



**Decisions taken by the Cabinet of Ministers on 09.07.2024**

**01. Construction of historical Kalyani river Udakukkepa Seemamalakaya**

The Kalyani Samagri Dhamma Maha Sanga Sabha of the Maha Vihara Vansika Shyamopalika Maha Nikaya has been performing its Upasampada Vinaya Karma in the temporarily constructed Udakukkepa Seemamalakaya in the Kalyani river for more than 150 years. The Sanga Sabha has decided to construct permanent Uposathagaraya at the Sri Kalyanavanslukarama Viharasthana land at Vennawaththa which is belonged to the Sangasabha taking into consideration the high labour and cost incurred in construction of the said temporarily Seemamalakaya annually. It has been decided to grant the approval of the Cabinet of Ministers to the proposal presented by Hon. Prime Minister to construct the proposed building of historical Kalyani river Udakukkepa Seemamalakaya under the recommendations and the instructions of Department of Irrigation taking into account this matter.

**02. Multi-sectoral national action plan II (2024 – 2028) for elimination of sexual and gender based harassments in Sri Lanka.**

Since it is necessary the policy involvement to ensure the right of women, men, children and all male female diverse groups to live in a fair and social environment without any violence, the first national action plan to address the harassments based on sexual and gender sociality was implemented with an integrated approach during the period 2012-2020. The necessity of new national action plan has been identified in a follow up and assessment process made on to find out the impact of the previous action plan. Accordingly, Cabinet of Ministers has approved the proposal presented by Hon President in his capacity as a Minister of Women, Children affairs and Social Empowerment for the multi-sectoral national action plan II (2024 – 2028) for elimination of sexual and gender based harassments in Sri Lanka prepared in consultation with relevant parties.

**03. Implementation of Green Hydrogen Technology for Development.**

Green Ammonia which has been a value added green hydrogen, has been identified as an environment friendly alternative which can be used instead of traditional fossil fuels for deep sea transport of energy to the long distance. The demand for commercial green ammonia that can be utilized for transport of energy, is being increased considerably in the global market. It has been predicted that the demand for commercial green ammonia will increase to billions of ton by 2030. There is huge opportunity to establish Sri Lanka as a green energy producer, exporter and Zonal energy hub as to special geographical advantages such as richly availability of renewable energy, adjacently located to the East-West shipping route. Accordingly, Cabinet of Ministers has approved the proposal presented by Hon. President in his capacity as a Minister of Investment Promotion to appoint a project committee comprising of the representatives from the relevant institutions for submission of recommendations to the Cabinet of Ministers after evaluation the investment proposals of the private sector forwarded in respect of Green Hydrogen/Ammonia.

**04. Development of portion of water reserve land adjacent to the Rajagiriya, Buthgamuwa road as a urban park**

Sri Lanka Land Development Corporation has acquired the marshy lands located at Colombo, Sri Jayawardenapura Kotte, Kolonnawa and Kaduwela Divisional Secretariat to the Government to maintain

as water reserve places under the Greater Colombo Flood Control and Environmental Improvement Project in order to minimize the floods in Colombo and Sri jayawardenapura Kotte related areas. Some parties tries to use the water reserve lands which are acquired adjacent to the Rajagiriya, Buthgamuwa road for the unauthorized constructions and other purposes and it has been perceived to use these lands for the suitable development purposes appropriately under the guidance of Sri Lanka Land Development Corporation without harming to the objectives of taking over these lands while protecting the said lands. Accordingly, Cabinet of Ministers has approved the proposal presented by the Minister of Urban Development and housing to call for proposals to develop identified portion of land as urban park obtaining the contributions of the private sector with income generation means.

**05. Granting part of the land at kollupitiya to the Expo Property Developers (Pvt) Ltd for a housing project**

As per the provisions of the Urban Development Authority Act, Approval had been granted in year 2007 to dispose 40 perches portion of land owned to Urban Development Authority in sea lane area in Kollupitiya to the Expo Property Developers (Pvt) Ltd under the 50 years long term lease basis and an amount equal to the 25% of the value of that land had been charged. However, functions relevant to transferring of the land cannot be completed due to residing of unauthorized person. Expo Property Developers (Pvt) Ltd had requested to grant them 52 perches of land including 12 perches adjacent to the said land to implement housing project under the 99 years lease basis. The approval of the Board of Management of the Urban Development Authority has been received for that purpose. Accordingly, Cabinet of Ministers has approved the proposal presented by the Minister of Urban Development and housing to transfer the relevant portion of land to the Expo Property Developers (Pvt) Ltd under 99 years lease basis on the current assessment of the chief assessor.

