

BY HAND

IMPORTANT

21st April 2003

Her Excellency Chandrika Bandaranaike Kumaratunge,
President of Sri Lanka,
President's House,
Janadhipathi Mawatha,
Colombo 1.

Your Excellency,

"Inland Revenue (Special Provisions) Bill"

Further to my Letter dated 17th April 2003, as intimated therein, in addition to the Application made under Articles 17 & 126 of the Constitution, which was filed in the Supreme Court on 15th April 2003, I filed today, the enclosed Application in the Supreme Court under Articles 121 & 78 of the Constitution, together with the covering Motion, *the contents of which, I draw Your Excellency's kind attention to.*

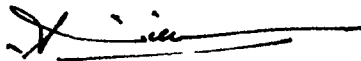
Once again, I urge Your Excellency, as the Executive President, to take prompt and effective warranted action in regard to this matter of public importance, and, *inter-alia*, draw Your Excellency's kind attention to Article 129 (1) of the Constitution quoted below:

"129 (1) If at any time it appears to the President of the Republic that a question of law or fact has arisen or is likely to arise, which is of such nature and of such public importance that it is expedient to obtain the opinion of the Supreme Court upon it, he may refer that question to that Court for consideration and the Court may, after such hearing as it thinks fit, within the period specified in such reference or within such time as may be extended by the President, report to the President its opinion thereon."

I have observed this weekend that the Ministry of Finance has placed prominent full page advertisements in the media, advertising this *deplorable* amnesty, raising the cogent question, as to why such prominent public disclosure was not made *prior* to the presenting of such Bill to Parliament, to have made the public fully aware of the contents and effect of such Bill, *which have been dealt with in my Petitions to Court.*

It is also significant to note that Chambers of Commerce and those others, who espouse and pontificate the need for "*good governance*" from every platform and podium are questionably silent, on such a matter of grave public interest !

Yours respectfully,



Nihal Sri Ameresekere