

BY HAND

9<sup>th</sup> January 2007

Hon. Dr. Sarath Amunugama, M.P.  
Minister of Public Administration & Home Affairs  
50/1 B, Siripa Road  
Colombo 5.

My dear Minister,

I enclose copy of my Letter of 5.1.2007 addressed to Hon. Wijeyadasa Rajapakshe P.C., M.P., Chairman COPE, and draw your kind attention to the contents thereof.

Is this how the public service at the highest levels ought to act ?

Does this not warrant prompt and severe punitive action to be taken, regardless of the personalities concerned, as a salutary signal to the entire public service, whom you are exhorting to conform to the norms of the rule of law ?

If the upper echelons of the public service are permitted to flagrantly and blatantly violate the rule of law, without any fear or apprehension of consequences therefor, with no action, whatsoever, taken thereon, would it not then be unjust, inequitable and ridiculous to expect and/or require the minions of the public service to conform to the rule of law ?

Kind regards,



Nihal Sri Amereskere

**BY COURIER**

29<sup>th</sup> August 2006

Hon. Dr. Sarath Amunugama  
Minister of Public Administration & Home Affairs  
Torrington Square  
Colombo 7.

Dear Dr. Amunugama,

**“Crackdown on Errant Public Servants”**

I refer to the above bold headline in the *Daily News* of today, in relation to the news item, that the government has launched a major crackdown on public servants, *who fail to serve the public efficiently*.

I am sure you will concur, that the ‘rule of law’ and such crackdown on errant public servants, ought be enforced more strictly against the upper echelons of the public service, who ought to lead by example, than against the minions.

In such circumstances, I trust that warranted action in conformity with such government policy on crackdown on errant public servants, would be taken in relation to the subject matters dealt with in the attached Letter, copy of which I had already submitted to you.

The Auditor General had deemed warranted to submit a ‘Special Report’ to Parliament, to report that the Secretary, Ministry of Finance & Secretary to the Treasury had not discharged properly the constitutional duties and responsibilities devolved on such high public office, supporting his such reporting with extensive facts and figures, and citing the duties and responsibilities in terms of the Constitution and the Financial Regulations.

Inasmuch as the *Daily News* has published on the front page the above news report, as a lead report with a bold headline, I trust that the grave and serious matters of national and public importance, dealt with in the attached Letter, would be similarly reported in the public interest, more particularly since, in this instance, a large scale of public funds are involved, and which funds are held by the government, in trust on behalf of the people.

As per the Auditor General, it is the Secretary, Ministry of Finance & Secretary to the Treasury, who is the Chief Accounting Officer, and whose foremost responsibility is the maintenance of financial control and administration of the government; and which had not been discharged properly, causing extensive loss to the government and the people.

Yours truly,



Nihal Sri Ameresekere

cc: Mr. Bandula Jayasekera, Editor, Daily News  
Mr. Anil Obeysekere P.C., Chairman, Associated Newspapers of Ceylon Ltd.  
Hon. Anura Priyadarshana Yapa, Minister of Mass Media & Information