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**By Registered Post / email**

28<sup>th</sup> February 2025

Crescendo Transcription Pvt Ltd  
23,24,25 & 26, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor,  
Software Technology Park India,  
Opp: Garware Stadium,  
MIDC, Chikalthana,  
Aurangabad,  
Maharashtra – 431001.  
India

Email: [info@factcrescendo.com](mailto:info@factcrescendo.com)

**Publication of False Information**

I write on the instructions of my Client, Mr Nirosch Maithree Noragal of 1050/3B, Ragama Watta, Ragama the Chief Editor of News19.lk News Website

I am instructed to state that my Client is a well known journalist in Sri Lanka who has gained a reputation for the publication of unbiased and truthful news within the territory of Sri Lanka. My Client also operates an online news website called News19 ([www.news19.lk](http://www.news19.lk)) and conducts daily podcasts ([www.youtube.com/@Channel19lk](http://www.youtube.com/@Channel19lk)) accepted by thousands on various important socio-political matters. I am further instructed to state that my Client abides strictly by the ethics of responsible journalism and publishes only truthful and verified information for public benefit.

I am instructed that you own and operate a website "Fact Crescendo – Sri Lanka" at the URL <https://srilanka.factcrescendo.com> and a Facebook page under the name "Factcrescendo – Sri Lanka" at the URL <https://www.facebook.com/factcrescendosl/>.

I am instructed to state that on your aforesaid websites, you have held out to the world at large as follows:

*"Fact Crescendo ([www.factcrescendo.com](http://www.factcrescendo.com)) is an independent digital news platform and has a separate dedicated team solely working for fact checking news/claims.*

*"Fact Crescendo is an independent, unbiased fact-checking website that is committed to bringing the fact behind every news, debunking of misinterpreted & hoax news on a daily basis on false, mis-informed, social media as well as mainstream media. We believe in transparency of news source &*

methodology while carrying out our core activities, a commitment to transparency of funding as well as organization and open & honest corrections policy in case we make a mistake. Our vision is to be the touchstone for truth & a disrupter leveraging technology to bring about a new perspective in how news industry is viewed & functions."

I am instructed to state that thus and otherwise, you have held out to the general public that you are an unbiased digital platform which engages in fact-checking and that your vision is to be the touchstone for truth.

I am instructed to state that on or about 8<sup>th</sup> February 2025, a post appeared on the official Tamil language Facebook Page of the President of the Republic at <https://www.facebook.com/AnuraKumaraTamil> (which is a verified Facebook page) with the caption කුඩෙන් ආණ්ඩුවේ සල්ලි වලින් ගත්තු සිතක්කා ක#ක්#කා නේද" with the following image appearing thereunder.



However, the said post has been deleted from the said Facebook page.

I am instructed to state that on 8<sup>th</sup> February 2025 my Client on his facebook page, published the said photo together with the following text.

"මේක බරපතල තත්ත්වයක්. ජනාධිපතිවරයාගේ නිල දුර්වල ලේස්බූක් පිටුවේ පලකර පුළු මොහොතකින් ඉවත් කරන ලද සටහනක්. මේක වෙනත් පුළුවන් එක ක්‍රමයයි තියෙන්නේ. මේ ලේස්බූක් පිටුවේ ඇතිමිත්තරයෙක් ඔහුම නඩත්තු කරන වෙනත් මඩ ලේස්බූක් පිටුවක පලකරන්න හදපු පෝස්ට් එකක් ලොග් වෙලා ඉන්නේ මොකෙන්ද කියලා බලන්නේ නැතුව පබ්ලිෂ් කළා වෙනත් පුළුවන්. මෙහෙම සිදුවීමක් මෙහිපාල සිරිසේන ජනාධිපතිවරයාට සිටියදී ඔහුගේ මාධ්‍ය අංශයේ සිටි සමීර ද සිල්වා (මේ වන විට සිරස පත්තරේ වැඩසටහනේ නිවේදක) අතින්ද සිදුවුවා. මෙහිපාල ජනාධිපතිවරයාගේ ලේස්බූක් පිටුවේ ඇතිමිත්තරයෙකු වූ ඔහු අත්වැරද්දකින් තමන් ලොග් වී සිටින්නේ තමන්ගේම ලේස්බූක් පිටුවේ යැයි සිතා ලේස්බූක් Live එකක්



ආරම්භ කර තිබුණත් සුළු වේලාවකින් මේ වැරදි ලේස්බුක් පිටුව බවට ඔහු තේරුම් ගෙන ඉන් ඉවත්ව තිබුණා.

