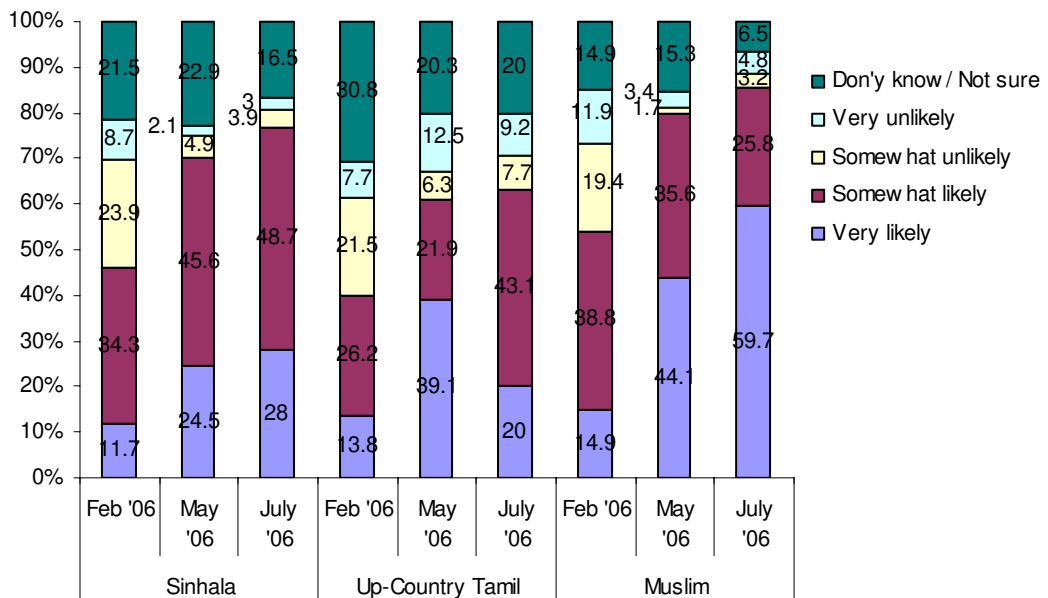


**Given the current situation in the country, how likely is it that war will resume?**

**Ethnic Breakdown**



**Changes of opinion amongst the Sinhala, Up-Country Tamil and Muslim communities**

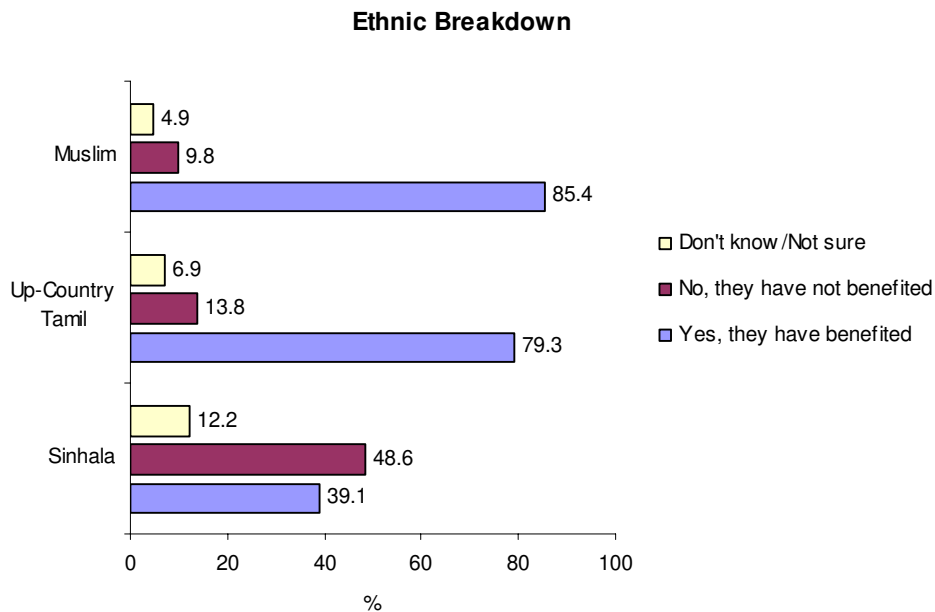




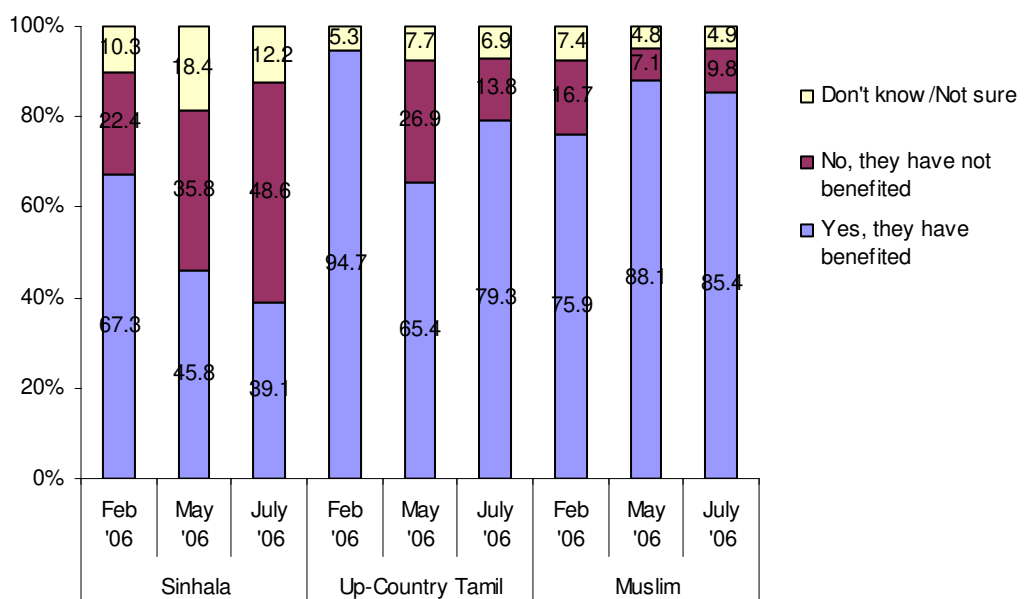


## Ceasefire Agreement (CFA)

Some people say that the CFA has brought many benefits to ordinary citizens while others say that the CFA has not yielded any benefits to them. In your opinion have Sri Lankans benefited from the CFA or not?



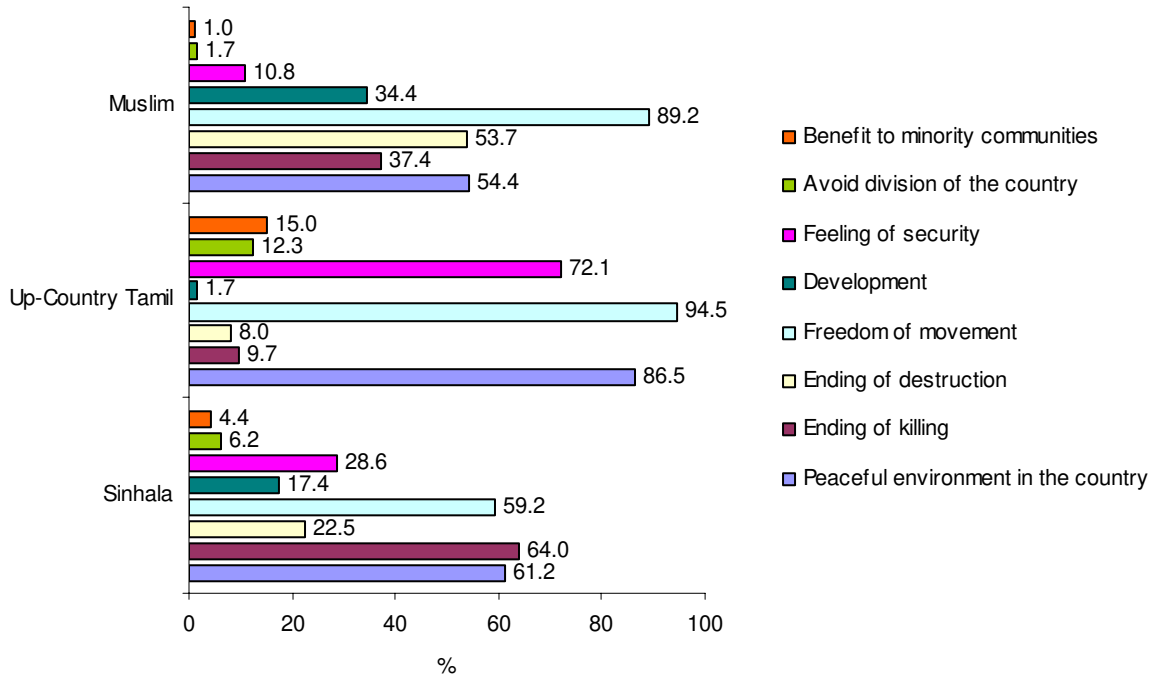
### Changes of opinion of Sinhala, Up-Country Tamil and Muslim communities





If the answer is "Yes", please tell me three most important benefits of the CFA.

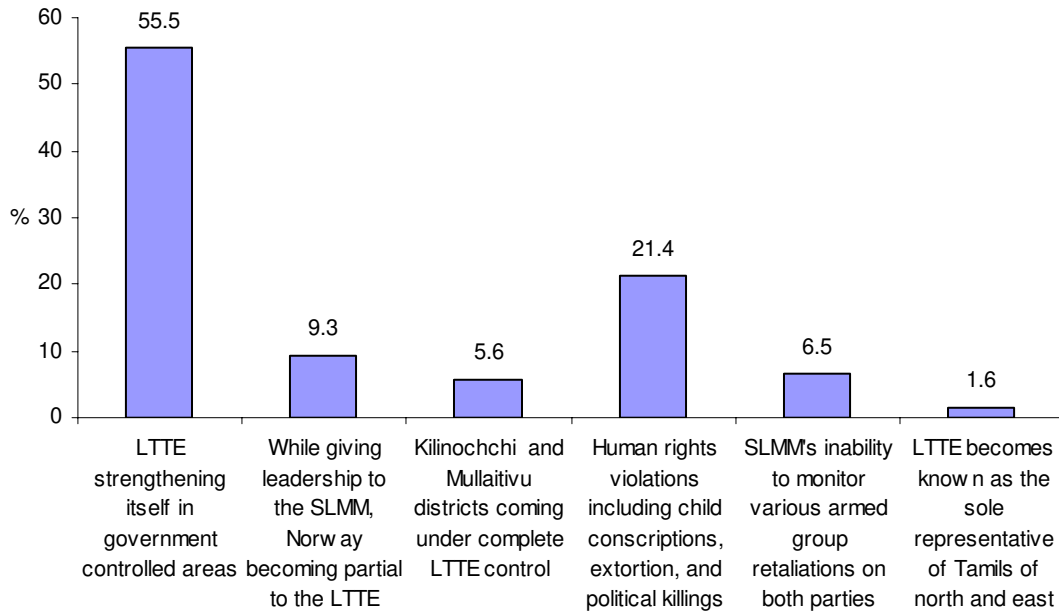
Ethnic Breakdown





If you think that the CFA has not been of any benefit to people, what do you think is the main reason?

