

Cabinet Decisions taken at the Cabinet Meeting conducted on 05-11-2024

01. Administrative and operational activities of Galle face ground

It has been decided at the cabinet meeting held on 17-04-2023 that the Galle face ground, which is under the management and administration of Sri Lanka Ports Management and Consultation Services (Pvt) Ltd, the subsidiary of Sri Lanka Ports Authority, is not to be granted permission for another purpose other than for religious purposes. It has to incur a monthly cost of approximately Rs. 2.5–3.0 million for the administration and maintenance of the Galle Face Ground, and it has been seen that the Galle Face Ground is to be used as an attractive and secure place for foreign and local tourists to traverse freely as well as a place where people can allow to participate in the festivals, musical shows, and celebrations subject to the appropriate criteria as existed prior to the year 2023. Accordingly, the Cabinet of Ministers has granted the approval presented by the Minister of Transport, Highways, Ports, and Civil Aviation to take necessary steps to make the administration of Galle Face Ground more systematically and transparently under the basis of the concept “clean and greenery Galle Face Ground.”

02. Distribution of school uniform cloths to the school and Sunday school students given as a grant by the People’s Republic of China for the year 2025.

The total uniform requirement of school uniform fabric for the year 2025 has been about meter 11.82 million. The People’s Republic of China has agreed to provide the entire amount of fabric as a grant. Subsequent to examining the sample sent by the Ministry of Education in relation to this stock of fabric, by the Sri Lanka Textile and Apparel Institute (SLITA) it has been recommended that this fabric is suitable for the usage of students. Accordingly, the Cabinet of Ministers has granted the approval presented by the Hon. the Prime Minister in her capacity as the Minister of Education, Science and Technology to accept the grant of the Chinese government to supply school uniform fabric to distribute the fabric among the school and Sunday school students for 2025.

03. Payment for certified bills under the rehabilitation of Km 100,000 roads.

The program for rehabilitation of 100,000 km has been commenced in the year 2020 with a project period of five (5) years, and at present, since the required provisions have not been received from the year 2023, there is an outstanding balance of 28.37 billion under this program. Further, Rs. 20 billion has been allocated for the rehabilitation of essential roads in the year 2024, and 1,000 km has been identified for the rehabilitation thereunder. Accordingly, the Cabinet of Ministers has approved the proposal presented by the Minister of Transport, Highways, Ports, and Civil Aviation to manage the provisions allocated to the Ministry for the year 2024, however, that have not been used so far, in order to settle the outstanding bills that should be settled under these two (2) programs.

04. Procurement of operation of currency exchange counters at the departure terminal at the Bandaranayake International Airport(BIA) , Katunayaka.

Bids have been called from the licensed commercial banks, licensed special banks, and foreign exchange businesses approved by the Central Bank of Sri Lanka, to operate 05 (five) currency counters at the departure terminal at the Bandaranayake International Airport (BIA), Katunayaka, following the Limited National Competitive Bidding Process. Bids have been submitted by five (5) institutions. Accordingly, the Cabinet of Ministers has approved the recommendation presented by the Minister of Transport, Highways, Ports, and Civil Aviation to entrust the implementation of currency exchange counters to the following institutions for three (3) years under the basis of the recommendation of the Technical Evaluation Committee and the Standing Procurement Committee appointed by the cabinet of ministers.

- Counter No 25 – to Bank of Ceylon for an amount of Rs. 798.028 million + taxes
- Counter No 02 – to Sampath Bank for an amount of Rs. 633.662 million + taxes
- Counter No 04 – to Commercial Bank for an amount of Rs. 381.364 million + taxes
- Counter No 10 – to Thomas Cook Lanka (Pvt) Ltd for an amount of Rs. 299.064 million + taxes
- Counter No 11 – to Hatton National Bank for an amount of Rs. 225.689 million + taxes

05. Rehabilitation and upgrading of Walgama-Diyagama road (B 452) from km 0+000 to 7+000

A loan amount of US\$ 40 million has been given by the OPEC Fund for International Development to rehabilitate Rakvana-Suriyakanda road. Bids have been called by the Road Development Authority to rehabilitate and upgrade the Walgama-Diyagama road (B 452) in the Colombo district from km 0+000 to 7+000 by utilization of the remaining loan balance of the said loan. For that purpose, 8 bidders have submitted their bids. Accordingly, the Cabinet of Ministers has approved the proposal presented by the Minister of Transport, Highways, Ports, and Civil Aviation to award the contract for rehabilitation and upgrading of Walgama-Diyagama road in the Colombo district to Maga Engineering (Pvt) Ltd. for an amount of Rs. 2.44 billion (without VAT) by utilization of remaining provisions of Rakvana-Suriyakanda road project based on the recommendation of the Technical Evaluation Committee and the Standing Procurement Committee appointed by the cabinet of ministers.

