

## Easter Attacks Overall Report

### Summary of the criminal case updates

Colombo HC Case number	HC (TAB) 2972/21	HC (TAB) 2900/21	HC (TAB) 2899/2021
Accused	Naufer Moulavi and 24 others	Former IGP, Pujitha Jayasundara	Former Defence Secretary Hemasiri Fernando
Judges	Damith Thotawatte, Amal Ranarajah, Nawarathna Marasinghe	Namal Balalle, Adithya Patabandige, Mohomad Isardeen (Trial-at-Bar)	Namal Balalle, Adithya Patabandige, Mohomad Isardeen (Trial-at-Bar)
Counsels for accused	Noordeen M. Shaheed represent 6 Accused, 22,23 and 24 Accused were represented by Vijithananda Madawalagama	Roshan Dehiwala	President Counsel, Mohan Weerakoon
State Counsels	Senior Deputy Solicitor General, Haripriya Jayasundara, SC Lakmali Dissanayake and others	Senior Deputy Solicitor General, DSG Dileepa Peiris, SC Hansa Aberathna and others	Deputy Solicitor General, Sudarshana Silva and others
Counsels for aggrieved parties	Nevil Abeyrathna PC, Riyanzi Arsakularathna PC, Suren D. Perera	-	-
Previous Date	03.03.2022	29.11.2021	15.12.2021
Next date and time	12.05.2022 at 1.30 pm	The Order delivered on 18.01.2022 and accused was acquitted	The Order delivered on 18.01.2022 and accused was acquitted

## Summary of the Reports on Easter Attacks

Reports	Malalgoda Report (1 <sup>st</sup> PCoI report)	Parliament Select Committee report	Janak De Silva Report (2 <sup>nd</sup> PCoI Report)
Members of the Commission	Judge Vijith Malalgoda (Head), former IGP N.K. Illangakoon and former Law and Order Ministry Secretary Padmasiri Jayamanne	Deputy Speaker Ananda Kumarasiri (Head), Ministers Dr. Rajitha Senarathne, Rauf Hakeem and Ravi Karunanayake, parliamentarians Field Marshal Sarath Fonseka, Prof. Ashu Marasinghe and Dr. Jayampathy Wickramaratne, MA Sumanthiran, Nalinda Jayathissa	Supreme Court Judge Janak de Silva (Head), Justice Nissanka Bandula Karunarathna, Justice Nihal Sunil Rajapakse, Retired Judge of the High Court Bandula Kumara Atapattu and Ms. W.M.M.R. Adikari Retired Ministry Secretary
Appointed by	Former President Maithripala Sirisena	Parliament	Former President Maithripala Sirisena
Availability of the report	Report was never made public	Available for the public	Only the Volume I of the report is given to limited number of people
Date of Appointment	22 <sup>nd</sup> of April 2019	22 <sup>nd</sup> of May 2019	22 <sup>nd</sup> of September 2019
Date of Submission	10 <sup>th</sup> of June 2019	23 <sup>rd</sup> of October 2019	1 <sup>st</sup> of February 2021

### 1.0 Background

The easter attacks on 21 April 2019 was the biggest post-war massacre in Sri Lanka and took the lives of about 277 persons and injured around 600, caused massive destruction, including at three Christian churches and three major hotels. Many survivors and families of victims continue to feel the pain. About 45 of those killed were foreign nationals. Seven months after the bombings, the government changed through presidential elections followed by parliamentary elections, but truth and justice remain elusive.

## 2.0 Easter Attack Court Cases

### 2.1 Criminal Cases

#### Main Easter Attacks' criminal case against 25 accused - HC (TAB) 2972

The criminal case bearing number HC (TAB) 2972 in Colombo High Court no.1 against 25 accused including a person call Naufer Moulavi who is alleged to be the master mind behind all the Easter bombings, considered to be the main criminal case relating to Easter Attacks. The case is scheduled to be heard before a Trial at Bar comprised of Judges Damith Thotawatte, Amal Ranarajah and Nawarathna Marasinghe and indictments containing 23270 charges were served to the accused on 4<sup>th</sup> of October 2021. Senior Deputy Solicitor General Haripriya Jayasundara, State Counsel Lakmali Dissanayake and few others are in the team of prosecution. Six of the accused are represented by Mr. Noordeen M. Shaheed, the 22<sup>nd</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> accused represented by Mr. Vijithananda Madawalagama and some other accused are represented by several other lawyers. Some of the accused are not represented. Lawyers for the aggrieved parties include Mr. Nevil Abeyrathna PC, Mr. Riyanzi Arsakularathna PC and Mr. Suren D. Perera. On 4<sup>th</sup> of October 2021 an accused requested to have the indictment in English and some other accused requested the same in Tamil. Also, around 10 accused requested from Court to have Tamil speaking lawyers.