**06. Construction of 60 smart class rooms at selected schools related to estate area in Nuwara-Eliya, Kandy and Badulla Districts**

Approval has been granted at the Cabinet meeting held on 18-12-2023 to enter into an memorandum of understanding with the Indian Government in order to implement the project for construction of 60 smart class rooms for advance level classes at selected schools related to estate area in Nuwara-Eliya, Kandy and Badulla Districts under the financial aids and contribution of Sri Lankan Government. Taking into account the practical problems in implementation of the projects targeting only advanced level students, it has been decided in a discussion conducted with the officials of the Indian High Commission, Ministry of Education, Department of Foreign Resources and National Budget Department to remove the said restriction. Accordingly, the Cabinet of Ministers has taken into consideration the information presented by the Minister of Water Supply and Estate Infrastructure Development and steps will be taken to implement the project by amending the relevant memorandum of understanding.

**07. widening the Sisusariya service project implemented by National Transport Commission**

The Sisusariya service project has been initiated by the National Transport Commission from the year 2005 with the objective of providing reliable bus service under a subsidized fare system enabling the school children to reach their schools on time without any mental or physical inconvenience and go home to their houses safely after finishing their studies. At present, under this project, 1537 of services have been operated transporting the students by the Sri Lanka Transport Board buses and private buses covering all the districts in Sri Lanka. Thereby, it is provided transport facility for about hundred thousand of students per day. Under this project, since students are only charged half of the bus fare, a subsidy payment will be paid to the rider for reimbursement of the loss for maximum of 110 Km. The demand made by economically deprived parents and students who could not obtain private transport facility as to increase the fuel prices, for obtaining the Sisusariya service has increased. Accordingly, Cabinet of Ministers has approved the proposal presented by Minister of Transport and Highways to allocate Rupees 202 Millions

of provisions from the fund generated by the National Transport Commission to commence 500 of new Sisusariya services during the year 2024.

**08. Providing ambulances to the 1990 Suwasariya Foundation free of charge as a grant**

'1990 Suwasariya Foundation' had been initiated by utilization of 297 Ambulances which were obtained from the TATA Sons (Pvt) Ltd in India under grant of Indian Government in 2016, with the objective of providing the pre hospital treatments and emergency treatment services. At present, 322 of ambulances are operated including 25 ambulances provided by Government of Sri Lanka. According to the target of the Suwasariya foundation, it has been identified that 450 ambulances and 25 of back-up ambulances are required and accordingly, there is a dearth of 150 ambulances at present. Accordingly, TATA Sons (Pvt) Ltd has agreed to provide 50 ambulances as a grant while Asian Development Bank has agreed to provide 45 ambulances as a grant. Accordingly, Cabinet of Ministers has agreed to the proposal presented by Minister of Health to take necessary steps to obtain the said ambulances to the '1990 Suwasariya Foundation'.

**09. Providing high quality radiation therapy equipment with high power radiation energy for cancer patients in Sri Lanka.**

An agreement was entered into between the Electa Company in United Kingdom and Ministry of Health in the year 2013 to supply 14 linear accelerators used for cancer care services under 2 phases. Accordingly, the first stage of the project has been implemented and the second stage is to be implemented. Most of standardized the important components utilized for the modern cancer care treatments were not included within the specifications of the original agreement signed in year 2013, a proposal has been submitted by the Sri Lanka Oncologist to procure advanced machines. Accordingly, taking into consideration the proposals presented by the Minister of Health, cabinet of Ministers has approved to upgrade linear accelerators supplied to the Kandy National Hospital, Karapitiya National Hospital and Batticaloa Teaching Hospital supplied under the first phase and to supply modern high quality radiation therapy equipment to the 05 hospitals Ratnapura, Badulla, Hambanthota, Anuradhapura and Kurunegala under the second phase on a priority basis within the medium term budget framework of 2024- 2026.

