

**Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs
Appropriations Bill, 2016 (114th Congress, July 2015)**

SRI LANKA

Section 7044(e) of the act provides not less than \$40,417,000 for assistance for Sri Lanka for programs to further democracy, human rights, and economic development, particularly in areas recovering from ethnic and religious conflict. Funding is also made available to assist in the identification and resolution of cases of missing persons.

The Committee encourages continued political and economic reforms in Sri Lanka and finds that greater transparency and accountability can serve as a catalyst for foreign direct investment. The Committee includes a Secretary of State certification requirement, prior to the provision of assistance for the central government of Sri Lanka, that such government is addressing the underlying causes of conflict in Sri Lanka and increasing accountability and transparency.

Funds appropriated under the International Military Education and Training [IMET] heading are limited to international peace-keeping training. The Committee notes that the deepening of military-to-military relations must coincide with the adoption and implementation of meaningful political reforms.

No funds under the FMF heading are requested for Sri Lanka, and none are provided by the act. The Committee recommends the Department of State establish benchmarks prior to requesting such assistance, including: the conduct of credible investigations into and prosecution of those responsible for war crimes committed by Sri Lankan security forces and the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam; cooperation with U.N. investigations of war crimes and violations of international law; demilitarizing public administration and development activities in the north, and returning land confiscated by the military to its owners; providing access for humanitarian and human rights organizations to the north; and resolving cases of missing persons.

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[Budget authority in thousands of dollars]

Account	Committee recommendation
Development Assistance	417
Economic Support Fund	40,000
Nonproliferation, Anti-terrorism, Demining and Related Programs	2,880
International Military Education and Training	500
Total, Sri Lanka	43,797