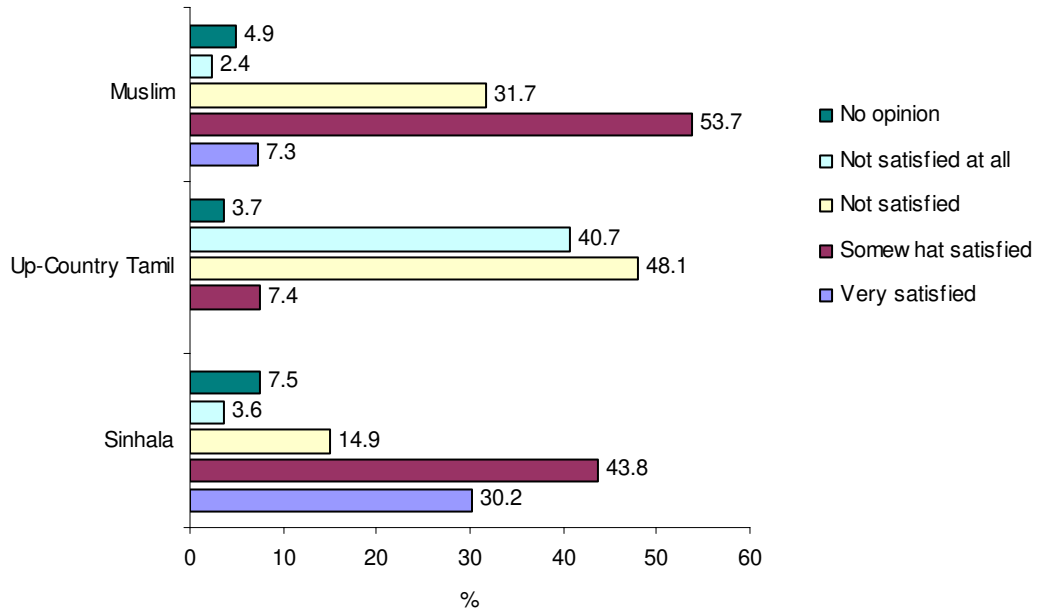
**Response of the Sinhala community**





### How satisfied are you with the Government's commitment to the Ceasefire Agreement?

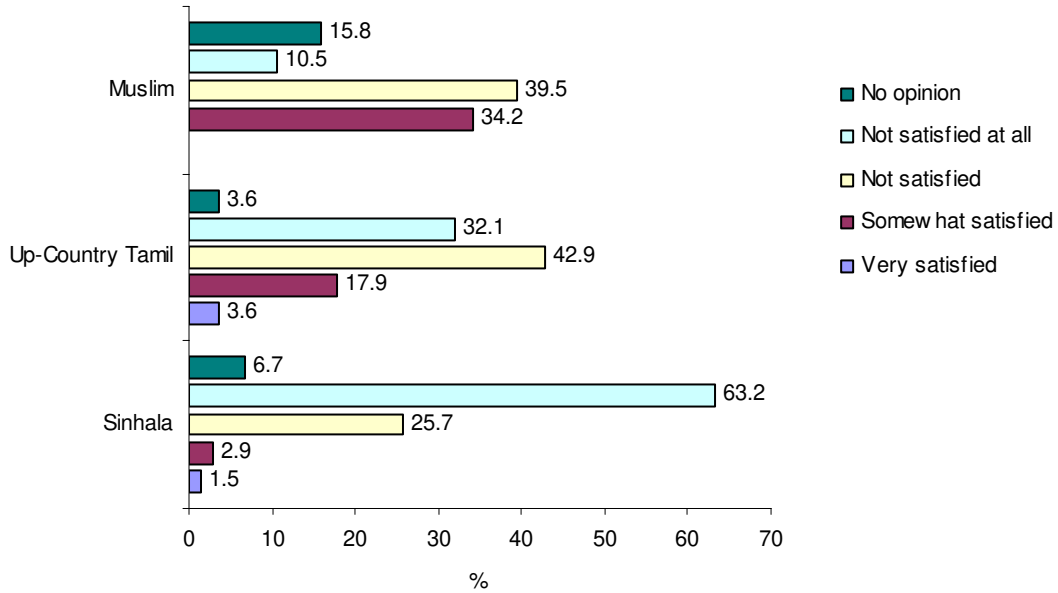
Ethnic Breakdown





### How satisfied are you with the LTTE's commitment to the Ceasefire Agreement?

#### Ethnic Breakdown

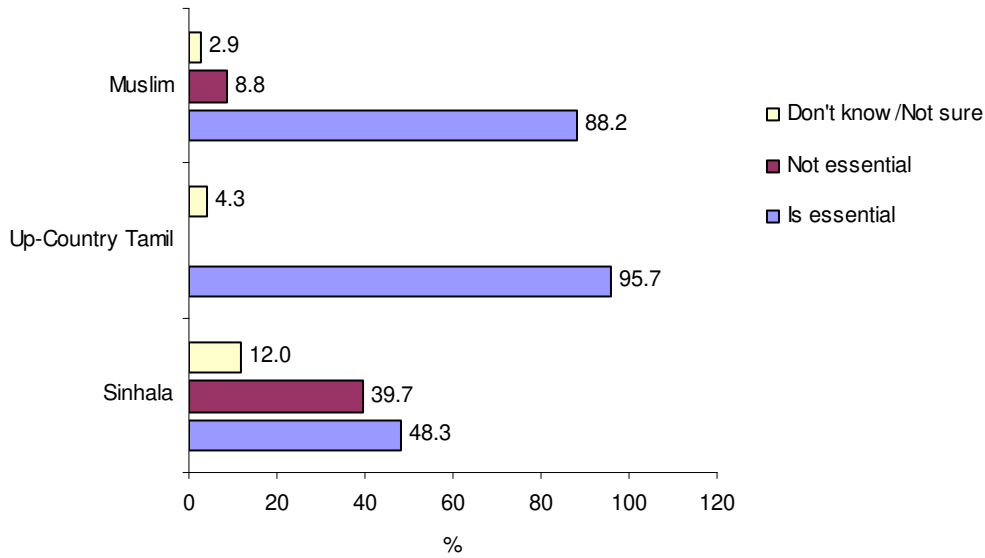




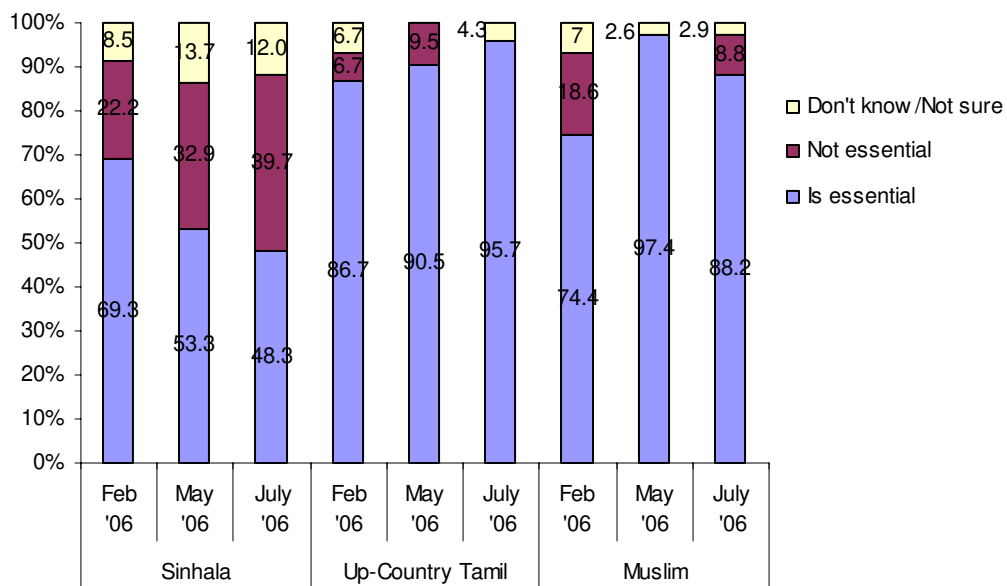
**Sri Lanka Monitoring Mission**

**What is your opinion on the need of a monitoring mission?**

**Ethnic Breakdown**



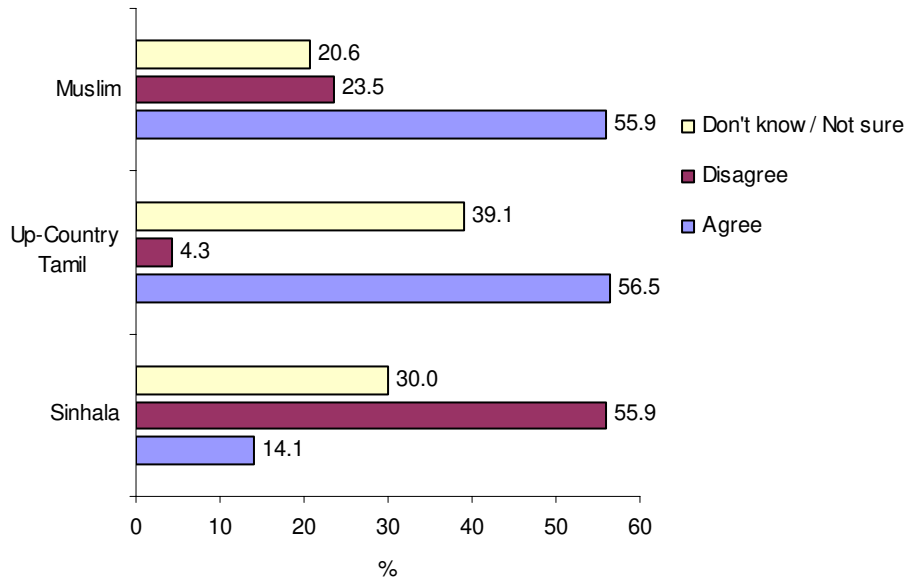
**Changes of opinion of the Sinhala, Up-Country Tamil and Muslim communities**



