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இலங்கைச் சட்டத்தரணிகள் சங்கம்
BAR ASSOCIATION OF SRI LANKA

13th May 2022

Mr. Sanjaya Rajaratnam PC
Hon. Attorney General
Attorney General's Chambers
Colombo -12.

Hon. Attorney-General,

VIOLENCE IN THE COUNTRY SINCE THE 9TH OF MAY 2022

The Bar Association of Sri Lanka (BASL) has by its statement on the 10th May 2022, drawn attention to the violence on the person and property of many persons including Members of Parliament and members of local authorities and others resulting in deaths, injury and the destruction of public and private property. The BASL called for the perpetrators of such violence to be investigated, arrested and dealt with according to law.

Several members of the BASL too have suffered serious losses through destruction and looting of their properties- both residential and business. The President of the BASL has already communicated with the Inspector General of Police details of the members so affected.

It is necessary for the police to immediately investigate the incidents of violence which occurred in the country since the 9th of May 2022 which have gravely impacted on the life of the community and to deal with the perpetrators according to law. It is the view of the BASL that these acts should be expeditiously investigated, and the perpetrators of the violence identified and arrested forthwith. In many instances we have been informed that evidence of perpetrators and those aiding and abetting them are available on social media as well as CCTV footage.

Immediate and impartial investigations into these incidents will help to restore public order and create confidence in the law enforcement authorities and establish Rule of Law in the country.

On the 10th May 2022, you directed the Inspector General of Police to investigate the attack on the protestors at Galle Face and appointed a team of officers headed by ASG Ms. Ayesha Jinasena PC to guide the investigations.

In a similar manner the BASL proposes that appropriate directions be made to the Police in respect of the investigations into the violence which occurred since the 9th of May 2022, and if required to appoint a panel of officers from the Attorney General's Department to guide the investigation process.

Thank you,

Yours faithfully,

**SALIYA PIERIS, PC
PRESIDENT
BAR ASSOCIATION OF SRI LANKA**

**ISURU BALAPATABENDI
SECRETARY
BAR ASSOCIATION OF SRI LANKA**

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Saliya Pieris PC

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