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சுதந்திர வர்த்தக வலயம் மற்றும் பொது சேவை தொழிலாளர் சங்கம்
FREE TRADE ZONES & GENERAL SERVICES EMPLOYEES UNION



22nd June 2018

His Excellency
James Dauris
High Commissioner for Britain in Sri Lanka &
The Maldives.

Dear Sir ,

ATG Ceylon / Occupational Industrial dispute
Timeline in brief

We the Free Trade Zones & General Services Employees' Union (FTZ&GSEU) is a union dully registered under the trade union ordinance before the Commissioner of Labour functioning from 1982 with the primary objective of safeguarding the rights and interest of private sector employees, as we believe a satisfied labour force is more productive than deprived and unsatisfied labour.

Employees of ATG Ceylon Pvt. Ltd., situated at Katunayake Investment Promotion Zone became members of our union in the latter part of 2103. When our union informed the company management officially by letter dated 07TH September.2013, the immediate reaction from the Managing Director / Chairman Mr. John Arthur Talyer main shareholder using the UK address of Honey Suckle cottage No 5 Cape street Broseley Telford Shropshir TF 125 UK was a notice in the factory premises dated 20th September 2013 that threatened employees for their affiliation with the union. They were told if they continue to be union members, facilities provided would be withdrawn

When pointed out to him by our letter dated 25th September 2013, the notice is illegal and unlawful, the company replied with an apology for the content of the notice.

As a responsible union we continuously tried to negotiate with the company. Most unfortunately the company management did not respond accordingly with the union on good faith. As a result, we could not settle any issue through discussions and negotiations. The company continued with its union busting scheming and threats, with the Commissioner General of Labour compelled to file cases against the company on unfair labour practices before the Negombo Magistrate.

Continuous pressure brought on our members to resign from the union failed, but made the management to think it could manipulate a workers' referendum to their advantage. Thus, their surprise request to the Commissioner General of Labour to hold a referendum. HE the German Ambassador in Sri Lanka and the