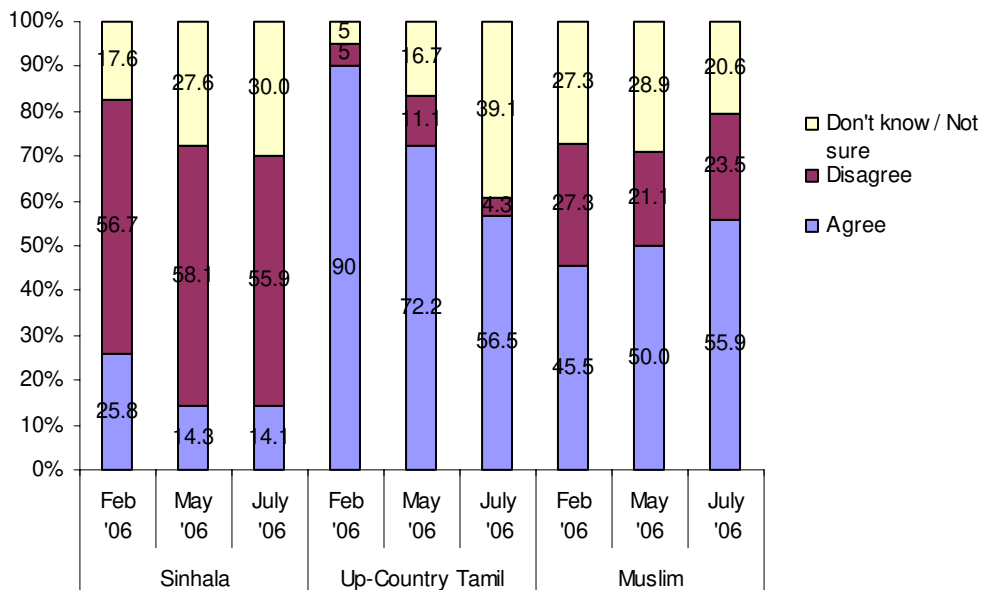


I think the Sri Lanka Monitoring Mission is impartial in its monitoring of the ceasefire agreement.

**Ethnic Breakdown**



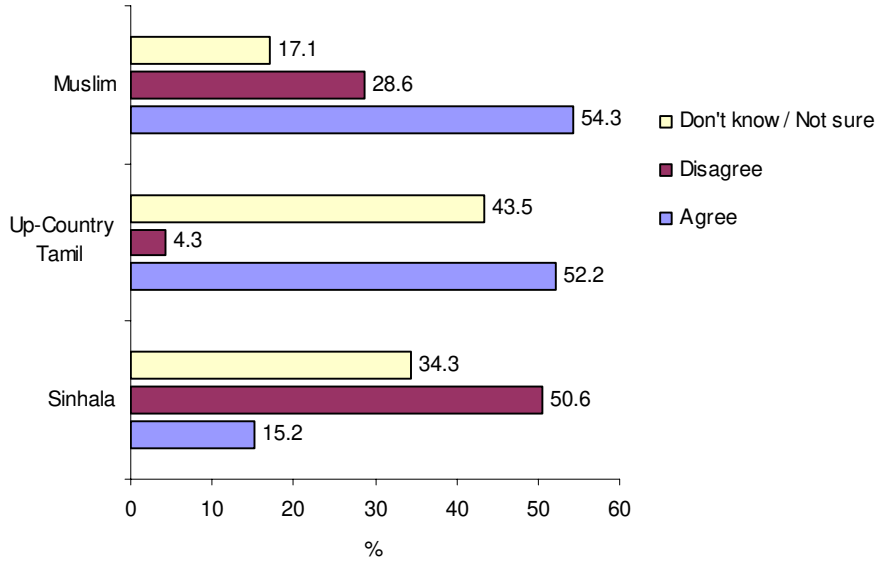
**Changes in the opinion amongst the Sinhala, Up-Country Tamil and Muslim communities**



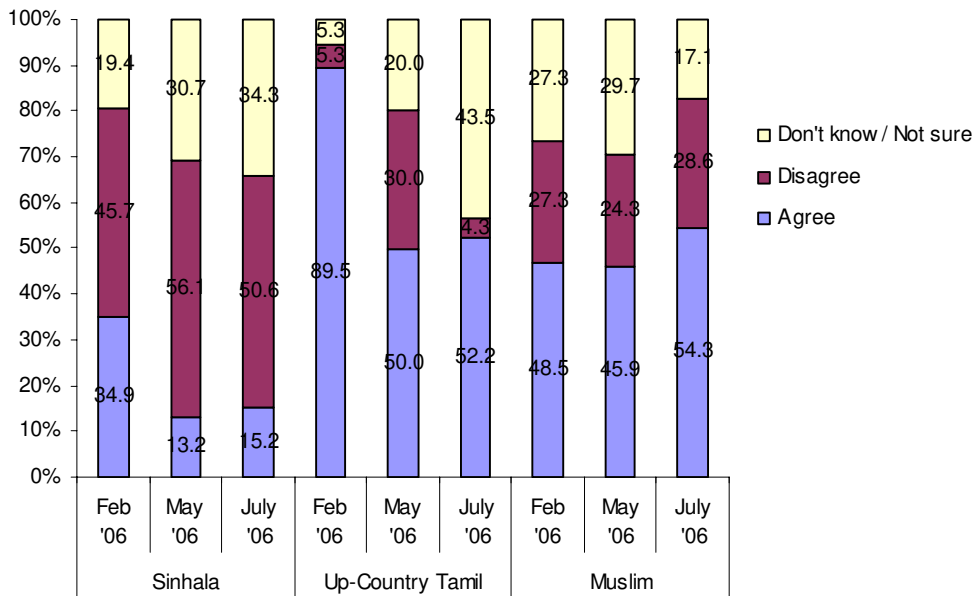


**I think the Sri Lanka Monitoring Mission is effective in its monitoring of the ceasefire agreement.**

**Ethnic Breakdown**



**Changes in the opinion amongst the Sinhala, Up-Country Tamil and Muslim communities**

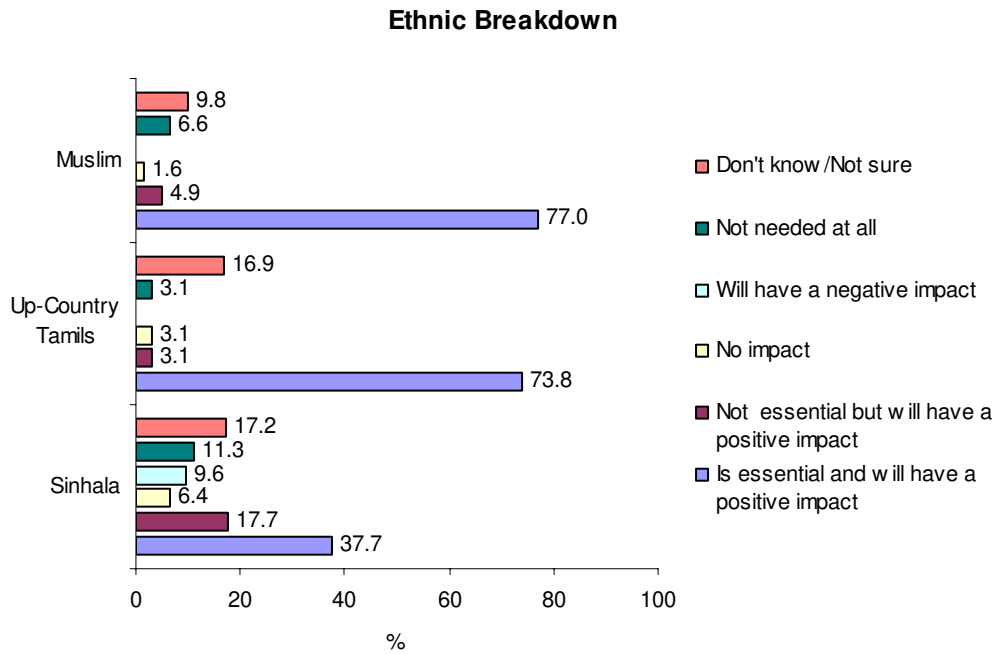




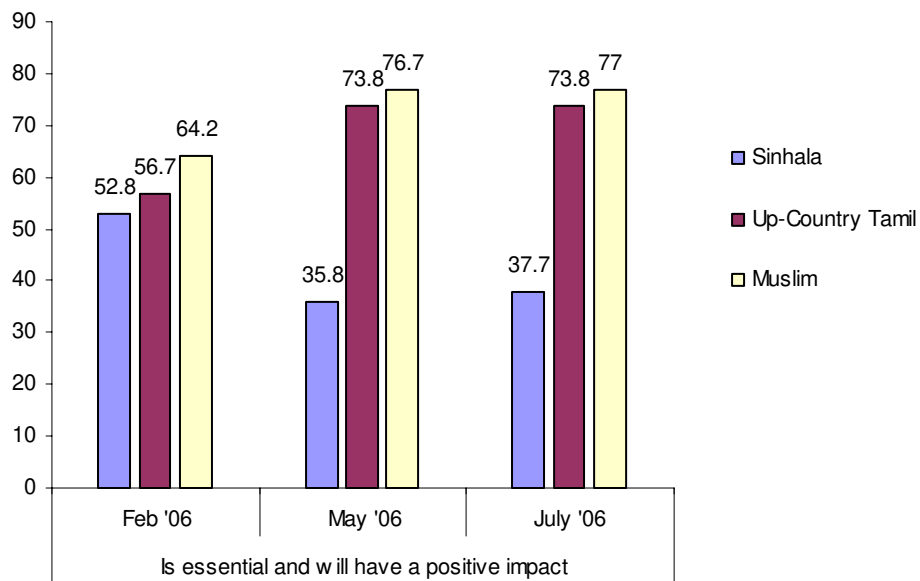


### Foreign Involvement

What is your opinion on the need for an international third party as a facilitator to the negotiations, to solve the ethnic conflict in Sri Lanka?



