



*High Commissioner*  
Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka

HCL/MISC/2019

27<sup>th</sup> November 2019

The Rt Hon James Cleverly  
Co Chairman Conservative Party  
Conservative Party Head Office  
No 4 Mathew Parker Street  
London SW1H 9HQ

Excellency,

I write with reference to the Manifesto of the Conservative Party released recently for the upcoming general election in the United Kingdom on 12 December 2019.

We have noticed a reference to Sri Lanka on page 53 of the Manifesto, which appears to convey the impression that the Conservative party supports 'a two-state solution' with regard to Sri Lanka. This, in addition to raising concern among British constituents of Sri Lankan heritage, has been reported in the Sri Lankan media and has raised concerns among different groups in Sri Lanka. The relevant excerpt from the Manifesto is as follows:

*'We will continue to support international initiatives to achieve reconciliation, stability and justice across the world, and in the former conflict zones such as Cyprus, Sri Lanka and the Middle East, where we maintain our support for a two-state solution;'*

The distortion contained in the above reference to Sri Lanka as a country which requires a two state solution is unacceptable. It has never been the position of any party in the United Kingdom. It only allows for abuse by anti-Sri Lanka elements with vested interests who have for many decades supported LTTE terrorism in Sri Lanka and continue to undermine efforts at reconciliation.

Successive British Governments led by all parties have always enjoyed cordial relations with Sri Lanka, and have supported peace and reconciliation in a united Sri Lanka.

Accordingly, I would appreciate if this paragraph is suitably amended to accurately reflect the Conservative party position on Sri Lanka.

Please accept my kind regards,

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Manisha Gunasekera', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Manisha Gunasekera