## **BY HAND**

29th July 2003

Her Excellency the President, Chandirka Bandaranaike Kumaratunga, President's House,
Janadhipathi Mawatha,
Colombo 1

Your Excellency,

## "INLAND REVENUE [SPECIAL PROVISIONS] BILL CHALLENGE"

I thank Your Excellency for the prompt action taken, as disclosed in the media, on my representations, particularly on my Letter dated 25.6.2003, which was addressed to the Hon. Prime Minister, with copy to Your Excellency and the Hon. Attorney General and the Heads of the Government Authorities responsible for enforcing the Statutes, surreptitiously brought under the guise of a *purported* Inland Revenue Act.

I appreciate the action taken by Your Excellency in the national and public interest, and for the benefit of the impoverished masses by promptly submitting a Note to the Cabinet of Ministers, directing that the *purported* Inland Revenue Act No. 10 of 2003 be suspended immediately and repealed.

None of the Government Officials to whom my aforesaid Letter was copied i.e. namely, the Commissioner General of Inland Revenue, Director General of Customs, Director General of Excise, Controller of Imports & Exports, Controller of Exchange, Governor Central Bank Sri Lanka, Chairman of the Commission to Investigate Allegations of Bribery or Corruption, have responded, even though, I had exhorted them, in the public interest, to concur with or refute or controvert any of the facts in my said Letter. Thus the facts stated in my said Letter stand undisputedly admitted by each and every one of them.

Very recently I received a copy of a Letter from the Office of the Prime Minster forwarded to the Secretary, Ministry of Finance, requesting him to take necessary action regarding my aforesaid Letter and to send a reply to me, with copy to the Hon. Prime Minister to apprise him thereof. However, to date, I have not received a reply from Secretary, Ministry of Finance.

In the meanwhile, I have filed today a further Application in the Supreme Court challenging the Bill placed on the Order Paper of Parliament on 25.7.2003 to extend the date of this *purported* Income Tax Amnesty from 1.7.2003 to 15.8.2003, in that, the said Bill by reference incorporates all the provisions of the said *purported* Inland Revenue (Special Provisions) Act No. 10 of 2003. I enclose a copy of the Petition and draw Your Excellency's kind attention particularly to paragraphs 11 c) on page 19 and paragraphs 14, 15, 16, 17, 18 and 19 on pages 20 to 22 thereof.

Yours truly,

Nihal Sri Ameresekere