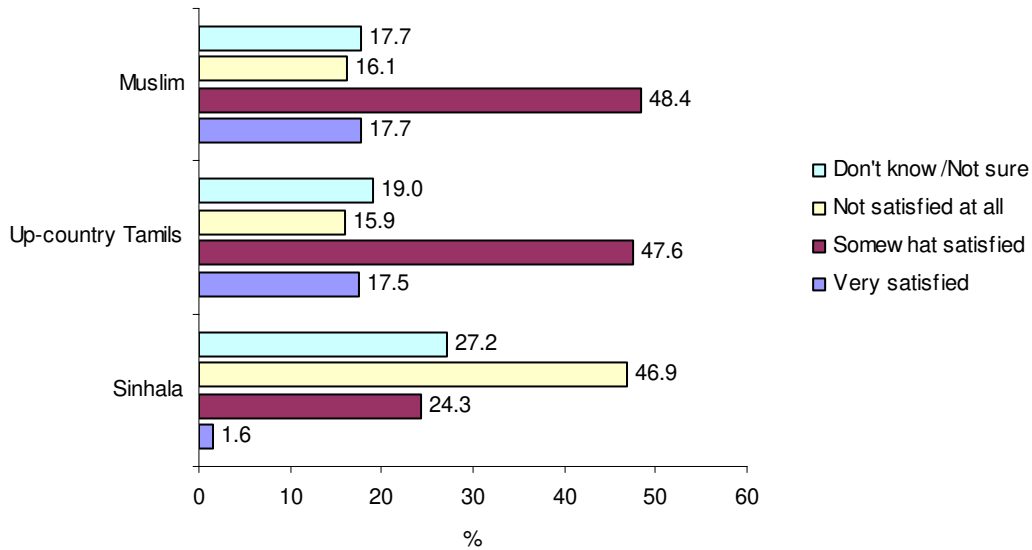
#### Is essential and will have a positive impact





The Norwegian government has been officially facilitating peace negotiations since November 2001. Please tell me your level of satisfaction with the Norwegian role as facilitator.

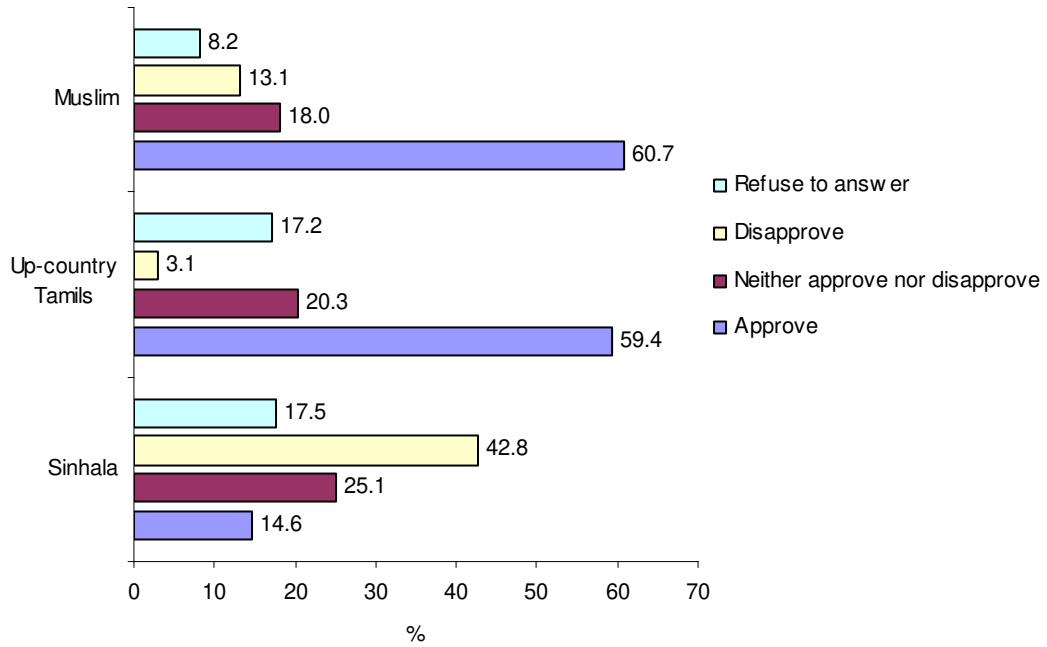
### Ethnic Breakdown





Please state if you approve or disapprove of Norway continuing to facilitate the peace process.

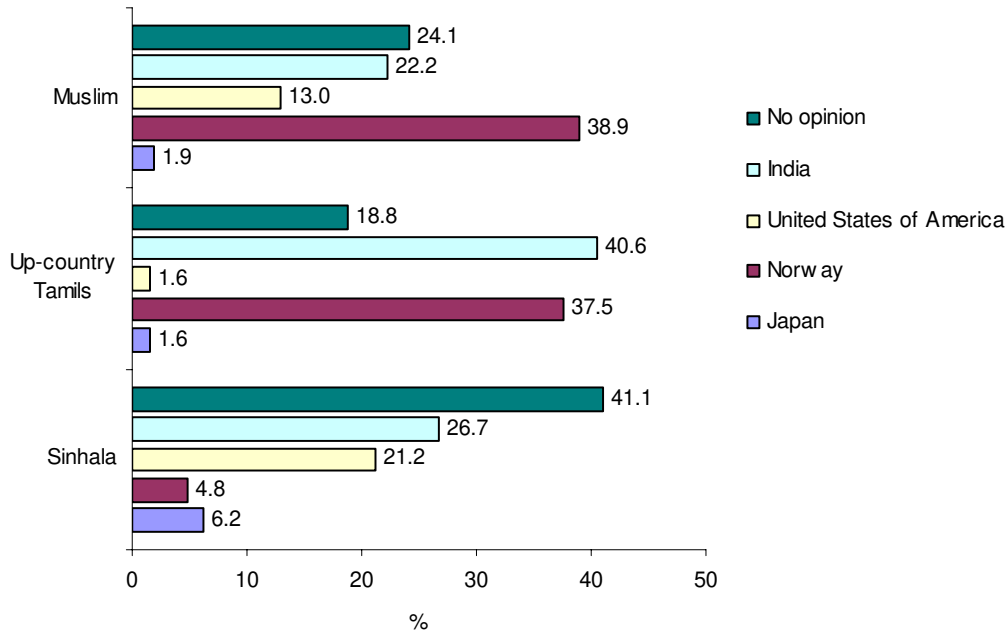
### Ethnic Breakdown





Please state the most suitable country that should play the role of facilitator in the peace process.

