



## Cabinet Decisions taken at the Cabinet Meeting held on 21-04-2025

### 01. Promotion of tourism and passenger transport activities by using water flows under public-private partnership

Since Sri Lanka is an island full of water sources and water flows, there is a possibility to use said water sources and water flows effectively to develop the tourist industry as well as urban passenger transport. Therefore, attention has been drawn to starting a boat service covering the several areas using water flows existing inside the island as well as the coastline. Accordingly, it is expected to start a coastline transport service between Puttalam-Fort, Fort-Galle, and Galle-Matara and facilitate the promotion of tourism and passenger transport through the development of required infrastructure facilities. Further, it is also expected to promote the tourist industry by providing inland water resource facilities using potential water resources such as Hamilton Ela, Bere Wewa, Diyawanna Oya, and Madu Gaga. Accordingly, the Cabinet of Ministers has approved the proposal presented by the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Foreign Employment, and Tourism to do a feasibility study in respect of the implementation of the relevant project and to implement the proposed project as a public-private combined program based on the results of the feasibility study.

### 02. Increasing the amount of aid given for a housing unit under the housing program “A house for you – a tomorrow for the country”

The housing program “A house for you—a tomorrow for the country” is being implemented with the objective of reducing the housing issue of the poor or low-income people and the poverty associated thereto. Under this program, one poor or low-income-earning family from every Grama Niladhari division is selected on a priority basis and offered aid for constructing/upgrading a house based on the progress of the construction. The selected beneficiary should construct a house with a minimum of 550 square feet, and in addition to the amount of Rs. 650,000 given by the government, the remaining amount has to be borne by the concerned beneficiary. Even though at the onset of the program, Rs. 1,147,000/- was the estimated cost per house, the respective cost has increased up to Rs. 1,764,000/- at present. Accordingly, the Cabinet of Ministers has approved the proposal presented by the Minister of Urban Development, Construction, and Housing to increase the portion of the amount given by the government from 650,000/- to 1,000,000/-, since the beneficiary selected has not been able to bear the remaining amount due to their poor economic condition.

**03. Award of ground handling services for the Sri Lankan Airlines at Melbourne Airport , Australia**

The existing contract for providing ground handling services at Melbourne Airport Australia is scheduled to expire on 30-06-2025. Therefore, limited international competitive bids have been invited to select a ground handling service provider for the next 3 years. After reviewing the four (04) bids forwarded in that respect, the High Level Standing Procurement Committee has recommended to award the relevant contract to Dnata Airport Services Pty Limited. Accordingly, the Cabinet of Ministers has approved the proposal presented by His Excellency, the President in His Capacity as the Minister of Finance, Planning, and Economic Development to award the contract for the provision of ground handling services (passenger, ground handling and cargo handling) for the Sri Lankan Airlines at Melbourne Airport, Australia at a total estimated cost of 13,124,402 Australian dollars to the said company.

**04. Renovation of karainagar Boat Yard owned by Senor Foundation Ltd.**

A memorandum of understanding has been signed by His Excellency, the President, to obtain a grant from the Government of India for the renovation of the Karainagar Boat Yard during his official visit to India in December 2024. According to the memorandum of understanding, the responsibility of providing the technical consultancy service for the project and exempting the goods and equipment related to the grant from taxes has been assigned to the government of Sri Lanka. Accordingly, the Cabinet of Ministers has approved the proposal presented by the Minister of Fisheries, Aquatic and Marine Resources to seek the services of the Central Engineering Consultancy Bureau as a consultant for the project and allocate 40 million rupees from the Treasury for the expenditure to be borne by the Government of Sri Lanka.

**05. Establishment of the Gambling Sports Regularization Authority**

It has been proposed to establish the Gambling Regularization Authority to act as an independent solo monitoring authority with a broad and holistic subject arena in regard to monitoring activities related to gambling sports industry in Sri Lanka including off shore gambling sports activities in ships and Colombo Port City as well as online gambling sports. In par with the approval of the Cabinet of Ministers at their meeting held on 24.02.2025 to prepare a draft bill in relation to that, a draft bill has been prepared and to which clearance of the Attorney General has been granted. Accordingly, the Cabinet of Ministers granted approval to the proposal furnished by His Excellency the President in his capacity as the Minister of Finance, Planning and Economic Development to publish the draft bill of Gambling Sports Regularization Act in the government gazette notification and subsequently submit the same to the Parliament for its concurrence.

