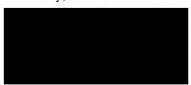




My No: PS/LAD/1/9-3/2021

29th July, 2021



Dear Sir,

JUSTICE FOR THE VICTIMS OF MIRUSUVIL MASSACRE

We are in receipt of the petition sent by you and 317 signatories to it. The matter concerned therein is the granting of Presidential pardon to Sergeant Sunil Ratnakaye who was convicted by the Trial at Bar in the High Court of Colombo.

I wish to inform you that His Excellency the President Gotabhaya Rajapakse, the President of Republic of Sri Lanka in the exercise of Presidential pardon, the discretionary power exclusively vested in H.E. the President as provided in the Constitution, has followed the required procedure laid down for such an instance, i.e. the obtaining reports for the Hon. Judges who heard the case, the advice of the Hon. Attorney General and the report of the Hon. Minister in charge of the subject of Justice together with his observations. In granting the Presidential pardon to Sergeant Sunil Ratnayake the H.E. President had adhered to said procedure. However the President is not bound by the opinions expressed by others.

I also wish to mention that once the H.E. the President has exercised the said power of granting Presidential pardon then there is no provision of law to revoke the order so made by the H.E. the President and therefore the suggestion made by you and others for immediate revocation of the said pardon cannot be entertained.

Finally I am very thankful to you for the concern shown by you and others for rights of citizens of a small country like Sri Lanka, which is struggling with difficulties to be a developed country. We will appreciate your opinions in the future too.

Harigupta Rohanadeera. LL. B (Colombo)

Attoerney – at - Law Director General (Legal) For Secretary to the President

Cc: Secretary,

Foreign Ministry, Sir Baron Jayathilake Mawatha, Colombo 01.