

## **Decisions taken at the Cabinet Meeting conducted on 05-08-2024**

### **01. Flood condition in Kolonnawa**

A decision has been taken at the cabinet meeting held on 03-06- 2024 to appoint a committee under a chairmanship of Colombo District Secretary to investigate underlying causes behind the flooding in the Kollonawa area and submit a report including the recommendations to prevent the recurrence of such condition and formulate a comprehensive development plan for the reorganization of Kollonawa town. Accordingly, 16 recommendations have been submitted by the said committee, including the report prepared by the Sri Lanka Land Development Corporation, Kollonawa city development plan, which is being prepared by the Urban Development Authority and Kottikawatte- Mulleriyawa city development plan to be prepared and implemented within 04 months period in order to identify root causes behind the floods in the Divisional Secretariat Division of Kollonawa and to prevent recurrence of such conditions again. Accordingly, Cabinet of Ministers has approved the proposal presented by Hon. President to implement these recommendations through the relevant responsible institutions after proper studying and to appoint committee under the chairmanship of Hon. Prime Minister for the necessary guidance and supervision.

### **2. Indonesia- Sri Lanka Preferential Trade Agreement (ISLPTA)**

The second trade discussion committee meeting in respect of Indonesia-Sri Lanka Preferential Trade Agreement (ISLPTA) has been conducted on 15 and 16-07-2024 in Colombo. Accordingly, Cabinet of Ministers has considered the matters presented by Hon. President indicating that the discussions on proposed Indonesia-Sri Lanka Preferential Trade Agreement (ISLPTA) to be finalized in December 2024 and both parties have agreed to sign for the said agreement in March 2025.

### **3. Establishment of Regional Centre for Maritime Studies in Sri Lanka**

Sri Lanka has been identified by the French Government as the most suitable location for establishment of 'Regional Centre for Maritime Studies' in order to enable the dissemination of knowledge and actions gained through the common study throughout the region reckoning with the various initiatives taken by the Sri Lanka as a member of the Association of Indian Ocean countries in respect of maritime protection. It has been suggested to establish the proposed centre at the General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University and to obtain the necessary assistance and the infra structure Facility from the Trincomalee Naval and Maritime Academy. Accordingly, Cabinet of Ministers has approved the proposal presented by the Hon. President in his capacity as a Minister of Defence to enter into a bilateral agreement between Government of Sri Lanka and Government of France in respect of establishment of proposed 'Regional Centre for Maritime Studies'

#### **04. Enhancement of the Efficiency and the Quality of the Public Service**

It has been recognised that it is desirable to integrate information public corporations and statutory Boards technology systems existing in the public institutions in order to perform the functions effectively and optimistically through the verification of information and minimization of duplication of data with the objective of enhancement of efficiency and quality of the public service. Accordingly, the Cabinet of Ministers has approved the proposal presented by the Hon. President in his capacity as a Minister of Finance, Economic Stabilization & National Policies to act in the following manner in entering data for the information technology systems regulated/developed by the public institutions, including public corporations and statutory boards

- To be made compulsory to use national identity card number for the identification of Sri Lankan citizens more than 15 years of age.
- To be made compulsory to use passport number for the identification of a foreigner
- To be made compulsory to use the business registration No. and the national identity card numbers of the owners/members of the board of directors and the passport number for the foreign member.
- Standardization of data enabling to transfer the relevant data formally with other government institutions.

#### **05. National Policy on the facilities of Day Care Centres**

The National Child Protection Authority has introduced a national guideline for the day care centres with the objective of ensuring that the same procedure is followed in all day care centres throughout the island and the introduction of formal registration and monitoring system. Accordingly, a national policy on the facilities of day care centres has been prepared in order to ensure the implementation of child day care service uniformly and introduction of formal regulatory and monitoring mechanism. Accordingly, the Cabinet of Ministers has approved the proposal presented by the Hon. President in his capacity as a Minister of Minister of Women, Child Affairs and Social Empowerment to implement aforesaid national policy.

