

On 12 February 2010, the Supreme Court of Sri Lanka took up a Fundamental Rights application filed by Ms. Anoma Fonseka, wife of Gen. (Rtd.) Sarath Fonseka, Former Army Commander/Chief of Defence Staff, alleging the violation of fundamental rights of her husband, on his arrest and detention. The Supreme Court granted Leave to Proceed in the case and allowed four weeks to the Attorney General's Department to file objections in this regard. The request by the petitioner for interim relief, would be taken up by the Supreme Court on 23 February 2010.

Earlier today, President Mahinda Rajapaksa assured Opposition Leader Ranil Wickremasinghe that the Rule of Law must prevail and that if the allegations against Gen. (Rtd.) Fonseka are not established he will be free. The President made this observation when the latter called on him at Janadhipathi Mandiraya this morning to discuss the issue of the detention of Gen. (Rtd.) Fonseka. The President explained that investigations are underway and due process would be followed and that there was no reason for any concern over his detention.