**10. Introducing a Special Provisions Act to provide for the re-registration of companies incorporated or registered under the Companies Act No. 07 of 2007**

The procedures, operations and other requirements related to companies operating in Sri Lanka are specified under the Companies Act No. 07 of 2007. As on 31.03.2024, the number of companies incorporated or registered under the said Act is approximately 199,484. However, there is no provision in the existing Act to identify the number of active companies among the companies incorporated or registered under the Act. However, it has been recognized that there is no provision in the existing Act to identify the number of active companies among the companies incorporated or registered under the Act and it is recognized that a new law should be enacted for that purpose. Accordingly, the Cabinet of Ministers approved the proposal presented by the Minister of Industries to introduce a law to facilitate the re-registration of companies incorporated or registered under the Companies Act No.7 of 2007 and to instruct the legal draftsman to prepare a bill based on the concept paper prepared for the same.

**11. Commemorating 100 years since the establishment of the Berlin Buddhist Center in Germany**

A centenary celebration is scheduled to be held in Berlin in 2024 to mark the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the establishment of the Buddhist Centre in Berlin, Germany. In conjunction with the centenary celebration, a program has been organized in Colombo. Accordingly, the Cabinet of Ministers approved the proposal presented by the Hon. Prime Minister to launch the book "Das Buddhistische Haus (1924-2024)" printed

by Wijitha Yapa Publishers under that program and to issue a commemorative stamp by the Sri Lanka Postal Department to mark the centenary celebrations of the Berlin Buddhist Centre in Germany.

#### **12. Submission of the Regulations for approval in Parliament**

The Money or Value Transfer Service Providers Order No. 1 of 2024 under Section 17 of the Payment and Settlement Systems Act No 28 of 2005 read with Section 11 of the said Act has been published in the Extraordinary Gazette No. 2382/11 dated 30.04.2024. Cabinet of Ministers approved the proposal made by the Hon. President in his capacity as the Minister of Finance, Economic Stabilization and National Policies to present the said Regulations for approval in Parliament.

#### **13. Designation as Secondary Businesses of Strategic Importance**

Cabinet of Ministers approved the proposal presented by the Hon. President in his capacity as the Minister of Investment Promotions to designate the following businesses as businesses of strategic importance under the provisions of the Colombo Port City Economic Commission Act No.11 of 2021, to grant the proposed exemptions and incentives to such businesses from the Acts specified under the Schedule II to the said Act and to publish the rules applicable thereto through Government Gazette Notifications.

- Horizon Group USA Global LLC.
- Satguru Travel and Tourism LLC.
- Pagero Lanka Software Engineering (Pvt) Ltd.
- KPMG Professional Services (Private) Ltd.
- Hexaware Technologies SL (Private) Ltd.
- Creative Software (Pvt) Ltd.
- Remediumone Global Private Limited.
- GTN Group Holding Limited
- IPD Colombo (Private) Limited.
- Bistec Solutions (Private) Ltd.
- Port City Duty Free (Pvt) Ltd.
- China Duty Free (Lanka) (Pvt) Ltd
- ODF Pte Ltd.

#### **14. Launch of "Science Development/Ariveluchchi/STEM Empowerment" Teacher Training Program for Plantation Sector Teachers**

The Government of India has agreed to provide a sum of three billion rupees for the implementation of projects identified to improve the living conditions of the plantation community. One of the projects identified under this is to provide necessary facilities to encourage the study of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) among the students of the plantation community. As such, Cabinet of Ministers approved the joint proposal presented by the Minister of Education and Minister of Water Supply & Estate Infrastructure Development to implement the "Science Development /Ariveluchchi/STEM Empowerment" Teacher Training Program in order to meet the critical shortage of qualified STEM teachers in plantation schools.

#### **15. Mid-Year State Fiscal Position Report - 2024**

Under Section 10 of the Public Finance Management Act No. 3 of 2003, Mid-Year State Fiscal Position Report must be tabled in Parliament by the Minister in charge of Finance. The report should be released for public information by the last day of June 2024. This report has been published on the website of the Ministry of Finance, Economic Stabilization and National Policies accordingly. Cabinet of Ministers approved the proposal made by the Hon. President in his capacity as the Minister of Finance, Economic Stabilization and National Policies to table the said Regulations for approval in Parliament.

**16. An Act to repeal the Rent Act No. 7 of 1972.**

On 04.09.2023, the Cabinet approved the preparation of a bill to repeal the Rent Act No. 7 of 1972. The bill prepared accordingly by the legal draftsman has received the Attorney General's clearance. Accordingly the Cabinet of Ministers approved the proposal presented by the Minister of Justice, Prison affairs and Constitutional Reforms to gazette the bill in government gazette and then to present the same in parliament for approval.