**06. Provisions for registering electric motor tricycles (Tuk Tuks).**

The gross weight of motor tricycles (Tuk Tuks) manufactured as electric motor tricycles (Tuk Tuks) or converted petrol or diesel driven motor tricycles (Tuk Tuks) into electric motor tricycles (Tuk Tuks) are increased. Due to this reason the approval of the Cabinet of Ministers has been granted at their meeting held on 08.08.2022 to revise the prescription of the motor traffic act as 600 kilo grams to be the maximum gross weight of such electric motor tricycles (Tuk Tuks) in order to solve the prescription issues confronted at the registration of electric motor tricycles (Tuk Tuks). However, considering the facts of introduction of a battery system that enables long distance ride when charged, the requirement of a high capacity battery system for luxury electric motor tricycles (Tuk Tuks) with air conditioning facilities as well as considering the weight added when using electricity resistant breaks, the industrialists engaged in production and conversion industry of electric motor tricycles (Tuk Tuks) at local market have requested from the Department of Motor Traffic to amend the prescription so that the gross weight of an electric motor tricycles (Tuk Tuks) will not exceed the weight limit of 650 kilograms including the battery system. Accordingly, the Cabinet of Ministers considering the proposal forwarded by the Minister of Transport, Highways, Ports and Civil Aviation decided to approve amendment of the Motor Traffic Act including the proposed amendments.

**07. Orders under the provisions of the Prevention of Corruptions Act No. 9 of 2023**

The Prevention of Corruption Act No. 9 of 2023 has been enacted to enable provisions to establish an independent Commission to empower certain provisions of the United Nations Convention against Corruption and other standards, assumptions and precise norms, revelation and investigation of offenses related to assets and liabilities statements, allegations and related offenses on bribery and corruption. As per the provisions of that act, the Minister shall formulate orders in consultation of the Commission in relation to precise matters ordered as per the provisions of the said act. Approval of the Cabinet of Ministers has been granted at their meeting held on 17.03.2025 to publish orders formulated inquiring the bribery or corruption investigation commission. Accordingly, the Cabinet of Ministers granted approval to the resolution furnished by the Minister of Justice and National Integration to submit the anti - corruption (assets and liabilities statements) orders 2025 published by the extraordinary gazette notification No. 2428/43 dated 20.03.2025 to the concurrence of the Parliament.

**08. Appointment to the post of the Commissioner General of Motor Traffic.**

Mr. Nishantha Anuruddha Weerasinghe, who is a Special Grade Officer in Sri Lanka Administrative Service serving as the Commissioner General of Motor Traffic at present has submitted a request to release him from the duties of the post of Commissioner General of Motor Traffic so that he can serve in a different post in another field in the government service. Accordingly, the Cabinet of Ministers granted approval to the resolution furnished by the Minister of Transport, Highways, Ports and Civil Aviation to attach him to the Ministry of Public Administration, Provincial Councils and Local Governments with immediate effect so that he can be appointed to some other appropriate post and appoint Mr. Kamal Amarasinghe, a Special Grade Officer in Sri Lanka Administrative Service currently serving as the Secretary to the Ministry of Highways, Transport, Housing and Construction of the North Western Provincial Council to the post of the Commissioner General of Motor Traffic .

**09. Establishment of the Special Committee appointed by the Cabinet of Ministers on Economic Management.**

The Government intends to acquire an economic growth of more than 5% from the gross domestic product within the mid - term framework. The Government's attention has drawn to investment friendly policy planning, infrastructure facilities development and export diversification, in order to accomplish a sustainable development and an economic stability. However, since private investments has been at a low rate during the previous decades and government investments are 4% - 5% of the gross domestic product, it is recognized vital to encourage private investments for realizing the expected economic growth. Accordingly, the Cabinet of Ministers approved the resolution furnished by His Excellency the President to supervise the policy discussions on economic development confirming to aim at the performance and national economic objectives as well as to establish the special committee appointed by the Cabinet of Ministers on economic development to facilitate for that.

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