When this matter was called on 23<sup>rd</sup> of November 2021, Attorney General's department made an application mentioning that they need further time to translate the summary of indictments to Tamil and English. Also, some accused were unrepresented. Also, a reminder was sent by the Court to BASL requesting to send 10 Tamil speaking lawyers. Therefore, Court granted 12<sup>th</sup> of January 2022 to complete those steps. Heavy security and media coverage were in the Court premises and a security metal detector gate was set at the entrance of the court house.

#### Former IGP Pujith Jayasundara's case - HC (TAB) 2900/21

On 1<sup>st</sup> of October 2021, a Trial-at-Bar at the Colombo High Court served indictments on former Inspector General of Police (IGP) Pujith Jayasundera in the case number bearing HC (TAB) 2900/21 over the criminal negligence with respect of 2019 easter attacks<sup>1</sup>. The Trial at Bar is comprised of Judges Namal Balalle, Adithya Patabandige and Mohomed Irshadeen and indictments contain around 855 charges and 1200 witnesses. Senior Deputy Solicitor General

---

<sup>1</sup> <http://www.adaderana.lk/news/77358/easter-attacks-court-serves-charges-on-pujith-and-hemasiri>

Dileepa Peeris lead the prosecution with few other lawyers while Mr. Roshan Dehiwala with several other lawyers appear for the Accused.

On 22<sup>nd</sup> of November 2021 indictments were read over to the former IGP and 33 admissions were recorded including postmortem reports and Judicial Medical Officers' reports. The prosecution's 1<sup>st</sup> witness Chief of former State Intelligence Services Mr. Nilantha Jayawardhana gave evidence as the 1<sup>st</sup> witness on 23<sup>rd</sup>,24<sup>th</sup>,25<sup>th</sup>,26<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> November and around 32 documents were marked from him. On 29<sup>th</sup> November the evidence in chief of Inspector General of Police C. D. Wickramarathne was half led and the trial postponed to 18<sup>th</sup> January 2022.

Former Defense Secretary's case - HC (TAB) 2899/2021

Indictments were served on former Defense Secretary Hemasiri Fernando for criminal negligence relating to easter attacks in a Trial at Bar at the Colombo High Court in the case bearing number HC (TAB) 2899/2021 on 1<sup>st</sup> of October<sup>2</sup>. Judges Namal Balalle, Adithya Patabandige and Mohamed Irshadeen are in the Trial at Bar. Senior Deputy Solicitor General Sudarshana De Silva lead the prosecution with few other lawyers and President Counsel Mohan Weerakoon with several other lawyers appear for the Accused. The trial was commenced from 22<sup>nd</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> November and 13<sup>th</sup> to 15 December. Chief of former State Intelligence Services Mr. Nilantha Jayawardhana, Kodithuwaakku, Derana senior news manager Tharanga Nimesh, Rev. Fr. Sameera Rodrigo, the Director General Tourism Development Authority Mr. Upali Rathnayaka and the former State Minister of Defense Mr. Ruvan Wejewardana were called for evidence during this period.

Mawanella Budhu Pilima Case – Kegalle High Court

Next date 07th July 2022

Fathima Hadiya (Saharan's wife)' case – Kalmune

Hejazz's case – Chilaw High Court  
22 and 23 Puththalama HC

Ahanaf Jazeem – Puttlam High Court

Shanin Abeysekara's case – Kuliyaipitiya Magistrate Court B1411/22

Wanathavilluwa case in Puttalam High Court  
24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> August 2022 Trial at bar

Nuwaraeliya training camp case in Nuwaraeliya High Court – HC 75/21

## 2.2 Fundamental Rights Petitions

---

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.adaderana.lk/news/77358/easter-attacks-court-serves-charges-on-pujith-and-hemasiri>

On 16<sup>th</sup> November 2021, twelve Fundamental Rights applications No. 163/19 with 165/19, 166/19, 184/19, 188/19, 191/19, 193/19, 195/19, 196/19, 197/19, 198/19, and 293/19 filed relating to Easter Attacks were taken in the Supreme Court before a full bench comprised of seven judges. However, two judges namely Priyantha Jayawardana and Gamini Amrasedara have not attended to the case due to personal reasons. The Respondents in the cases include former defense secretary Hemasiri Fernando, Former IGP Pujitha Jayasundara, former president Maithreepala Sirisena, former Prime Minister Ranil Wickramasinghe, former Cabinet and the Attorney General. The matter was postponed to 14<sup>th</sup> March 2022<sup>3</sup>.

