Special Media Release

A special meeting was held with the participation of Heads of Security Forces, Police and Civil Security Department and other relevant Agencies regarding the current security situation in the country, and during that meeting, the Government decided to take steps to tighten security at all religious places, tourist hotels, hospitals and Embassies and provide security to all the catholic religious leaders and important locations of the Government.

Furthermore, the President has instructed the Inspector General of Police to impose a police curfew across the country with immediate effect until further notice. Similarly, a National Action Unit has been established to conduct investigations under the guidance of the Chief of Defense Staff and to conduct search operations to arrest the perpetrators. Instructions have been given to all authorities of the hospitals to provide prompt treatment facilities to the victims.

At present, the process of body identification is being carried out and the judicial authorities are taking steps to conduct the postmortems promptly. The Government has decided to bear funeral expenses of all the deceased persons.

Currently, the Security Forces and Police are conducting investigations on these incidents and the Government has taken steps to temporarily block all social media avenues until the investigations are concluded.

Steps have been taken to declare April 22 and 23 as holidays for all government and private schools.

The Government requests the public to ensure peace while remaining in their homes and to provide necessary assistance to the Security Forces as security has been tightened across the Island.

The Tri-Forces have been instructed to ensure the security of the public and the Tri-Forces will ensure the security of the people in coordination with the Police Department.

Udaya R Senevirathne Secretary to the President 2019-04-21