



Cabinet Decisions taken at the Cabinet Meeting held on 01.07.2025

01. Scholarship programme to provide opportunities for the students who have passed the G.C.E. (A/L) in the highest rank to study their first degree at the foreign universities.

According to the government policy, Rs. 200 million has been allocated in the budget proposal for 2025 to provide opportunities for the students who have passed the G.C.E. (A/L) with the highest ranks to study their first degree at the foreign universities, aligning with the objective of creating 'civilized citizen-advanced human resources'. Under this scholarship program, it has been proposed to award scholarships to complete their degree program for a maximum of four years at universities ranked in the top 500 in international university rankings and that teach in English. Scholarships are planned to be awarded to 200 students, with a proposal to select 20 to 50 students for the year 2025 under the first stage of this program. The opportunity has been provided to apply for this program to students who have the highest Z-score in the main subject streams of the G.C.E. (A/L) examination. Out of the applications, the selection of students will be made by the expert interview board comprising professors and doctors from the universities. Accordingly, the Cabinet of Ministers has approved the proposal presented by the Hon. Prime Minister in her capacity as the Minister of Education, Higher Education, and Professional Education to implement the proposed scholarship program.

02. The preparation of the budget for the year 2026

It is proposed to prepare the budget for the year 2026 in line with the policy framework 'Rich Country – Beautiful Country' the public financial framework and public financial strategy statement and national policy framework 2026-2030 on theme basis of 'Production Economy and obtaining the contribution of everybody for the economic development'. When preparing budget estimates for the year 2026, it is expected to give prime importance to the priorities included in the national policy framework and the initiation of rural development. In terms of the provisions of the Public Finance Management Act No. 44 of 2024 and the Government Policy Statement, it is required to obtain proposals from all ministries to provide the necessary provisions to implement the projects and programs identified by each ministry under the subject codes of the respective ministry. 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 present the appropriation bill for the year 2026 to Parliament in October 2025 and to enable the second reading (budget speech) to be made in November 2025, with the third reading and budget debate to be conducted during November and December.

03. Seasonal worker employment program for the Agriculture and Fisheries of Republic of Korea

Approval has been granted at the cabinet meeting held on 19-02-2025 to implement a pilot program to facilitate the engagement of Sri Lankan labourers under the E-8 visa category (seasonal employees) in the Republic of Korea. Accordingly, discussions have been conducted through diplomatic channels with the interested local governments of the Republic of Korea to enter into a memorandum of

understanding with them. As a consequence of the discussions conducted with the Yongwol Local Government Institution of the Republic of Korea, it has been proposed to enter into a memorandum of understanding between both parties. Through the proposed memorandum of understanding, Sri Lankans will be given opportunities to serve in the agricultural and fisheries villages in the Yongwol province of the Republic of Korea for a short period (5-8 months) under the seasonal worker employment program, allowing them to earn income and generate foreign exchange for the country. The clearance from the Attorney General has been received for the proposed memorandum of understanding. Accordingly, the Cabinet of Ministers has approved the proposal presented by the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Foreign Employment, and Tourism to sign the relevant memorandum of understanding with the Yongwol Local Government Institution.

04. Community Effective Model Village Program

In line with the Clean Sri Lanka national project, it has been planned to implement the community effective model village program by selecting one village from every divisional secretariat (approximately 50 families residing) as a strategic tool based on participatory rural access in the years 2025, 2026, and 2027 to achieve its objectives. Under this programme, such villages are selected based on the model criteria in the fields of education, economy, health and sanitation, household management, social good governance, cultural and spiritual development, and environmental conservation and are expected to be created as effective community model villages. The suitable villages are selected with the assistance of District Secretaries and Divisional Secretaries. It is expected that the necessities of the village communities in all selected villages will be completed efficiently and effectively through the empowerment of all field officers serving at the relevant Divisional Secretariats representing line ministries. Accordingly, the Cabinet of Ministers has approved the proposal presented by the Minister of Industries and Entrepreneurship Development to implement the said proposal.

05. Five Year National Action Plan for the National Child Protection Policy

Approval has been granted for the 'National Policy on Child Protection', which has been prepared according to the provisions of the National Child Protection Authority Act No. 50 of 1998, at the cabinet meeting held on 29-10-2019. In order to implement the aforementioned national policy, the five-year national action plan for the national child protection policy has been prepared, encompassing ten (10) subject areas and incorporating ideas and proposals from the relevant parties involved in that field. The aforementioned five-year national action plan has been prepared with a multi-sectoral approach in line with all the policy commitments of the national policy framework 'Safe World for Children – Creative Future Generation'. Accordingly, the Cabinet of Ministers has approved the proposal presented by the Minister of Women and Child Affairs to implement the aforementioned National Action Plan.