These 12 Fundamental Rights applications were heard from 6<sup>th</sup> June 2022 to 10<sup>th</sup> June 2022. The matters will be taken up again on 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> July 2022.

### 2.3 Civil Cases

128 civil cases have been filed in Colombo District Court by aggrieved parties claiming compensation for easter attacks. As one of the Respondents in these cases former president Maithreepala Sirisena through his lawyer, President Counsel Fais Musthapa has raised a preliminary objection by a motion to dismiss all the 128 cases claiming that the cases are filed without a cause of action and Mr. Maithreepala Sirisena was not the President at the time of the filing of the cases. The lawyer for the plaintiffs (aggrieved parties) President Counsel Shamil Perera has pointed out in the Court that such an objection cannot be maintained under the provisions of the Civil procedure Code. Colombo District Judge Chathurika De Silva has given 7<sup>th</sup> of January 2022 for the order on the preliminary objection<sup>4</sup>.

---

<sup>3</sup> [https://www.bbc.com/sinhala/sri-lanka-59302013?at\\_custom1=\[post%20type\]&at\\_medium=custom7&at\\_custom3=BBC%20Sinhala&at\\_custom4=4155BD1C-4D27-11EC-A6E9-90393A982C1E&at\\_custom2=facebook\\_page&at\\_campaign=64&fbclid=IwAR0xPf9tkpRObd aXQQWsqB91YxaMokUQdgFiyC\\_CPfYIfP-df\\_Dj5cFe-pE](https://www.bbc.com/sinhala/sri-lanka-59302013?at_custom1=[post%20type]&at_medium=custom7&at_custom3=BBC%20Sinhala&at_custom4=4155BD1C-4D27-11EC-A6E9-90393A982C1E&at_custom2=facebook_page&at_campaign=64&fbclid=IwAR0xPf9tkpRObd aXQQWsqB91YxaMokUQdgFiyC_CPfYIfP-df_Dj5cFe-pE)

4

<http://sinhala.adaderana.lk/news/161065/%E0%B7%84%E0%B7%92%E0%B6%A7%E0%B6%B4%E0%B7%94-%E0%B6%A2%E0%B6%B1%E0%B6%B4%E0%B6%AD%E0%B7%92-%E0%B7%83%E0%B7%92%E0%B6%BB%E0%B7%92%E0%B7%83%E0%B7%9A%E0%B6%B1-%E0%B6%B4%E0%B7%8F%E0%B7%83%E0%B7%8A%E0%B6%9A%E0%B7%94-%E0%B7%80%E0%B7%92%E0%B6%B1%E0%B7%8A%E0%B6%AF%E0%B7%92%E0%B6%AD%E0%B6%BA%E0%B7%92%E0%B6%B1%E0%B7%8A%E0%B6%9C%E0%B7%9A-%E0%B7%80%E0%B6%B1%E0%B7%8A%E0%B6%AF%E0%B7%92-%E0%B6%B1%E0%B6%A9%E0%B7%94-%E0%B6%B1%E0%B7%92%E0%B7%82%E0%B7%8A%E0%B6%B4%E0%B7%8A%E2%80%8D%E0%B6%BB%E0%B6%B7-%E0%B6%9A%E0%B6%BB%E0%B6%B1-%E0%B6%BD%E0%B7%99%E0%B7%83-%E0%B6%85%E0%B6%B0%E0%B7%92%E0%B6%9A%E0%B6%BB%E0%B6%AB%E0%B6%BA%E0%B7%99%E0%B6%B1%E0%B7%8A->

## 2.4 Criminal case in United States

11<sup>th</sup> of December 2020, a criminal case was filed in the U.S. District Court in Los Angeles against three people namely Mohamad Naufar, Mohomad Anwar Mamed Riskan and Ahamed Milhan Hayathu Moahmed regarding the 2019 easter attacks in Sri Lanka. The case was filed after a nearly two-year investigation by the FBI. The matter is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorneys Annamartine Salick, George E. Pence IV and Christine M. Ro of the Terrorism and Export Crimes Section, and Trial Attorney Alicia Cook of the National Security Division's Counterterrorism Section<sup>5</sup>.