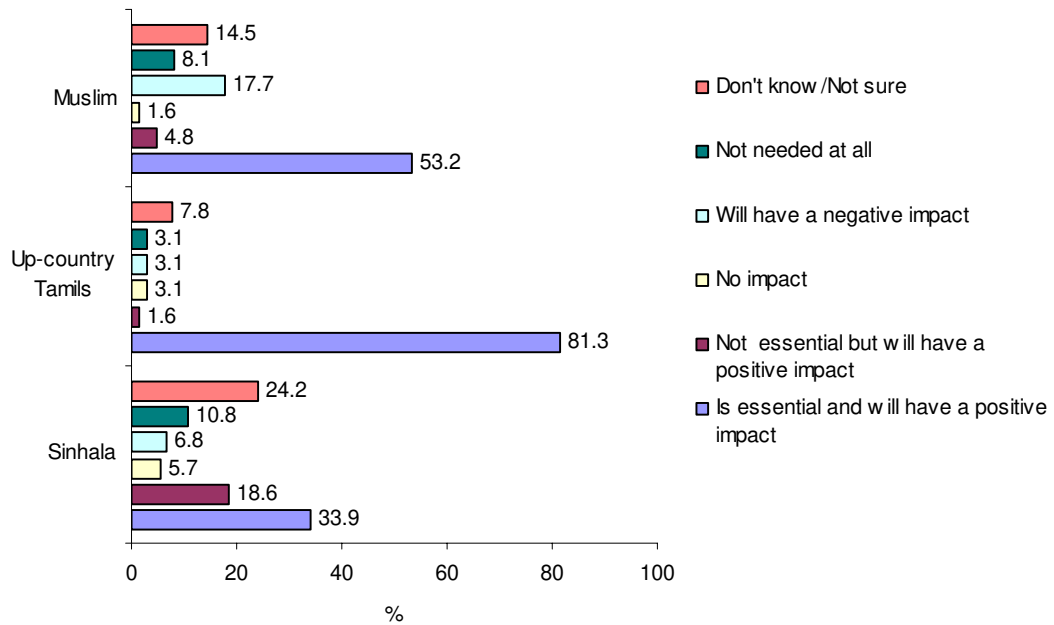
### Ethnic Breakdown





### What is your opinion of the need for India's involvement in the Sri Lankan peace process?

Ethnic Breakdown

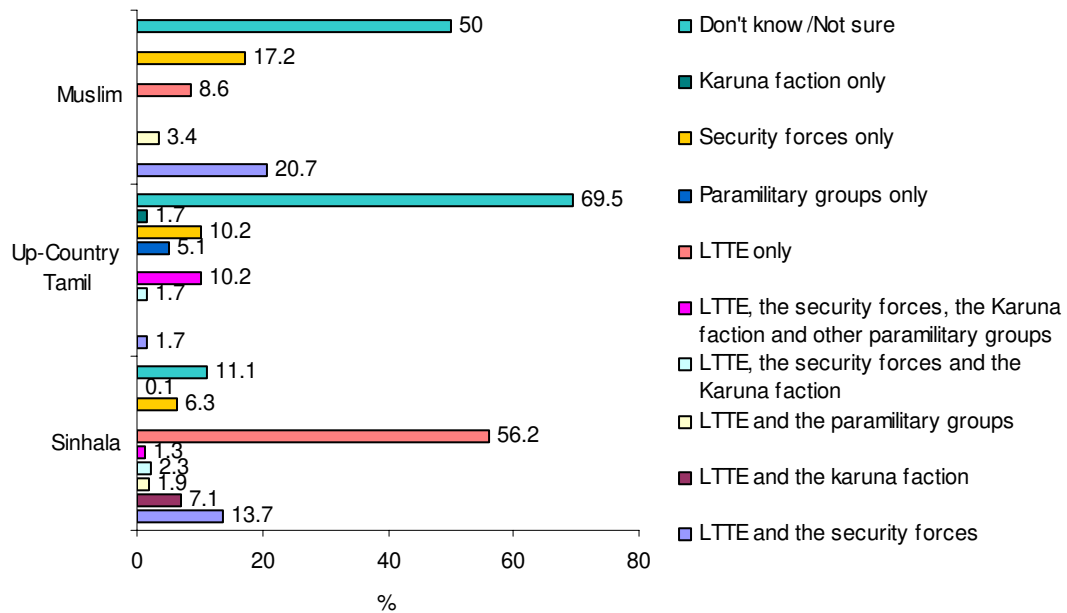




**Present Violence**

**Who do you think is primarily responsible for the escalation of violence ?**

**Ethnic Breakdown**

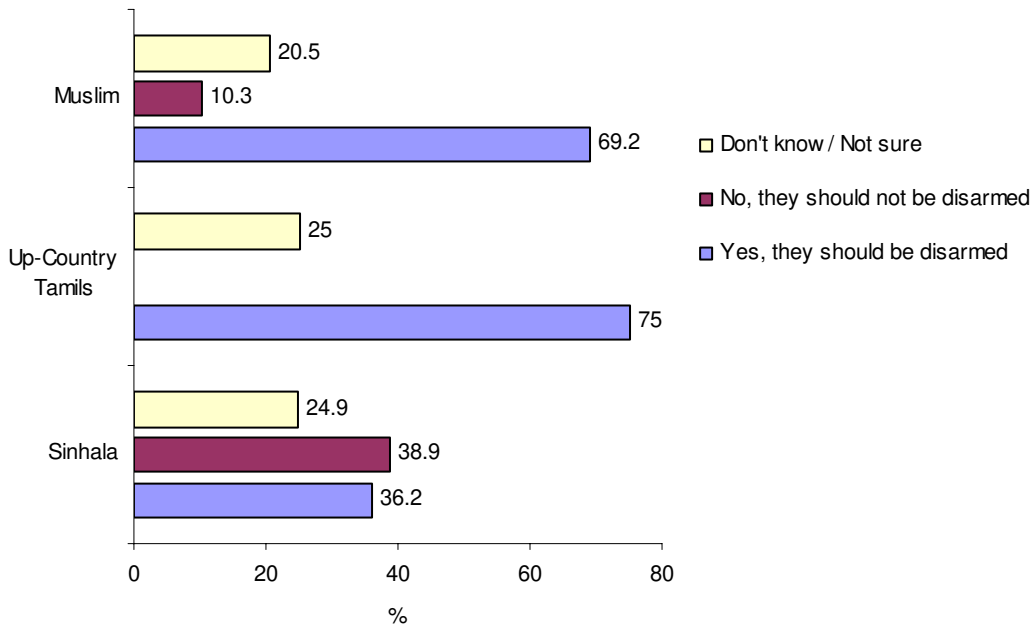




### Karuna Group

"Some people say Karuna faction should be disarmed while others say they should not". Please tell me your opinion in this regard.

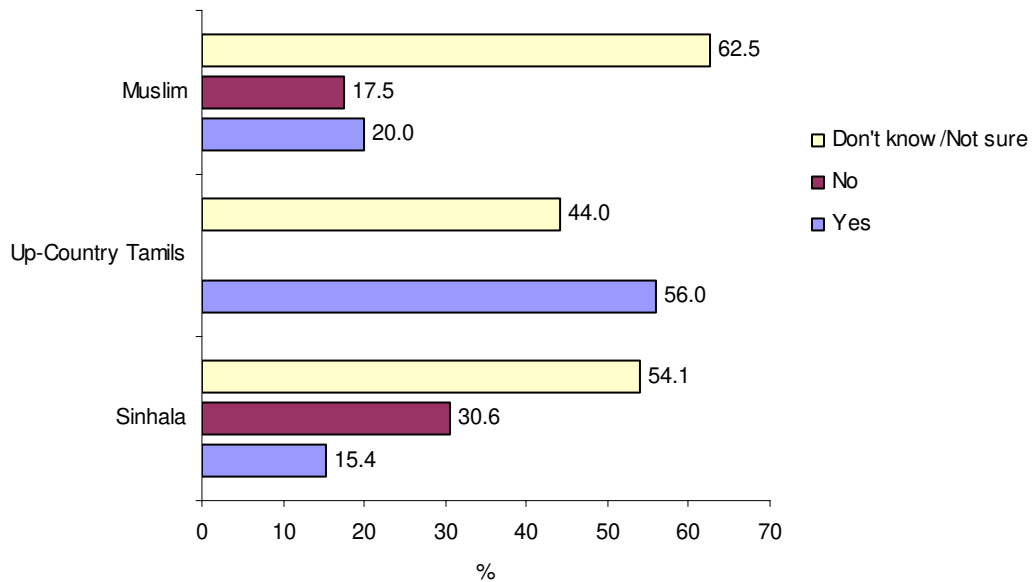
**Ethnic Breakdown**





There have been some media reports indicating that certain sections of the armed forces are involved with the Karuna group. In your opinion, do you believe that the Sri Lankan armed forces are involved in assisting the Karuna group ?