අත්වැරද්දකින් අනුර දිසානායක මහතාගේ ලේස්බුක් පිටුවේත් මෙවැනි ප්ලකිරීමක් සිදුවිය හැකි වුවත් ජනාධිපති මාධ්‍ය අංශයේ සිටින මෙම පුද්ගලයා එහි සිටියදීම මෙවැනි මඩ පෝස්ට් නිර්මාණය කරමින් ප්ලකිරීම සඳහාද වැටුප් ගන්නා අයෙක්ද? සීතා අරඹේපොල සිය නිවස ගිණිගත් බවට පවසමින් වන්දි ලබාගැනීම සත්‍ය කරුණක් වුවත් මෙහි Caption එක වැනි දේවල් පලකරන මෙම පුද්ගලයා නඩත්තු කරන අනෙක් ලේස්බුක් පිටු මොනවද ?

ජනාධිපති මාධ්‍ය අංශය තුළ සිටිමින් ජනාධිපතිවරයාවම අපහසුතාවයට පත්කිරීමට මෙවැනි ක්‍රියාවන් සිදුකරන පුද්ගලයින් කවුද ?

<https://www.facebook.com/AnuraKumaraTamil>

I am instructed to state that you had on 9th February 2025, published an article with the caption “ජනපතිගේ සමාජ ජාලා සටහන්වල ස්ක්‍රීන් ෂොට්ස් ලෙස පළවන සංස්කරණය කරන ලද සටහන්” on your website <https://srilanka.factcrescendo.com/2025/02/09/fabricated-posts-being-spread-as-screenshots-of-the-posts-of-president-akd/> (which too has been subsequently deleted/replaced by you) wherein you had cited my Client’s aforesaid Facebook post and labelled the same as false information and digitally edited *inter alia* stating

**සමාජ ජාලා සටහන්**

“ඒ කෙසේ වෙතත් ජනාධිපතිවරයාගේ නිල සමාජ ජාලා ගිණුම්වල මෙලෙස අස්ලිල බසින් සාමාන්‍යයෙන් විවේචන සිදු නොකරන නිසා මේ පිළිබඳව කරුණු විමසා බැලීමක් සිදු කිරීමට අප තීරණය කළා.”

**Fact Check ( සත්‍ය තත්ත්ව විමසා බැලීම )**

“සමාජ ජාලාවල බහුලව පැතිරෙන ස්ක්‍රීන් ෂොට් එක අප Error Level Analysis වලට ලක්කළ අතර එහිදී අපට දැකගන්නට ලැබුණේ මෙහි ඉහලින් ඇති අශ්ලිල බසින් ලියවුණු කොටස පැහැදිලි ලෙසම ඩිජිටල් සංස්කරණයක් බවයි.”

**නිගමනය (Conclusion)**

අප විසින් සිදු කරන ලද කරුණු විමසීමේදී තහවුරු වන්නේ ජනාධිපතිවරයාගේ නිල සමාජ මාධ්‍ය ගිණුම්වලින් පළකළ පෝස්ට් ආකාරයෙන් අශ්ලිල බසින් පළවන ස්ක්‍රීන් ෂොට් සහිත සමාජ ජාලා සටහන් වල අදාළ අශ්ලිල බසින් හුවමාරුවන සටහන් පොටෝසෝප් වැනි මෘදුකාංග භාවිතයෙන් සංස්කරණය කර නිර්මාණය වූ ඒවා මිස සත්‍ය ඒවා නොවන බවයි.

I am instructed to state that in the said post, you had used a screenshot of my Client's aforesaid post as well.

I am instructed to state that by publishing the aforesaid post with the aforesaid words, and annexing my Client's post as an example, you had categorically and emphatically indicated *inter alia* that the alleged the social media posts containing screenshots containing uncivilised/ obscene language posted on the President's official social media accounts were edited and created using software such as Photoshop, and are not authentic.

I am instructed to state that, the said allegation and conclusion published on your aforesaid website insinuate that my Client has *inter alia* engaged in the publication of fake and/or false and/or inauthentic news which has been created using a software such as Photoshop.

I am instructed to state that your aforesaid purported "fact checking" and the declaration that the said post published *inter alia* by my Client is fake and/or false and/or inauthentic, Meta Inc, the owners of Facebook had proceeded to flag that the said post by my Client as "fake and/or misleading" resulting with the credibility of my Client's Facebook page being reduced and the automatically the reach of my Client's page reducing.