## 3.0 Compensation for victims

Almost all the families of the victims who died in the easter attacks have received 1 million Sri Lankan rupees from the Sri Lankan government, but expenses for the funerals have been deducted from the 1 million. Churches and some other organizations also have provided financial assistance to some of the families<sup>6</sup>.

On 28<sup>th</sup> October 2021, the government has provided houses for 19 victims of the easter attack on St. Anthony's Church in Kochchikade from the housing complexes owned by the Urban Development Authority<sup>7</sup>. The government has promised to hand over 4 million worth houses to 33 selected beneficiary families on a rental and low-income basis<sup>8</sup>.

## 4.0 Reports on Easter Attacks

### 4.1 Malalgoda Report (1<sup>st</sup> PCoI report)

On 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2019, a day after the easter attacks, former President Maithripala Sirisena appointed a Presidential Committee which was headed by Judge Vijith Malalgoda, former IGP N.K. Illangakoon and former Law and Order Ministry Secretary Padmasiri Jayamanne to investigate into the bombings<sup>9</sup>. The Malalgoda Committee submitted its report on 10<sup>th</sup> June 2019 to the then President Maithripala Sirisena. However, the report was never made public<sup>10</sup>.

### 4.2 Parliament Select Committee report

---

[%E0%B6%89%E0%B6%BD%E0%B7%8A%E0%B6%BD%E0%B6%BA%E0%B7%92?fbclid=IwAR0U-cJCRfik1z8z9ko6ixCBAMwotxSp0Q1f7TMXxxRrw0yfw5RwYv31og](#)

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/three-foreign-nationals-charged-conspiring-provide-material-support-isis>

<sup>6</sup> <https://www.aithiya.lk/english/houses-from-the-prime-minister-to-the-victims-of-the-easter-attack/>

<sup>7</sup> <https://www.themorning.lk/easter-sunday-attacks-new-housing-for-victims/>

<sup>8</sup> <https://www.themorning.lk/easter-sunday-attacks-new-housing-for-victims/>

<sup>9</sup> <https://www.themorning.lk/probe-on-easter-sunday-attacks-all-probes-and-no-action/>

<sup>10</sup> <https://www.ndtv.com/world-news/panel-probing-easter-attacks-submits-final-report-to-sri-lanka-president-2051008>

On 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2019, a Parliament Select Committee (PSC) was appointed to inquire and report to the parliament on easter attacks<sup>11</sup>. There were 9 members in the committee and the then Deputy Speaker Ananda Kumarasiri was the Chairman<sup>12</sup>. Ministers Dr. Rajitha Senarathne, Rauf Hakeem and Ravi Karunanayake, parliamentarians Field Marshal Sarath Fonseka, Prof. Ashu Marasinghe and Dr. Jayampathy Wickramaratne from the then government side and TNA parliamentarians MA Sumanthiran and JVP Parliamentarian Nalinda Jayathissa representing the opposition were the other members of the PSC<sup>13</sup>. Around 60 people have given evidence before the Committee and the President Maithripala Sirisena, Prime Minister Ranil Wickremesinghe, State Minister of Defense Ruwan Wijewardene and several senior government officials including former Defense Secretary Hemasiri Fernando, Inspector General of Police (IGP) Pujith Jayasundara, Minister Rishad Bathiudeen, former governors Azath Sally and MLAM Hizbullah, former Army Commander Lieutenant General Mahesh Senanayake, current Defense Secretary General Shantha Kottegoda, Chief of State Intelligence Service Sisira Mendis, Attorney General Dappula de Livera, Central Bank Governor Dr. Indrajit Coomaraswamy were among them<sup>14</sup>. The members of the Malalgoda Committee has also given evidence before the PSC<sup>15</sup>. On 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2019, the final report of the Committee containing 272 pages was presented to the parliament in all three languages and it is available for the public<sup>16</sup>.