#### **06.Replacement of unauthorised squatters residing in Kelaniveli Railway Reserve from Pagiriwatte Railway Station to Padukka Railway Station.**

The unauthorised squatters residing in kelaniveli railway reserve from Maligawatte loco junction to the Padukka railway station will be replaced under the Colombo Suburban Railway Project by the utilization of local funds and the replacement of unauthorised squatters up to Kirulapona railway station has been completed at the moment. The large percentage of the residents of the railway reserve in the section from Pagiriwatte railway station to Padukka railway station have been stayed in an insecure manner for more than 30 years, and out of them, 350 families have been identified for replacement. Accordingly, the Cabinet of Ministers has approved the proposal presented by the Minister of Transport and Highways to provide the housing facilities for the said identified families at the Colombage Mawatha Housing Scheme, which is owned to Urban Development Authority and housing units of the housing complex, which is being constructed by the Railway Project at Malapalla in Kottawa.

**07. Agreement for transfer of equipment between International Centre for Research in Agroforestry and Department of Export Agriculture.**

The Knuckles project, is being implemented by the Ministry of Irrigation under the funds of the Green Climate Fund and technical assistance of the International Centre for Research and Agroforestry with the objective of strengthening the ability for adaptation to the climatic changes by the subsistence farmers and agroplantation communities that reside in vulnerable river basins, watershed, and lower valleys of the Knuckles mountains. A soil spectroscopic laboratory is to be established in the Department of Export Agriculture as one component implemented under this project. The International Centre for Research and Agroforestry has given its consent to provide necessary equipment for the said laboratory. Accordingly, the Cabinet of Ministers has approved the proposal presented by the Minister of Agriculture and Plantation Industries in order to enter into an agreement between the said institution and the Department of Export Agriculture for obtaining said equipment.

**08. Establishment of Futsal Indoor stadiums in commercial level**

Futsal is a football associated game which is played on an artificial pitch and an indoor stadium of 40 × 20 meters and 4 meters in high is used for this game. At present, several Futsal indoor stadiums have been constructed in urban areas. Since there is a higher attraction of this sport, it is expected to provide these playground premises and lands which are owned by the Government to a private investor on a lease basis under a public- private partnership and expand the game of Futsal. Accordingly, the Cabinet of Ministers has approved the proposal presented by the Minister of Sports and Youth affairs to select a private investor for construction of Futsal indoor stadiums in identified government lands and sports complex premises under the 80 years of lease period following Government procurement procedure and to construct 02 artificial tracks which are provided by the Pakistan Government as a grant in a Torrington and Sugathadasa sports complex.

**09. Proposed Dambulla Technical campus of General Sir John Kottawala Defence University**

Sir John Kottawala Defence University has planned to establish a technical campus in Dambulla city with a view to expanding its services to civilian students in the Central, North Western, North Central and Eastern Provinces. It has been planned to acquire administrative building complex in Dambulla town which is belonged to Urban Development Authority on lease basis without construction of new buildings and to administer the proposed technical campus as an independent body governed under the Board of Management of the of the General Sir John Kottawala Defence University. Accordingly, the Cabinet of Ministers has approved the proposal presented by President in his capacity as a Minister of Defence to establish the said technical campus.

**10. Establishment of National Building Research Institute by a Parliament Act.**

As per the Cabinet Decision dated 05-10-2021 instructions have been given to the Legal Draftsman to prepare a bill to grant the National Building Research Institute a legal recognition. Accordingly, the clearance of the Attorney General has been received for the said bill which has been prepared by the Legal Draftsman for the National Building Research Institute. Accordingly, the Cabinet of Ministers has approved the proposal presented by Hon. President in his capacity

as the Minister of Defence to publish the said bill in the Government Gazette and thereafter table in the Parliament for the approval.

**11. Extension of the project implementation period granted to the CHEC PORT CITY COLOMBO (PRIVATE) LIMITED with Strategic Development Project Concession.**

Construction of Colombo port city, a project identified under the Strategic Development Project Act No 14 of 2008, was assigned to the PORT CITY COLOMBO (PRIVATE) LIMITED in 2016. Accordingly, the Cabinet of Ministers has approved the proposal presented by Hon. President in his capacity as the Minister of Investment Promotion to extend project duration until 30-06-2027 to complete the balance work of the project and to start the commercial operations.

**12. Entering into a memorandum of understanding between Sri Lanka Institute of Development Administration and the National Centre for Good Governance in India for training executive officers in the all island services.**

An agreement was made to implement a programme to develop capabilities and capacity of Sri Lankan government service in collaboration with the National Centre for Good Governance in India at the bilateral discussions held with the Hon. Prime Minister of India, Narendra Modi during the official visit of the President in July 2023 to India. Accordingly, the Cabinet of Ministers agreed with the proposal submitted by the Hon. Prime Minister in his capacity as the Minister of Public Administration, Home Affairs, Provincial Councils and Local Governments to enter into an agreement between Sri Lanka Institute of Development Administration (SLIDA) and the National Centre for Good Governance (NCGG) in India.

