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[REDACTED]

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**SRI LANKA-INDIA: Refugees Raise Security Fears**

***More than 4,000 Tamil refugees from northern Sri Lanka have arrived in the south Indian State of Tamil Nadu over the last three weeks, raising New Delhi's concern that some effects of the growing insurgency will spread to India.*** [REDACTED]

The Indian Foreign Secretary claims Sri Lankan naval vessels have fired on the fleeing refugees and Indian fishermen in the narrow Palk Strait, killing two Indians. Colombo's Foreign Minister says the boats were carrying arms and insurgents to support the Tamil separatist movement and that Sri Lanka will continue to patrol its northern waters aggressively. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] efforts by Sri Lankan Tamil insurgents in southern India to make the refugees' plight an international issue are placing strong pressure on New Delhi. [REDACTED]

**Comment:** Relations between Colombo and New Delhi warmed somewhat following last week's meeting of Sri Lanka's Security Minister and Indian Prime Minister Gandhi. Colombo's denial of involvement in the death of the two fishermen and continued attacks on Tamil civilians, however, suggest its sensitivity to Indian concerns has not improved. [REDACTED]

If refugee flows remain high, Gandhi will face increasing demands from Tamil Nadu State to assure the safety of Indian fishermen and Sri Lanka's Tamil civilians. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]