06. Implementation of Research Project on the collection of Palm Leaf Manuscripts with Sri Lankan Origin in the Netherland

The National Archives Department of Sri Lanka has successfully secured a competitive grant of €384,248 alongside five other parties, including the Free Universities of the Netherlands, based on the proposal submitted in response to the international call for proposals by the Netherlands Research Council for research on the Dutch palm leaf collection of Sri Lankan origin. An opportunity has provided to conduct the proposed research from 2025 to 2029 under the grant theme of ‘Whose Knowledge, Whose Values? Palm Leaf Manuscripts and the Question of Colonial Collections in Dutch Heritage Institutions’. It has received the clearance of the Attorney General, the recommendations of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Foreign Employment and Tourism and the agreement of the External Resource Department for the agreement due to be signed among the combined parties for implementation of the said project. Accordingly, the Cabinet of Ministers has approved the proposal presented by the Minister of Buddhism, Religious Affairs, and Cultural Affairs to sign the proposed agreement and conduct the aforementioned research during the period 2025-2029.

07. Establishment of a State Loan Management Software System – (Expenditure Head No. 26)

Approval of the Cabinet of Ministers has been granted at their meeting held on 14.10.2024 to obtain a bid from the Commonwealth Secretariat following the direct procurement methodology for procurement of a loan management software system required for the management of state loans. Accordingly, the Commonwealth Secretariat has submitted a bid. The Bid Evaluation Committee and the Higher Level Standing Procurement Committee has recommended awarding the contract to establish the commonwealth Meridian software system under an annual maintenance fee of British Sterling Pounds 12,500. Accordingly, the Cabinet of Ministers approved the resolution furnished by His Excellency the President in his capacity as the Minister of Finance, Plan Implementation and Economic Development to award the contract of install of the said software and related services within the Department of External Resources.

08. Sri Lanka Expo Exhibition – 2026

Sri Lanka export Development Board has conducted Sri Lanka Expo Exhibition during the years 1992, 1994, 1997 and 2012. It has been planned to conduct Sri Lanka Expo Exhibition once again after 14 years of lapse in the year 2026 at the Bandaranayake Memorial International Conference Hall (BMICH) complex. It is expected to attract approximately 1,500 including exporters, small and medium scale enterprises ready for export as well as buyers and investors. Accordingly, the Cabinet of Ministers granted approval to the proposal submitted by the Minister of Industries and Entrepreneurship Development to organize Sri Lanka Expo – 2026 exhibition as a national festival.

09. Enhancing sanitary facilities in urban areas throughout the island

Due to lack of sufficient standard sanitary facilities that can be used for public and local and foreign tourists that influx daily to urban areas, the Government has decided to construct sanitary facilities including standard lavatory systems. Appropriate places to establish facilities proposed by the Urban

Development Authority has been identified according to the urban development plans. It is proposed to construct 20 sanitary facilities systems under this project and, is estimated that rupees 525.29 million will be spent for the purpose. Therefore, the Cabinet of Ministers granted approval to the resolution forwarded by the Minister of Urban Development, Constructions and Housing to execute the proposed sanitary facilities systems construction project at the following places.

- Demodara Railway Station
- Sigiriya Hotel Junction
- Lake circus of Nuwara / Kandy
- Gregory Lake, Nuwara Eliya
- Kinniya Beach, Trincomalee
- Marble Beach, Trincomalee
- Nilaweli Coastal Area, Trincomalee
- Pasikuda, Batticaloa
- Ruwanwelisaya Parking Area
- Lankapura, Polonnaruwa
- Jaffna Kourikattuwan Jetty complex
- Hikkaduwa Coastal Belt
- Hirikatiya, Dikwella
- Pareiwella Coastal Park, Tangalle
- Nine arch bridge, Ella
- Moragolla Beach, Beruwala
- Mt. Lavinia railway station
- Negombo Costal Park Project, Phase I
- Battaramulla Junction
- Badagamuwa forest part, Kurunegala

10. Selection of consultancy institutions for supervisory activities of the housing programme executed under the Chinese Government Donation Programme for low income earners.

The Urban Development Authority has called aspirations for selection of consultancy institutions under three (03) packages for supervisory activities of residential sites of 1,996 housing units being constructed under the donation programme of the Government of China for low income generating individuals. In this connection. Six (06) institutions have submitted declarations of aspiration while, only three (03) institutions have been eligible to forward Requests for Proposals (RFP). Based on the recommendations of the Procurement Committee for selecting consultants appointed by the Cabinet of Ministers, approval for the resolution furnished by the Minister of Urban Development, Construction and Housing to award contracts to supply consultancy services as mentioned below was granted by the Cabinet of Ministers.