**13. Awarding the contract to remove unusable parts scattered in Kankasanthure cement factory complex and awarding the contract of cleaning the factory complex.**

Bids have been called following the national competitive procurement methodology for cleaning the factory complex by collecting iron and other metal parts scattered in the cement factory complex of Kankasanthurei. Six (06) bidder has forwarded their bids for this procurement which was implemented under the direct supervision of the Ministry of Industries and three of them were rejected from them due to been disqualified as per bid documents. The Cabinet of Ministers conveyed their concurrence to the resolution furnished by the Hon. President in his capacity as the Minister of Finance, Economic Stabilization and National Policies to award the said procurement to Luminex PLC who is the substantially responsive bidder eligible as per the recommendations of the procurement committee appointed by the Cabinet of Ministers.

**14. Memorandum of Understanding between Bandaranayake International diplomatic training institute and the diplomatic studies institute of Egypt.**

With the intention of nourishing and enhancing the historic relationships between Sri Lanka and Egypt, the requirement of mutually strengthening the diplomatic training institutes of both countries has been recognized to exchange the diplomatic knowledge between the two countries. Under that, the two parties have entered into an agreement to exchange diplomats, intellects, officers and experts as well as researchers and to exchange knowledge through organizing studies and various other seminars etc. Accordingly, the Cabinet of Ministers approved the resolution furnished by the Minister of Foreign Affairs to enter into a memorandum of understanding between Bandaranayake International Diplomatic Training Institute under the Ministry of Foreign

Affairs of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka and the Diplomatic Studies Institute of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Egypt.

**15. Submission of orders formulated under the Colombo Port City Economic Commission Act No. 11 of 2021 to the Parliament.**

The Cabinet of Ministers approved the proposal submitted by the Hon. President in his office as the Minister of Investment Promotion to submit the orders formulated under the Colombo Port City Economic Commission Act No. 11 of 2021 published by the following gazette notifications to the Parliament.

- Colombo Port City (Off – shore banks – fundamental) orders No. 04 of 2024 published in the extraordinary gazette notification No. 2394 / 67 dated 26.07.2024.
- Colombo Port City (Off – shore banks – far – sighted management and trustworthiness) orders No. 05 of 2024 published in the extraordinary gazette notification No. 2394 /66 dated 26.07.2024.

**16. Re – implementation of a special interest rate for fixed deposits of senior citizens.**

At present the interest rate for fixed deposits has been declined to 8.5%. As a result of that most of the senior citizen account holders have withdrawn their deposits. Accordingly, the Cabinet of Ministers approved the resolution furnished by the Hon. President in his capacity as the Minister of Finance, Economic Stabilization and National Policies to grant an annual interest rate of 10% for fixed deposits of a maximum of rupees one million of senior citizens above 60 years for 02 years.

**17. Elimination of anomalies in pension in the government service.**

Certain groups of pensioners have experienced anomalies due to various policy decisions taken by the Cabinet of Ministers as well as the salary revisions carried out from time to time by the government. Accordingly, it has been observed that the government officers retired from 01.01.2016 to 01.01.2020 has confront unjust and relief can be bestowed for around 83,000 retired government officials by eliminating that salary anomaly. Therefore, the Cabinet of Ministers approved the resolution furnished by the Hon. President in his capacity as the Minister of Finance, Economic Stabilization and National Policies to revise the pension salary of those retired officers so that an increase of Rs. 2,500/- to the maximum is received based on the total salary as per schedule No. I of Public Administration Circular No. 03 / 2016 dated 25.02.2016.

**18. National Climatic Space Data Development Project.**

Sri Lankan people, livelihood, eco systems, developed infrastructure facilities and investments has been considerably affected due to the influence of the climatic changes, fluctuations and extreme conditions. In order to redress the said risk, an investment route map has been drawn on climatic reversal for Sri Lanka. In executing it, enhancing a national climatic space database has been identified as a fundamental and essential step. Therefore, the Cabinet of Ministers granted approval to the resolution forwarded by the Hon. President to implement the National Climatic Space Data Development Project collaboration with M/s PROCLIME PTE. LTD of Singapore.

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