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## UN RIGHTS CHIEF ASKS SRI LANKA TO PUNISH WAR CRIMINALS

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The Straits Times (25 June 20259

The United Nations human rights chief urged Sri Lanka on June 24 to ensure accountability for crimes committed during its protracted ethnic war.

Mr Volker Turk told a panel discussion in Sri Lankas capital Colombo that the country must address the question of impunity during the Tamil separatist war, which was brought to a bloody conclusion in 2009.

The UN has estimated that 40,000 Tamil civilians were killed by government forces in the final months of its battle to defeat the Tamil Tiger rebels, who had fought for independence.

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