**17. Resident Protection Bill**

Approval has been granted at the cabinet meeting held on 04 -09-2023 to introduce new law with the objective of protection of rights of tenant and house owner equally after enacting House Rent Act No 7 of the 1972. Accordingly, the clearance of the Attorney General has been received for the Bill prepared by legal draftsman. Cabinet of Ministers has approved the proposal presented by Minister of Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms to publish the said Bill in the Government Gazette and to submit it to the Parliament for the approval subsequently.

**18. First Cooperation Programme in the sectors of Education, Science, Culture, Mass Media, Youth and Sports between Sri Lanka and Rumania.**

An agreement has been signed between the government of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka and the government of Rumania. According to the said agreement, the relevant parties have expressed their concurrence for the first cooperation programme in the sectors of Education, Science, Culture, Mass Media, Youth and Sports. The Cabinet of Ministers approved the proposal submitted by the acting Minister of Foreign Affairs to sign the memorandum of understanding relevant to implementation of the said cooperation programme during the Foreign Affairs Minister's official / diplomatic tour in Rumania which is scheduled in the future.

**19. Establishment of new colonies / villages in plantation sector.**

Since the public residing in houses in the estate areas are not precisely supplied with rural level services rendered by the state institutions, it has been identified the requirement of converting estate housing areas to villages in order to treat them with dignity and respect. Accordingly, it is expected to introduce a new law amalgamating estate houses and line rooms available in estate areas and creating villages for them. Therefore, the resolution furnished by the Hon. President for instructing the Legal Draftsman to formulate a draft bill for the purpose was approved by the Cabinet of Ministers

**20. Evaluation of government employees not coming under the executive service category who reported to service without taking part in two - day trade union activities on 08<sup>th</sup> and 09<sup>th</sup> July 2024.**

Trade unions of certain services not coming under executive service category of the government service has declared a trade union action to be on sick leave on the two days of 08<sup>th</sup> and 09<sup>th</sup> 07.2024. However, it has been observed that some government employees are acting with understanding of the prevailing circumstances in the country and they perform their responsibility for the country without any constraints to the public. Therefore, the Cabinet of Ministers approved the resolution furnished by the Hon. President to grant a special salary increment that is not applicable to the pension for government employees not coming under executive service category to those reported for service on the two days mentioned above without taking part in the trade union activities without causing public unrest and issue them a special commendation certificate that can be made applicable for future promotions.

**21. Amendment of the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka**

It is observed that there is an irrelevancy in regard to the reign of the President and the period of the Parliament reign in the articles 30 (2), 62 (2) and 83 (b) of the Constitution. In order to prevent any

suspicion and any inconsistency in the regard, the Cabinet of Ministers granted approval to the resolution furnished by the Hon. President to prepare a draft bill relevant to Constitutional reforms for the amendment of the Article 83 (b) of the Constitution by substituting the clause "exceeding five years" instead of the clause "exceeding six years".

**22. Difficulties encountered by some of the regional estate companies in regard to payment of a fair salary to estate workers.**

Paying a precise attention to the impacts of cost of living and the economic crisis erupted recently within the country, the Secretary to the Ministry of Finance, Economic Stabilization and National Policies was directed at the meeting of the Cabinet of Ministers held on 22.05.2024 to estimate the wage to be paid to an estate labourer per day. Furthermore, it was also decided at the meeting of the Cabinet of Ministers to appoint a committee to confirm the capability of each regional estate companies to pay the said wages. It was decided at this meeting of the Cabinet of Ministers to accelerate the process of imposing necessary laws to cancel the land lease agreements with the Government which the regional plantation companies who refrained from paying the precise salary entered into even with the capability to pay based on the recommendations of the aforesaid committee.

**23. Conducting teaching activities in schools and patient treatment services in hospitals without disturbance.**

The Cabinet of Ministers decided to take necessary actions to introduce new laws to prevent any unjust to students in schools and patients in hospitals due to unlawful activities, paying attention to the influences and unruly actions performed by certain groups to disrupt the teaching process in schools during the school time and patient treatment services in hospitals.

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**In the event of any inconsistency between the Tamil and English translations of this document, the Sinhala text shall prevail.**