Ethnic Breakdown

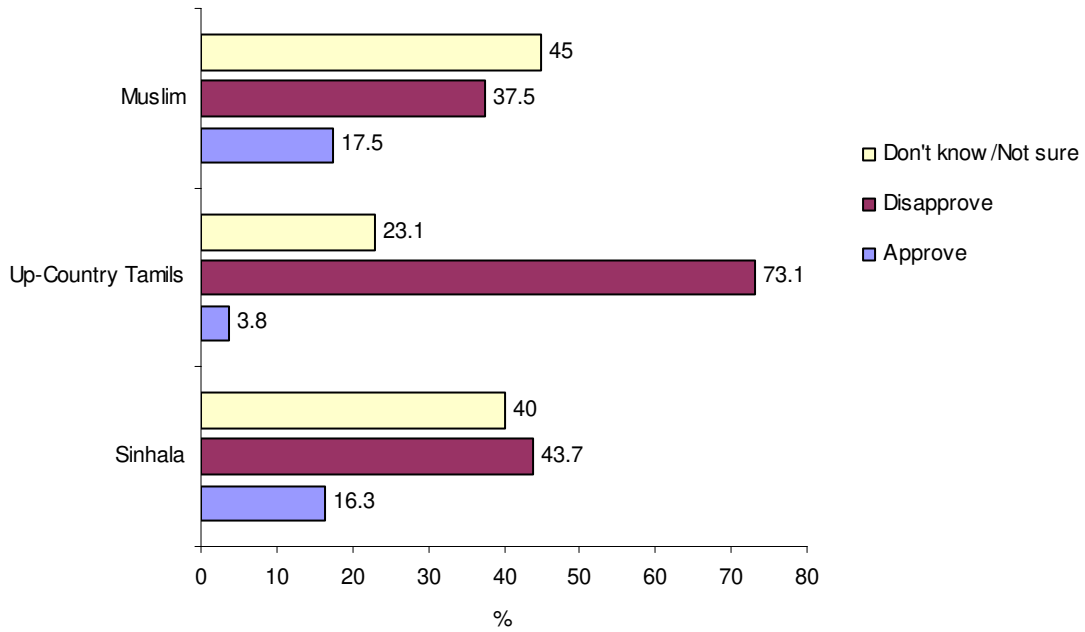






**Do you approve or disapprove of the security forces assisting the Karuna group ?**

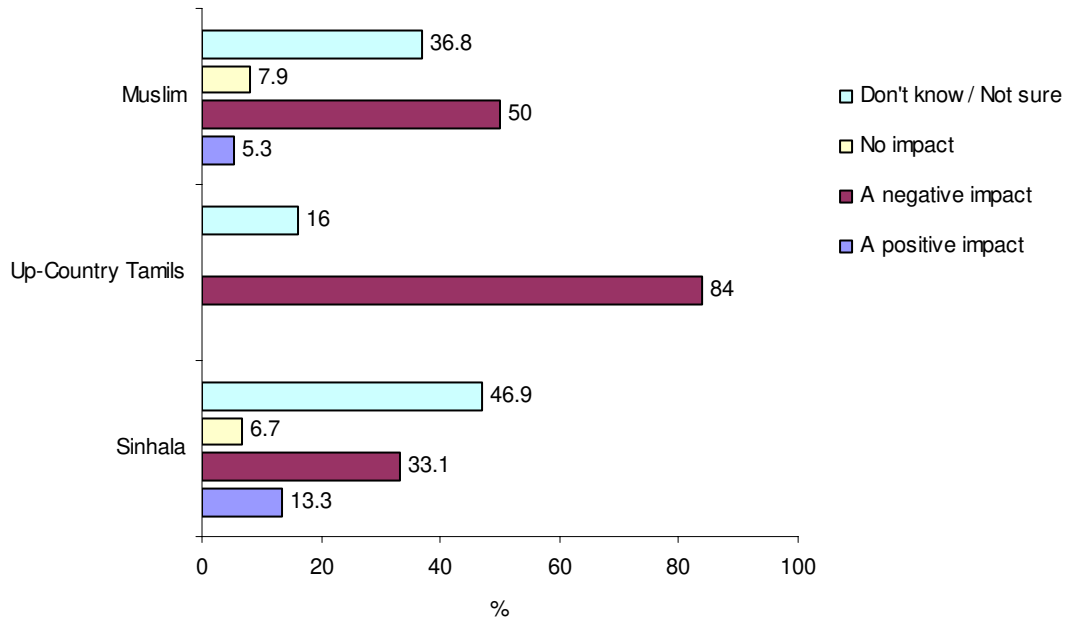
**Ethnic Breakdown**





### What impact will this have on achieving peace ?

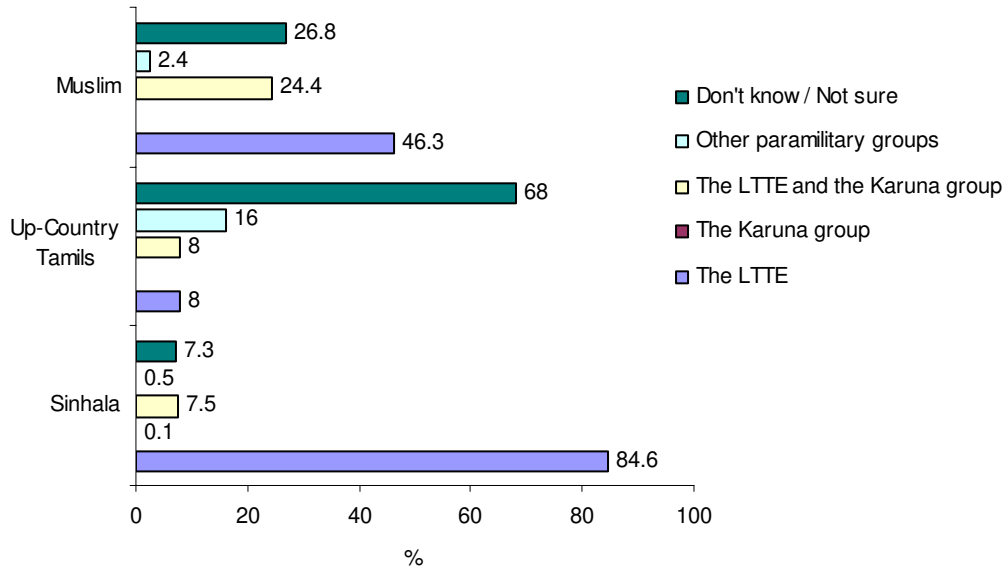
**Ethnic Breakdown**





Recently there have been reports of children being abducted for recruitment purposes. Who do you think is responsible for this?

### Ethnic Breakdown

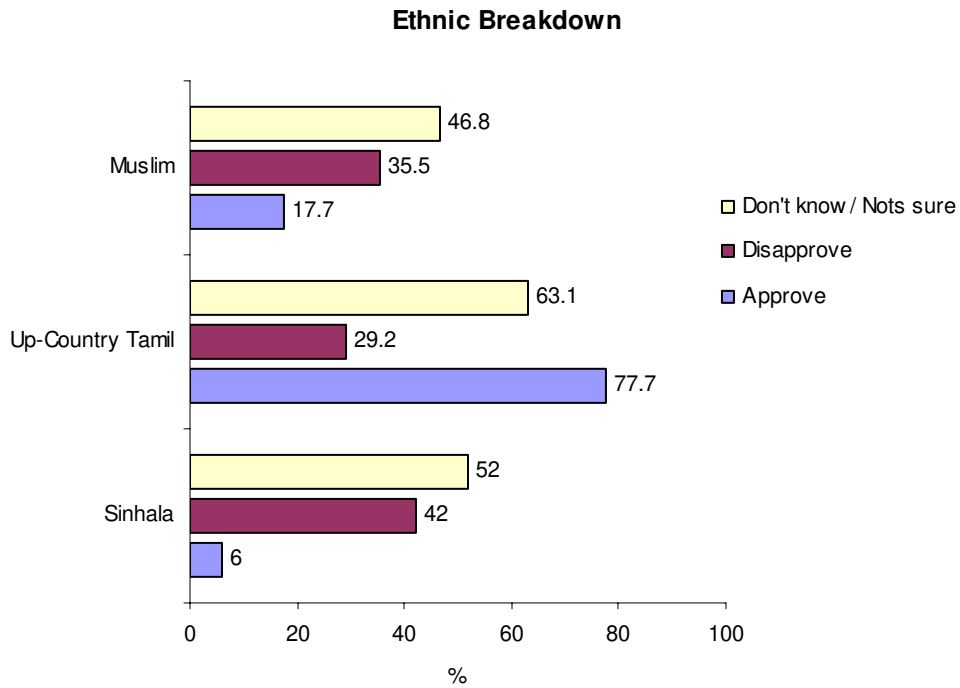




### LTTE request to remove EU monitors

Since the banning of the LTTE by the European Union, the LTTE has demanded the removal of the SLMM monitors from EU countries.

In your opinion, do you approve or disapprove of the removal of the monitors in the SLMM from the EU countries?

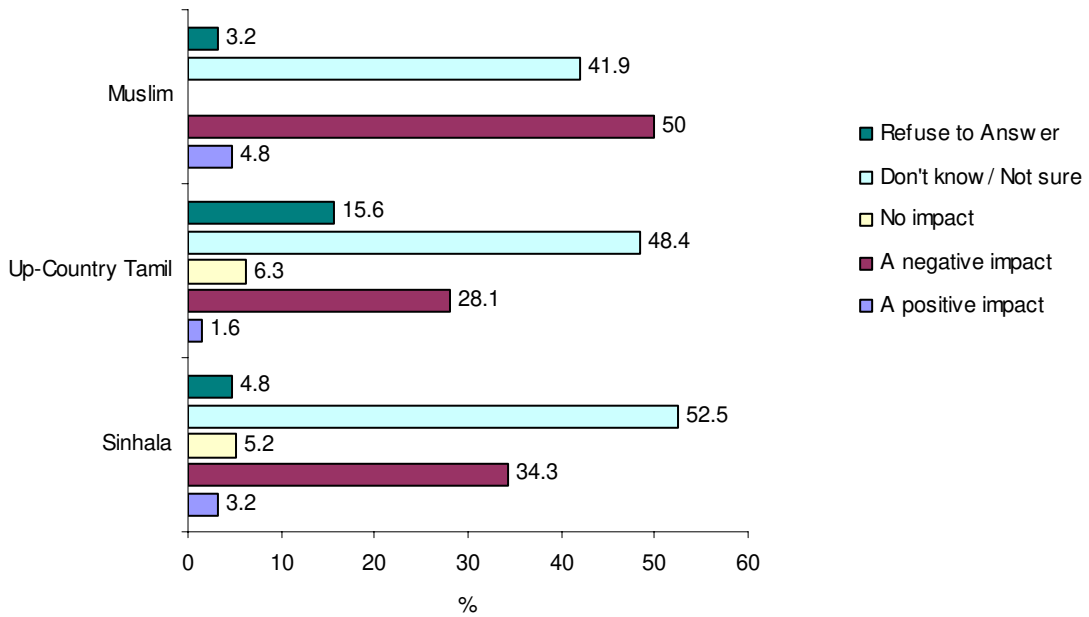




Since the banning of the LTTE by the European Union, the LTTE has demanded the removal of the SLMM monitors from EU countries.

What kind of impact will the removal of the monitors in the SLMM from the EU countries have on the ceasefire?

### Ethnic Breakdown

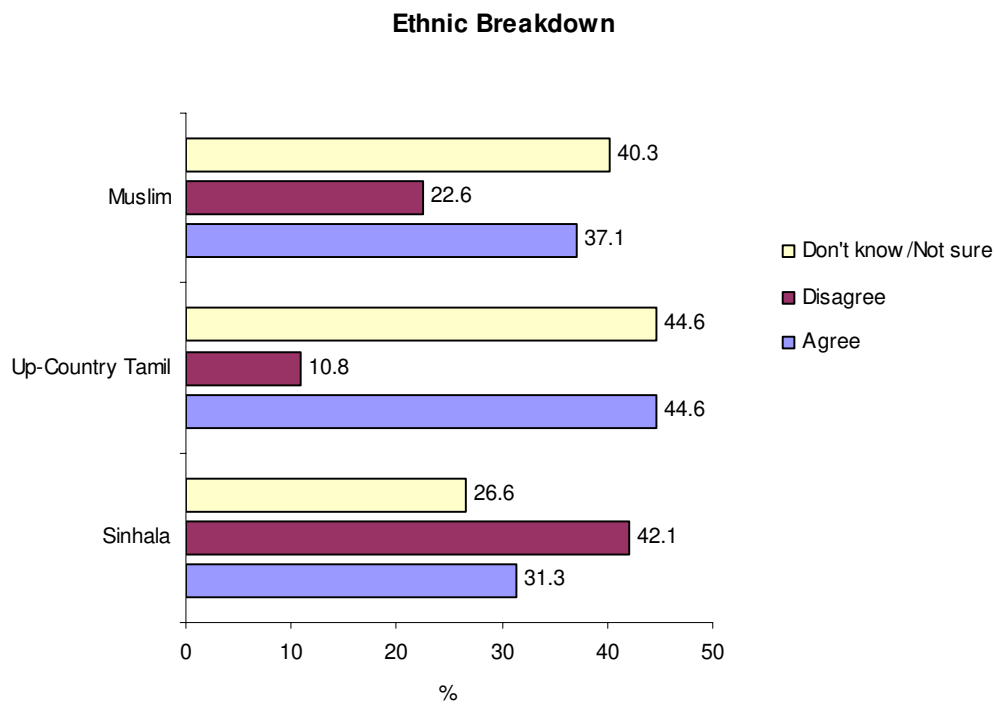




### JVP and the Government

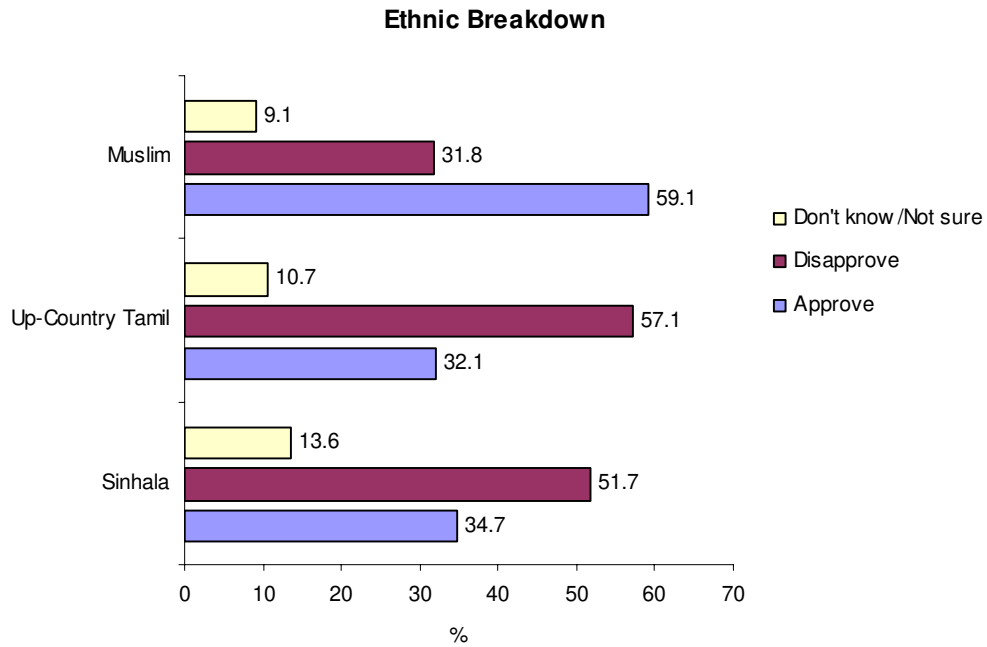
At a seminar in Colombo on public sector salary anomalies on the 5th July 2006, JVP backed trade union wing warned that the public sector would be forced to resort to a massive strike action since it believed President Mahinda Rajapaksa had failed to fulfill his election pledges.