#### 4.3 Presidential Commission of Inquiry Report - Janak De Silva Report (2<sup>nd</sup> PCoI Report)

On 22<sup>nd</sup> of September 2019 former President Maithripala Sirisena appointed a Presidential Commission of Inquiry (PCoI) into the easter attacks under the provisions of Section 2 of the Commissions of Inquiry Act<sup>17</sup>. The commission was headed by the Supreme Court Judge Janak de Silva and the members included Justice Nissanka Bandula Karunarathna, Justice Nihal Sunil Rajapakse, Retired Judge of the High Court Bandula Kumara Atapattu and Ms. W.M.M.R. Adikari Retired Ministry Secretary<sup>18</sup>. Over a period of 214 days the Commission has recorded evidence from 457 witnesses including members of the political authorities, security services and aggrieved parties<sup>19</sup>. Two interim reports were handed over to the President on 20<sup>th</sup> December 2019 and on 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2020 and the final report was handed over to the President Gotabaya Rajapaksa on 1<sup>st</sup> of February 2021<sup>20</sup>. The report consists of 472 pages, 32 chapters, 215 annexures and 6 volumes.

---

<sup>11</sup> [https://www.colombotelegraph.com/index.php/easter-sunday-attacks-parliamentary-select-committee-report-full-text/#google\\_vignette](https://www.colombotelegraph.com/index.php/easter-sunday-attacks-parliamentary-select-committee-report-full-text/#google_vignette)

<sup>12</sup> [http://www.colombopage.com/archive\\_19B/Oct23\\_1571846099CH.php](http://www.colombopage.com/archive_19B/Oct23_1571846099CH.php)

<sup>13</sup> [http://www.colombopage.com/archive\\_19B/Oct23\\_1571846099CH.php](http://www.colombopage.com/archive_19B/Oct23_1571846099CH.php)

<sup>14</sup> [http://www.colombopage.com/archive\\_19B/Oct23\\_1571846099CH.php](http://www.colombopage.com/archive_19B/Oct23_1571846099CH.php)

<sup>15</sup> [http://www.colombopage.com/archive\\_19B/Oct23\\_1571846099CH.php](http://www.colombopage.com/archive_19B/Oct23_1571846099CH.php)

<sup>16</sup> [http://www.colombopage.com/archive\\_19B/Oct23\\_1571846099CH.php](http://www.colombopage.com/archive_19B/Oct23_1571846099CH.php)

<sup>17</sup> <https://www.presidentsoffice.gov.lk/index.php/2021/02/01/final-report-of-pcoi-on-easter-sunday-attacks-handed-over-to-president/>

<sup>18</sup> <https://www.themorning.lk/probe-on-easter-sunday-attacks-all-probes-and-no-action/>

<sup>19</sup> <https://www.presidentsoffice.gov.lk/index.php/2021/02/01/final-report-of-pcoi-on-easter-sunday-attacks-handed-over-to-president/>

<sup>20</sup> <https://www.presidentsoffice.gov.lk/index.php/2021/02/01/final-report-of-pcoi-on-easter-sunday-attacks-handed-over-to-president/>

## 5.0 Campaigns for Justice

### 5.1 Cardinal's intervention

Malcom Cardinal Ranjith has been a strong advocate of justice for easter victims from the day of easter attack. His role to stop a conflict between Catholics and Muslims just after the easter attacks was highly commended by all the communities. He was influential in pressurizing the then government to appoint a Presidential Commission of Inquiry. After the commission handed over the report, now he advocates to implement the recommendations of the commission.

He met Michelle Bachelet, United Nations' High Commissioner for Human Rights on 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2022, at 2.30 PM Sri Lankan time in Geneva for about 45 minutes and held discussions on revealing the truth behind the terror attacks on Easter Sunday 2019 and bringing justice to the victims.

### 5.2 Intervention of CSR

Held meetings, press conferences and various campaigns to bring justice to the victims of Easter Attacks.

Established a legal unit with a lawyer specialized in human rights law and victim centered approach to work on Eater Attacks Cases and victims.

### 5.3 UN advocacy

Due to lack of progress being made domestically to ensure justice, and long-standing problems in ensuring justice for war time crimes and other serious human rights violations, the Archbishop of Colombo and many others, including CSR, felt that international involvement would be important to advance justice for easter attacks. Several interventions were made by CSR and others in August and September, and CSR's focus was to get some references to concerns about justice for easter attacks during the 48th session of the UN Human Rights Council in 2021. CSR made several interventions to the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, diplomatic community in Colombo and Catholic groups based in Geneva and engaging with the UN human rights mechanisms. As a result, for the first time, the High Commissioner's oral update contained a reference to concerns about justice for easter attacks and several Catholic groups in Geneva made an oral intervention.

