## ELLIOT COLBURN MP



## HOUSE OF COMMONS

## LONDON SW1A 0AA

The Hon. Lucien Wong Attorney General of Singapore 1 Upper Pickering Street Singapore 058288J

25 July 2022

Our Ref: EC20985

Dear Hon. Mr Wong,

I write regarding the criminal complaint against former Sri Lankan President, Gotabaya Rajapakse, submitted to your office over the weekend by the iNGO, the International Truth and Justice Project. We know this organisation to have conducted evidence gathering and legal research of the highest calibre on the Sri Lankan civil war – indeed after the ITJP produced a lengthy dossier on Sri Lanka's Army commander, the United States Government designated him under 7031c of the Appropriations Act for gross violations of human rights.

In addition, the final phase of the war in Sri Lanka has already been investigated thoroughly by the United Nations in 2014-15 (OISL) and it produced a report (A/HRC/30/CRP.2) that reaches an evidentiary threshold of "reasonable grounds" to say the violations were committed; this should be sufficient reason for Singapore to launch a criminal investigation. I understand the ITJP has in its submission to you also supplied detailed linkage evidence connecting Mr Rajapakse to these incidents already investigated.

I urge you on behalf of UK parliamentarians to take immediate action to arrest Mr Rajapakse, seize his passport, and launch an investigation into the credible allegations against him.

We understand Singapore does have the option to exercise universal jurisdiction for grave abuses of the Geneva Conventions – frankly these are just some of the crimes this man has committed in Sri Lanka. I further urge you to reach out to other governments who may have investigated Mr Rajapakse to see if you can negotiate mutual legal assistance agreements to share what information they have already gathered.

Additionally, a large number of victims and witnesses now reside in the UK and I would be happy to do what I can to assist you to interview them for your investigation.

Your sincerely,

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**Elliot Colburn** Member of Parliament for Carshalton and Wallington Chair of the All-Party Parliamentary Group for Tamils

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