Do you believe the JVP claim that the President Mahinda Rajapaksa has failed to fulfill his election pledges?





**If the answer is "agree", do you approve or disapprove of the strike action that the JVP vowed to launch against the President's failed election pledges?**

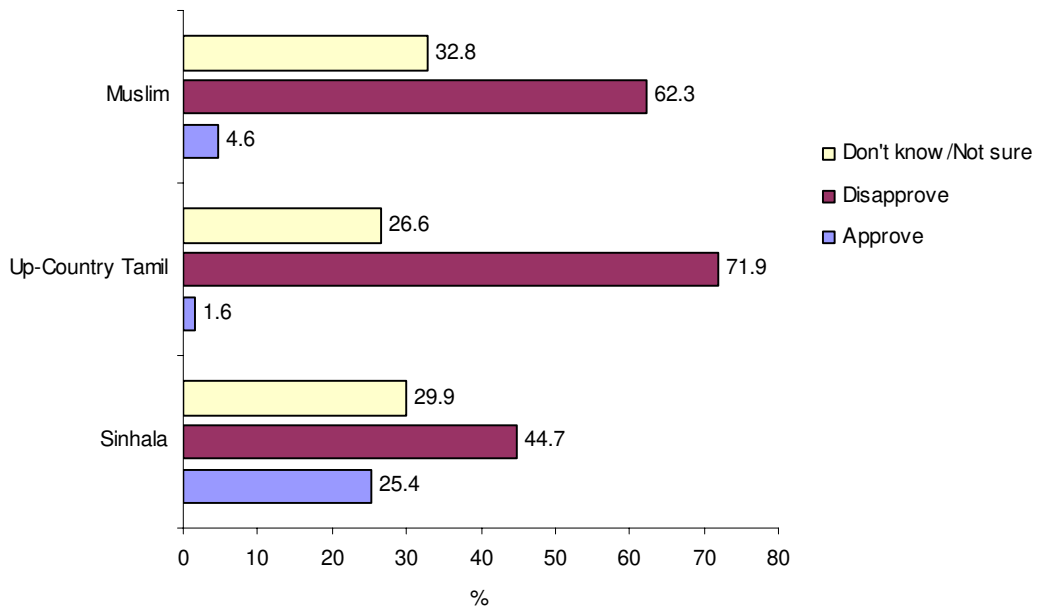




At a special convention held at the Town Hall grounds in Colombo on the 6th of July 2006, the JVP leader Somawansa Amarasinghe stated that it is high time the government shifted to military attacks when defeating terrorism.

Do you approve or disapprove of this statement?

### Ethnic Breakdown



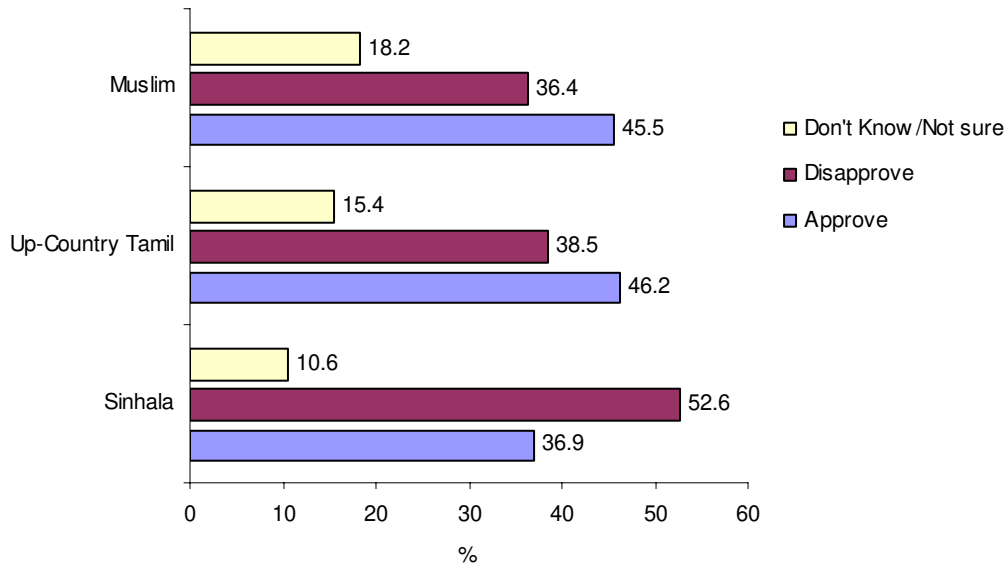




### The UNP and the Government

If you are you aware that on the 7th of July 2006, the UNP decided to withdraw its support to the Government, on the grounds that the government has encouraged the UNP MPs to crossover, do you approve or disapprove of the government encouraging the opposition MPs to crossovers?

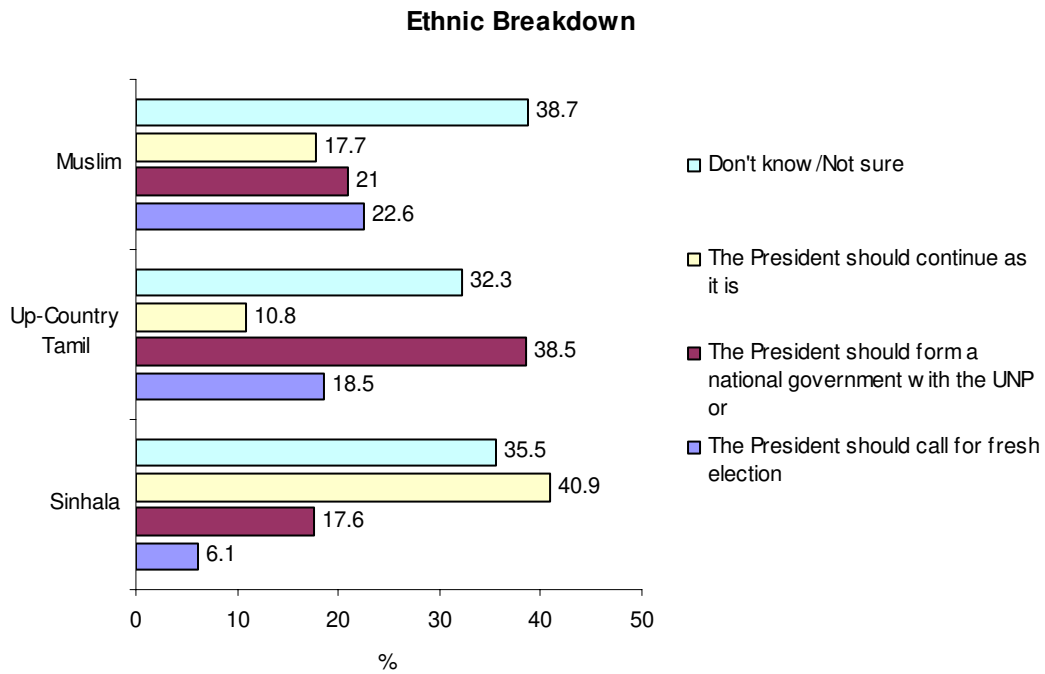
Ethnic Breakdown





### Speculations on President Dissolving the Parliament

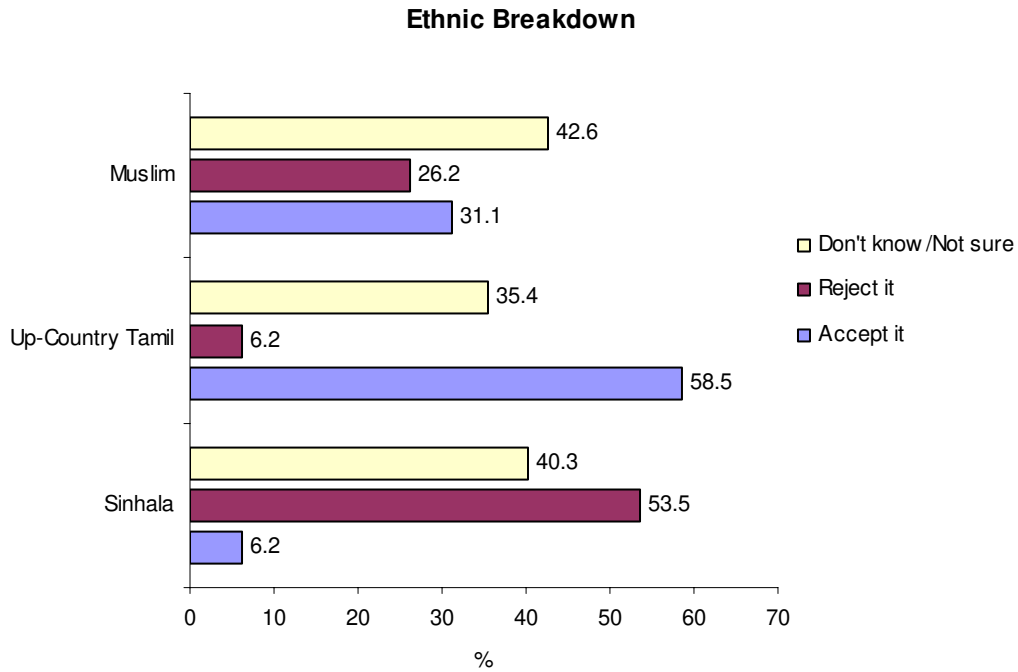
There has been speculation that the president will dissolve the parliament and call for a new election. Do you think,