### 5.4 Intervention of the 'Negombo Citizens Committee'

'Negombo Citizens Committee' (Meegamu purawasi Kamituwa) is a combination of several organizations that includes NAPSO, Janawaboda Kendraya, CSR and several others which collectively pursue justice for Easter victims. They have organized many events in streets of Negombo to advocate justice for Easter victims.



## 5.5 International Protests

New York

Italy

## 5.6 Face Book Campaigns

There are two main face book groups campaigning for victims of Easter Attacks. Justice for Easter Sunday Victims private face book group has around 1300 members and Australia-Sri Lanka Forum for Justice for the Easter Sunday Victims face book page has around 138 followers.

## 6.0 Reprisals

Reprisals in general

On the night of 20th August, as Catholics were preparing for the black flag protests, there were several instances of attempts to sabotage or intimidate. In two churches in the Colombo district, black flags were removed and there was surveillance around another church. A state TV channel (ITN) carried an episode that seemed to imply the black flag protest was unnecessary and that the government was taking adequate steps for justice. An outspoken youth activist involved in seeking justice for easter attacks, was summoned for questioning by the Criminal Investigation Department of the Police for 8 days. In the statement of the IGP on 25th August about investigations into the easter attacks, he requests not to express opinions and arguments that cannot be used in judicial proceedings and implies some are expressing opinions to gain popularity and become famous. The IGP then warns of possibility of legal actions against persons whose statements and opinions may adversely affect future judicial proceedings. These comments are seen as attempts to discourage expression of opinions that are critical of the way investigations have progressed and a veiled threat to deter those campaigning for truth and justice. On 30th August 2021, the Minister of Foreign Affairs acknowledged that the Catholic Church is seeking justice for victims of easter attacks, and then went on to say that “some groups are particularly active at the international level. They want to embarrass the Government and wants to launch a massive attack on our economy”. This appears to be reference to the statements made by the Archbishop of Colombo that he is ready to seek international assistance to ensure justice for easter attacks and others like us, who are seeking international assistance. After the reference to Sri Lanka by the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, hostility towards those involved in campaigning has increased, and specific target has been the Director of CSR.

### 6.1 Reprisal against Fr. Cyril Gamini

Rev. Fr. Cyril Gamini, a prominent advocate of justice for easter attacks, had been summoned for questioning on 28<sup>th</sup> October 2021 by the CID based on a complaint made by the present head of State Intelligence Service (SIS). Fr. Gamini’s lawyers appeared before the CID on the given date and CID had then requested Fr. Gamini to come to the CID on 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2021. In the meantime, on 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2021, Fr. Gamini filed a Fundamental Rights Petition at the Supreme Court seeking to prevent his arrest and citing this, did not go to the CID on 3<sup>rd</sup> November. On 8<sup>th</sup> November, the Attorney General’s representative had assured court that Fr. Gamini will not be arrested at this time. However, Fr. Gamini was again summoned for questioning at the CID on 14<sup>th</sup> November, and subsequently on 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> November as well.

Fr. Gamini had declined to go on the 16<sup>th</sup>, but had subsequently summoned to the CID again on 22<sup>nd</sup> November. A presentation Fr. Gamini had made at a webinar on 24<sup>th</sup> October 2021 outlining the links between the Easter Sunday bombers and state intelligence operations is believed to have led to these series of incidents.

## 6.2 Reprisal against Shehan Malaka

Shehan Malaka has been a strong advocate of truth and justice for easter attacks, especially in social media. He has also been outspoken about the need for truth and justice in front of media, and one of the more explosive interventions was on 17<sup>th</sup> August 2021, which received wide media coverage (<https://youtu.be/3krYcBhQKeQ.com>). On 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2021, Shehan received a letter dated 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2021 from the Officer in Charge (OIC) of the Intelligence Unit of the Criminal Investigation Department (CID) of the Police, asking him to come to the CID at 4pm on the same day. The purpose was said to be to get a statement in relation to investigations conducted by the above officer about criminal activities in various parts of the country. The letter also said that the order was being made under article 109 (6) of the Code of Criminal Procedure Act. No. 15 of 1979 and not complying with this order would be a punishable offence under article 172 of the Penal Code. Lawyers representing Shehan had communicated with the OIC on 23<sup>rd</sup> August and informed of Shehan's inability to attend and the OIC had agreed to postpone this to 10am on 25<sup>th</sup> August 2021. From 25<sup>th</sup> August till 2<sup>nd</sup> September, Shehan was subjected to daily interrogation (except 29<sup>th</sup> August) by the CID for approximately 72 hours over 8 days.

7.0 End