



## Cabinet Decisions taken on 30 -09-2024

### 01. Providing provisions for General Election 2024

The 9th parliament of Sri Lanka has been dissolved by the Extra Ordinary Gazette Notification No. 2403/13 dated 24-09-2024, and it has been fixed to conduct the general election on 14-11-2024. However, no provision has been allocated to conduct the general election by the budget allocations 2024. As per the powers vested to the Hon. President, by Article 150(4) of the Constitution of the Democratic Republic of Sri Lanka to issue the necessary funds from the Consolidated Fund, it has been decided to grant the approval by the Cabinet of Ministers pertaining to the action taken by His Excellency, the President, to release Rs. 5 billion from the Consolidated Fund for the year 2024. Further, approval has also been granted by the Cabinet of Ministers to allocate 06 billion rupees for the expenses to be settled in the year 2025 related to conducting the general election through the Vote on Account expected to be submitted to the Parliament for the year 2025.

### 02. Reconsideration of entitlements, allowances, and privileges of the Members of Parliament, Ministers and Ex-Presidents

Members of Parliament, Ministers and Ex-Presidents who are elected by the people, have been granted various entitlements, allowances, and privileges such as salaries, allowances, pensions, quarters, vehicles, staff, office equipment and security personnel. The government has to bear a significant cost annually from the public tax to provide the said various entitlements, allowances, and privileges and the government has recognized the necessity of minimization of this huge expenditure at the present fiscal capacity. The Cabinet of Ministers has approved the proposal presented by the Hon Prime Minister in her capacity as a Minister of Justice , Public Administration, Home affairs, Provincial Council and Local Government to appoint a committee consisting of the following members to submit a detailed report within two(2) months with the suitable recommendations to study the facts in order to limit on a rational basis the entitlements, allowances, and privileges which creates an unnecessary burden on the Treasury or to introduce other suitable alternative method.

- Mr. K.T. Chithrasiri (Chairman)- retired Supreme Court Judge
- Mr. D. Dissanayaka - Retired Secretary to Ministry
- Mrs. Jayantha C.T. Bulumulla – Retired District Secretary

### 03. Removal of existing restrictions for release of imprest

It has been decided at the Cabinet Meeting held on 13-02-2023 that the approval of the Minister in charge of the subject, should be taken by the Treasury in releasing the imprest on a priority basis to the relevant Ministry for certain expenses. However, since it has been observed that it is not necessary to use a priority basis in releasing the imprest, the Cabinet of Ministers has approved the proposal presented by His Excellency, the President in his capacity as a Minister of Finance, Economic Development, Policy Compilation, Planning and

Tourism to vest the powers to the Secretary of the Ministry of Finance in releasing the imprest without obtaining the special approval from the Minister in charge of the subject finance for essential expenses.

#### **04. Appointment of Senior Consultants to the His Excellency, the President**

As per powers vested by the Article 41 (1) of the Constitution, the president is empowered to appoint his staff by consulting the Cabinet of Ministers. Accordingly, it has been decided to give the consensus of the Cabinet of Ministers to appoint Mr. Duminda Hulangamuwa (Senior Consultant of Economic affairs and Finance) and Dr. A.A.J.Fernando (Senior Consultant of Economic affairs and Finance) with effect from 24-09-2024 on honorary basis.

#### **05. Appointment to the post of Director General of Government Information**

Since Mr. Dinith Chinthaka Karunaratne, who served as the Director General of Government Information, has resigned from the post, the said post is vacant at present. Therefore, the Cabinet of Ministers has approved the proposal presented by the Minister of Buddhism, religious and Cultural affairs, National Integration, Social Security and Mass Media to appoint Mr. H.S.K.J.Bandara, the grade I officer of the Sri Lanka Administrative Service who served as Director(Admin) of the Department of Government Information at present, as a Director General of Government Information with immediate effect on a full-time acting basis.

#### **06. Appointment to the post of Controller General of Immigration and Emigration on acting basis.**

Since Mr. I.S.H.J. Illukpitiya, who served as a Controller General of Immigration and Emigration, has been remanded from 25-09-2024 on Supreme Court Order, a suitable officer should be appointed to perform the duties in the said post. Accordingly, the Cabinet of Ministers has approved the proposal presented by the Minister of Public Security to appoint Mrs. B.M.D.Nilusha Balasooriya, a special Grade Officer of the Sri Lanka Administrative Service, who is serving as an additional secretary of the Ministry of Public Security at present, has been appointed to the post of Controller General of Immigration and Emigration with immediate effect on acting basis.

#### **07. Media Spokesman of the Cabinet of Ministers**

The Cabinet of Ministers to appoint Hon Vijitha Herath, the Minister of Buddhism, religious and Cultural affairs, National Integration, Social Security and Mass Media as a Media Spokesman of the Cabinet of Ministers.

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