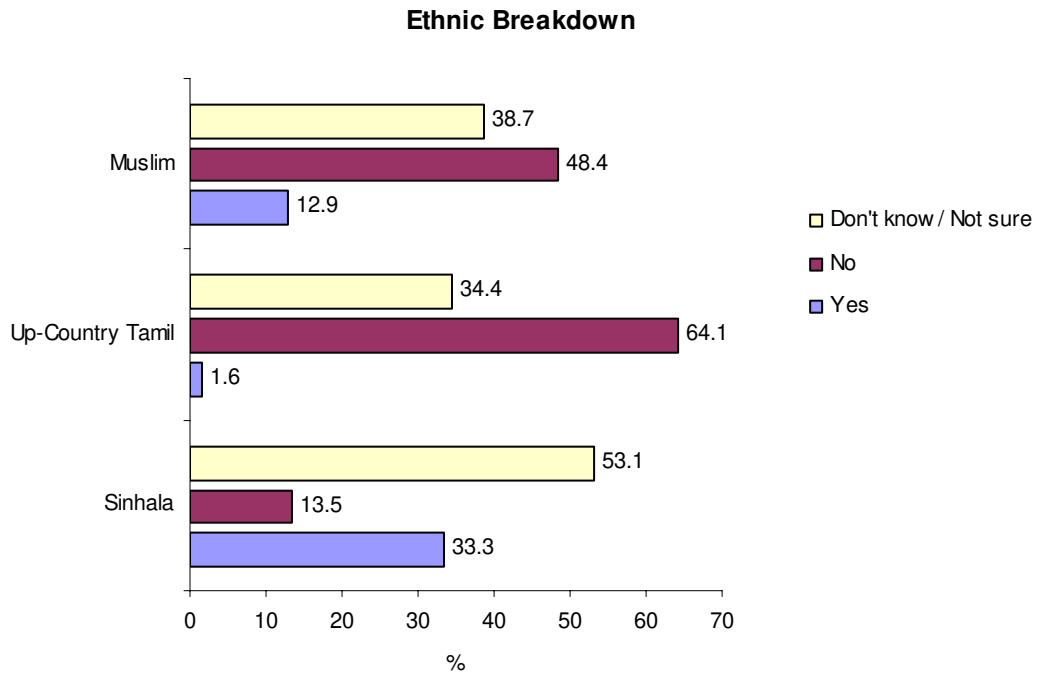
### Human Rights Abuses

There have been number of reports of police and armed forces involvement in human rights abuses against Tamil civilians. Do you accept or reject these reports?





**Do you think the Government is taking effective action to punish the individuals who are involved in human rights abuses?**

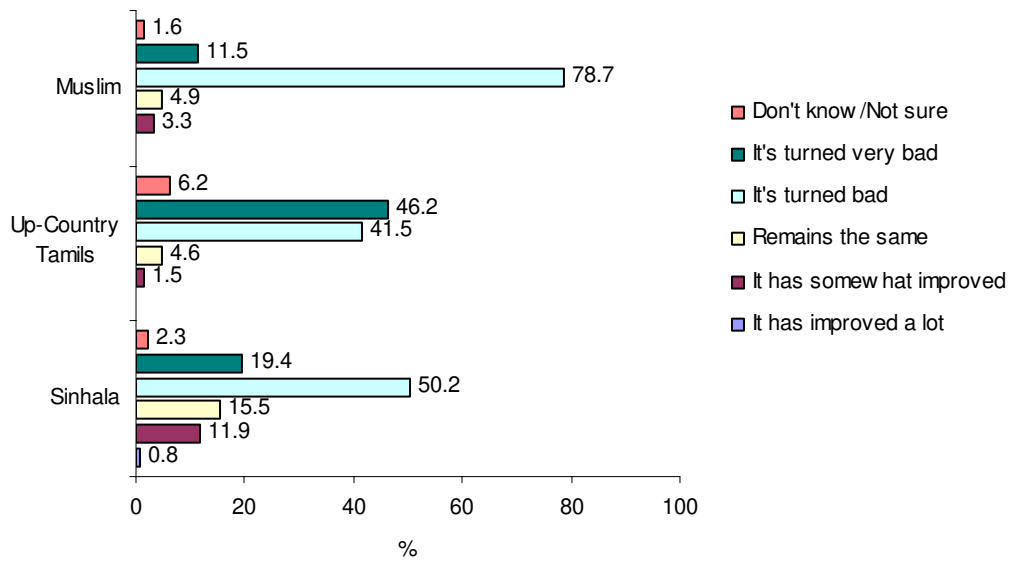




### Current Security Condition

Compared to the situation a year ago, do you think the security situation in the country has improved or worsened?

Ethnic Breakdown

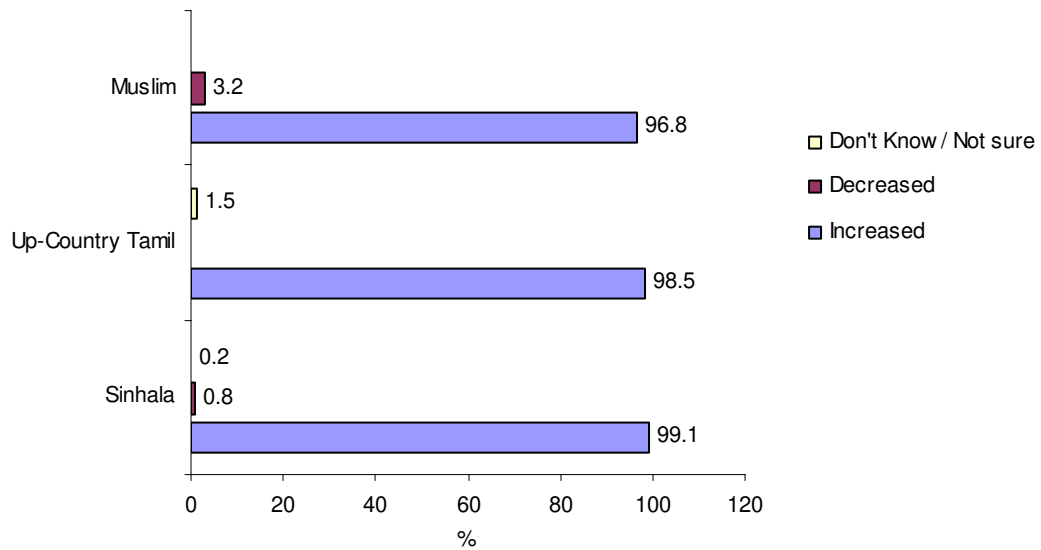




### Cost of Living

Compared to the situation a year ago, do you think the cost of living in the country has increased or decreased?

Ethnic Breakdown





## Annex

### District sample (weighted) distribution in July 2006

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DISTRICT	TOTAL
Colombo	154
Gampaha	168
Kalutara	84
Kandy	99
Matale	38
Nuwara Eliya	56
Galle	85
Matara	61
Hambantota	43
Kurunegala	121
Puttalam	56
Anuradhapura	60
Polonnaruwa	27
Badulla	62
Monaragala	33
Ratnapura	78
Kegalle	65
<b>NATIONAL</b>	<b>1291</b>

### Ethnic sample (weighted) distribution in July 2006

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ETHNICITY	TOTAL
Sinhala	1164
Muslim	65
Up-Country Tamil	62
<b>NATIONAL</b>	<b>1291</b>

## Sampling Methodology

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Given that the goal of the Peace Confidence Index (PCI) study is to measure the fluctuations in public confidence levels towards the peace process over time it is essential that the study be conducted repetitively with equal pauses during the study. Hence, from May 2001 to February 2004, PCI was conducted bi-monthly, however, from March 2005 onwards, SI decided to conduct the study quarterly to make the PCI more efficient.

The study is conducted using a structured questionnaire that is administered to a sample of approximately 1800 respondents during each phase of the study. This sample is adequate to capture the minimum ethnic diversity within the span of ten days of fieldwork. Although it is undeniable that an individual's opinion on the peace process is influenced by a number of factors, the ethnic factor, which is the most important and influential, is the sole factor that has been accommodated in this model.

The total sample is distributed amongst 17 administrative districts (strata) of Sri Lanka, excluding the North and East provinces due to the escalation of violence in the months prior to the survey. The sample size assigned to each stratum is approximately equal to the population proportions. However, some districts are over sampled due to the ethnic heterogeneity but the over sampling biases are eliminated by weighting the sample.

A sample is allocated to a particular ethnicity within a district only if the population proportion of that particular ethnicity exceeds 9%. A Divisional Secretariat (DS) is selected as the primary sampling unit using the Simple Random Sampling technique while the Grama Niladhari Divisions (GND) in a DS are selected randomly as the secondary sampling unit using the '**Grama Niladhari Divisions of Sri Lanka 1996**' published by the Department of Census and Statistics as the sample frame.

To maintain the quality of the fieldwork and ensure a maximum dispersion of the sample within a DS, enumerators are allowed to conduct a maximum of ten interviews a day in a GND. Within a given GND, the enumerator is advised to select a starting point randomly and proceed with interviews using the random walk (right hand rule) technique in order to assure the random selection of households.

In the case of urban areas, the interviewer is instructed to skip a house while selecting the households, thus resulting in the interview-taking place at every alternative household. As the final sampling unit, the respondent is chosen from the household using the 'KISH' grid thus ensuring that each member of the household has an equal chance of being selected to the PCI sample.

The PCI national level estimates are subject to a 3% error margin with a .95 confidence level. It is noteworthy to mention here that the PCI model does not support the regional level analysis at the same level of precision.



**S**ocial Indicator (SI) is an independent social research organisation, which conducts polls on socio-economic and political issues. Operating under the Board of Directors of the Centre for Policy Alternatives (CPA), SI was established in September 1999, and filled a longstanding vacuum for a permanent, professional and independent polling facility in Sri Lanka on social and political issues.

Polling is an instrument of empowerment, a means by which the silent majority of the public can express their opinions on issues affecting them. Our mission is to conduct surveys on key social issues, thereby providing a means through which public opinion can influence the public policy debate.



**Social Indicator  
Centre for Policy Alternatives  
105, 5th Lane,  
Colombo 3,  
Sri Lanka.**

Tel **+9411 2370472**  
Fax **+9411 2370475**

Email: **cpapoll@diamond.lanka.net**  
Web: **http://www.cpalanka.org**