I am instructed to state that your conduct has resulted with my Client's facebook post being characterized as fake and/or false and/or inauthentic resulting with the newsworthiness of my Client and credibility thereof being diminished. You had identified my Client as a person who has published fake and/or false and/or inauthentic news.

You have labelled that article posted on my client's Facebook as false without verifying its truthfulness. As a direct result of your false and misleading statements, my client's business has suffered reputational harm, including a decline in Google reviews and potential financial losses.

I am instructed to state that in your said news article your had clearly indicated *inter alia* that,

- a. The President's Facebook page would not contain such uncivilized and/or obscene language on a post
- b. You had carried out an "error level analysis" of the post and come to a conclusion that the uncivilized and/or obscene language on the post has been specifically digitally interpolated and/or edited;
- c. the alleged the social media posts containing screenshots containing uncivilized/ obscene language posted on the President's official social media accounts were edited and created using software such as Photoshop, and are not authentic.



I am instructed to state that thus and otherwise, by the publication of the aforesaid post on your website, has resulted in my Client being *per se* and by *innuendo* defamed *inter alia* that,

- a. my Client has published fake and/or false and/or inauthentic information concerning the President of the Republic
- b. my Client's publications are without any merit or truthfulness;
- c. my Client has no credibility;
- d. my Client's news items need not be taken seriously.

I am instructed to state that subsequently you had recanted your original allegations of fake and/or false and/or inauthentic news publication and proceeded to delete and replace and/or edit and modify the aforesaid article published by you wherein a different narrative had been published by you indicating as follows:

කෙසේනමුත් සීතා ඇරඹිපොළ මහත්මියගේ ගැන සඳහන් කරමින් පළවූ සටහන් සත්‍ය වශයෙන්ම ජනපතියේ ලේස්බුක් පිටුවේ පළකර තිබූ බව දුටු බවට පාර්ශව කිහිපයක්ම සඳහන් කර තිබෙන අතර ඒ ගැන වැඩිදුරටත් තාක්ෂණික කරුණු විමසීමක් සඳහා අප ලේස්බුක් ආයතනයෙන් විමසීමක් සිදුකර ඇති අතර එම තොරතුරු අනුව මෙම ලිපිය යාවත්කාලීන කිරීමට බලාපොරොත්තු වෙමු.

I am instructed that it has been over 12 days since the said publication, yet you have not informed the general public of the outcome of your purported inquiries to Facebook.

I am instructed to state that there is no truth whatsoever in the first post published by you referring to my Client as aforesaid. I am further instructed to state that employees of your Sri Lanka office have been in touch with my Client and has admitted that the publication was wrongful and was done without any 'error level analysis' as claimed by you.

I am instructed to state that as a purported fact checking entity, which is heavily relied upon by Social Media entities such as Facebook to combat fake and/or false information, you have a higher responsibility to ensure that your website does not publish "fake and/or false and/or inauthentic information" in the guise of publishing the truth.

In the aforesaid circumstances, I am instructed to state that my Client has suffered serious damages to his professional reputation as a responsible journalist in Sri Lanka due to the publication of "fake and/or false and/or inauthentic and/or unverified information" concerning my Client.

I am further instructed to state that my client has been subjected to humiliation, contempt and public ridicule and his credibility as a journalist has diminished and further in consequence his dignity and self-respect too has been severely affected.

In the aforesaid circumstances, I am instructed to demand and you are hereby demanded that you,

1. forthwith and immediately remove the false and defamatory statements from all platforms where they were posted.

2. forthwith and immediately issue a public retraction and correction of your statements and tender an unreserved and unconditional public apology to my Client;
3. compensate my Client a sum of Rs. 50,000,000.00 for the damage to his reputation;
4. compensate my Client a sum of Rs. 50,000,000.00 for the damages caused to his dignity and self-esteem.

In the event of your neglect and/or refusal and/or failure to comply with the demands hereinbefore made, I further instructed to institute legal action against you in appropriate fora without any further notice.

Thank you,  
Yours Sincerely,



Attorneys at Law.

**B.M. THAMILA DINUSHI PERERA**

S.C. Reg. No. 19026

Attorney-at-Law, Notary Public,

Commissioner for Oaths & Registered Company Secretary

No. 391/1/2, 1st Floor, Dam Street, Colombo 12.

T: 0773 825873 E-mail : thamiladinushi@gmail.com

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