

D.J.De S. Balapatabendi  
The Chairman  
COMMISSION TO INVESTIGATE ALLEGATIONS OF BRIBERY OR CORRUPTION  
No 36 Malalasekera Mawatha,  
Colombo 07,  
Sri Lanka.

11<sup>th</sup> Dec 2014

## **Complaint on patent abuse of tax-free concessions by elected MPs and Ministers for private gain**

I, Nagananda Kodituwakku, Attorney-at-Law & Solicitor, of 99, Subadrarama Road, Nugegoda make the following formal complaint against the misconduct of elected MPs and Cabinet Ministers concerning the abuse of tax-free permits issued for cars for private gain.

I state that all tax-free car permits have been issued by the Minister of Finance/Executive President, Mahinda Rajapakse, under Section 19(A) of the Customs Ordinance, which states as follows.

*The Minister of Finance may, if he deems it expedient in the public interest so to do, by Order exempt any goods imported by, or consigned to, any person specified in the Order from the whole or any part of the duties of Customs leviable thereon, subject to such conditions (to be fulfilled before or after clearance) as may be specified in the Order.*

I state that in the recent past all conditions pertaining to the issuance of these tax-free permits were withdrawn by the Ministry of Finance encouraging the MPs and Ministers to sell their permits in the open market and thereby embezzling tens of millions of ill-gotten wealth.

I state that the Executive President, and all the other politicians belong to both the ruling party and the opposition are fully conscious that, the act committed by them for private benefit is clearly a criminal offence that falls within the Section 70 of the Bribery Act Chapter (26). This abuse has caused the government a colossal loss of billions of revenue due to evasion of payment of fiscal levies.

Therefore, I make this complaint and urge the Commission to initiate investigation into this matter forthwith.

  
Nagananda Kodituwakku  
Attorney-at-Law & Solicitor