- Package I – Awarding the contract of supplying consultancy services for the construction project of 575 housing units in Moratuwa and 108 housing units in Kottawa to the Central Engineering Consultancy Bureau (CECB)

- Package II - Awarding the contract of supplying consultancy services for the construction project of 586 housing units in Dematagoda and 112 housing units in Maharagama to the Sri Lanka Engineering Corporation (SLEC)
- Package III - Awarding the contract of supplying consultancy services for the construction project of 615 housing units in Paliyagoda to the Sri Lanka Engineering Corporation (SLEC)

11. Method to purchase pharmaceuticals and medical appliances under government to government basis.

Approval of the Cabinet of Ministers was granted at their meeting held on 19.05.2025 to appoint a senior officials' committee to prepare a methodology to select countries with a probability to obtain pharmaceuticals in shortage under government to government basis. Therefore, a methodology has been prepared to purchase pharmaceuticals and medical appliances under government to government basis depending on the proposals and observations of the aforementioned Commission, after directing the draft methodology prepared by that Commission to the National Procurement Commission. Accordingly the Cabinet of Ministers granted approval to the resolution furnished by the Minister of Health and Mass Media to enter into memoranda of understanding with eligible countries for purchase of pharmaceuticals and medical appliances according to that methodology when it is essential, and to supply pharmaceuticals and medical appliances that is difficult to be supplied via the general supply chain entering into precise agreements between entities nominated by those governments and the State Pharmaceutical Corporation.

12. Procurement for supply of contact lenses.

Quotations have been called under the international competitive bidding methodology to supply 05 categories of contact lenses used for implanting to the eye during Cataract removal or myopia implantation surgeries. Five (05) bidders have placed their quotations for this. Accordingly, based on the recommendations of higher level standing procurement committee, the Cabinet of Ministers approved the proposal submitted by the Minister of Health and Mass Media to carry on the procurement and accomplish the supply of the relevant five (05) categories of contact lenses from the following suppliers.

- Supply of contact lenses from M/s Elshaddai Enterprises (Pvt.) Ltd. of Sri Lanka who is the minimum bidder responding substantively relevant to the procurements for SR No. 13005029 and 13005032
- Supply of contact lenses from M/s Jayasuriya Associates of Sri Lanka who is the minimum bidder responding substantively relevant to the procurements for SR No. 13005026 and 13005031 and 13005030

13. Amendment of orders for Justice for Peace (appointment, suspension, cancellation and code of ethics)

The Minister is vested with the power of enforcing regulations for appointment, suspension, cancellation and termination of the post of a Justice for Peace as per the provisions of the Judicature Act No. 2 of 1978. Accordingly, orders No 3 of 2023 for Justice for Peace (appointment, suspension, cancellation and code of ethics) have been published in the extraordinary gazette No. 2360/22 dated 27.11.2023. Amending those orders, the amended orders have been published in the extraordinary gazette No. 2439/34 dated 04.06.2025. The Cabinet of Ministers granted approval to the resolution forwarded by the Minister of Justice and National Integration to submit the aforesaid orders in the Parliament.

14. Establishment of a Special Presidential Investigation Committee to see into the frauds, corruption and irregularities occurred in the past within Sri Lankan Airlines Limited and Airport and Aviation (Sri Lanka) (Private) Limited.

Although a contribution to the economic improvement of the country is rendered by Sri Lankan Airlines Limited, a greater cost has to be borne by the Government to maintain it while the annual loss to the company has been unbearable to the country's economy. The expectation of the public is to successfully maintain this Company by converting it to an economically advantageous, efficient and productive state entity utilizing the novel technology. In order to realize this objective, a thorough formal study and evaluation of the transactions and incidents should be carried out to unearth the causes that led the Sri Lankan Aviation Company towards the current situation. Furthermore, attention of the Government has been drawn by various parties regarding the requirement to investigate on the activities of Airport and Aviation (Sri Lanka) (Private) Limited which is responsible for airport monitoring. Accordingly, the Cabinet of Ministers granted approval to the proposal furnished by His Excellency the President to appoint a Special Presidential Investigation Committee headed by Mr. H. M. Gamini Wijesinghe, former Auditor General, so that a detailed report with recommendations can be submitted probing into alleged frauds, corruption and irregularities occurred in the previous period from 2010 – 2025.

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