

Press Notice No: HRC/P/ii/E//02/06/23

## **Press Notice**

The Human Rights Commission of Sri Lanka (HRCSL) has in recent weeks received complaints from Parliamentarians connected with egregious attacks against the public and personal property in turn threat to their lives and the lives of their family. Today the further submissions of the Minister Prasanna Ranatunge was recorded in to evidence. In the submissions, prior and today along with video footage received the investigation has striven to identify perpetrators. Thus far the investigation team is of the strong opinion that the attacks are politically motivated and a seeming throwback to behaviors of yesteryear which paralyzed many parts of the country.

In testimony today the Minister alleged that those who had orchestrated the spate of violent attacks had, deliberately, knowingly and maliciously called for the people to avenge perceived injustices, striking terror all around the country with arson and robbery and that such was politically motivated for the benefit of a few.

Complaints such as those presented by Minister Ranatunga particularly worrying and shocking as it did echo violence of the past. The commission has received more than 70 complaints which although amalgamated will be individually inquired and perpetrators identified.

After recording all evidence in relation to the said incident as soon as possible the IGP will be directed to take appropriate legal action for criminal prosecution as may be required against all perpetrators.

Media Spokesperson Human Rights Commission of Sri Lanka.

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