06. Construction of 1,996 housing units for low-income persons under the China Government aid program.

It has been decided to construct 1,996 housing units for low-income persons under the China Government aid program and implement it under 3 packages. In order to implement the said project, bids have been called from 8 bidders nominated by the government of China. Accordingly, the Cabinet of Ministers has approved the proposal presented by the Minister of Rural and Urban Development, Housing, and Construction to award the contract as follows, based on the recommendation of the Technical Evaluation Committee and the Standing Procurement Committee appointed by the Cabinet of Ministers.

- Package 01 – to award the contract for construction of 575 housing units at Moratuwa and 108 housing units at Kottawa to the M/S China Railway 25th Bureau Group Co. Ltd.

- Package 02 – to award the contract for construction of 586 housing units at Dematagoda and 112 housing units at Maharagama to the M/S China Harbor Engineering Company Ltd.
- Package 03 – to award the contract for construction of 615 housing units at Paliyagoda to the M/S Shanxi Construction Investment Group Co. Ltd.

07. Appointment of an officer to the post of Director General of Combined Services on acting basis.

Since Mr. S. Aloka Bandara, a special grade officer of the Sri Lanka Administration Services, has been appointed as a Secretary of the Ministry of Justice, Public Administration, Home Affairs, Provincial Councils, Local Government, and Labour with effect from 03-10-2024, the post of the Director General of Combined Services has been vacant. Accordingly, the Cabinet of Ministers has approved the proposal presented by the Prime Minister, in her capacity as the Minister of Justice, Public Administration, Home Affairs, Provincial Councils, Local Government, and Labour to appoint Mrs. R.M.N.E.K.Ranasinghe, who is serving as the Additional Secretary of the Parliamentary Affairs Division of the Ministry of Justice, Public Administration, Home Affairs, Provincial Councils, Local Government, and Labour at present, to the post of Director General of Combined Services on acting basis.

08. Providing 06 months service extension to, Mrs. Preethi Anoma Siriwardena, the Director General of National Child Protection Authority

Mr. Preethi Anoma Siriwardena, who served as the Director General of the National Child Protection Authority, has retired on 02-11-2024 on reaching the age of 60 years. At the moment, several top management posts such as Deputy Director General, Director (Administration and Human Resources) and Director (Finance) have been vacant. Accordingly, the Cabinet of Ministers has approved the proposal presented by the Prime Minister, in her capacity as the Minister of Women, Child and Youth Affairs and Sports, to reengage Mrs. Preethi Anoma Siriwardena in the service on a contract basis of six (6) months in order to enable to maintain the administrative and operational activities without any interruption.

09. Long term contract to purchase 05 shipment of petrol 92 Unl during the period 01-12-2024 to 31-05-2025

Bids have been called to supply under the long-term contract to supply 05 shipments of petrol 92 Unl (1.5 million of barrels) during the period 01-12-2024 to 31-05-2025, to be paid at the time of issuance from the storage tanks of the registered suppliers of the Ceylon Petroleum Corporation under the alternative payment conditions such as and scheme of payment or by way of Letter of Credit paying within 30 days from the date issue of bill of lading. Accordingly, seven (7) bids have been received and three (3) bids have been rejected during the initial evaluation. Accordingly, the Cabinet of Ministers has approved the proposal presented by His Excellency, the President, in his capacity as the Minister of Power and Energy to award the relevant contract to the Vitol Asia (Pvt) Ltd, a Singapore Company. under the Payment will be made by the payment scheme of Letter of Credit paying within 30 days from the date of issue of the bill of lading under the recommendations of Standing Technical Evaluation Committee and special standing procurement Committee appointed by Cabinet of Ministers.

10. Sustainable integrated Solid Waste Management and Indirect Economy Development Project proposed to implemented focusing on Uva Province and Northern Province on the technical and financial contribution of Korean International Cooperation Agency.

The Korean government has agreed to provide a financial grant of US\$10.20 million for the implementation of a project during the period 2024 -2028 to establish an integrated solid waste management mechanism at the local government level in Uva and Northern provinces and to solve the related management problems. Accordingly, the Cabinet of Ministers has approved the proposal presented by Hon. Prime Minister, in her capacity as the Minister of Justice, Public Administration, Home Affairs, Provincial Council, Local Government and Labour to implement the proposed project by utilization of the technical assistance from the Korean International Cooperation Agency and the financial assistance from the Korean Government.

11. Appointment of officers to the higher management of the General Treasury.

Since Mr. D.A.P Abesekara,, the special grade officer of the Sri Lanka Planning Service, who served as the Director General of Department of External Resources, has been appointed as the Deputy Secretary to the Treasury with effect from 06-11-2024 , the said post of Director General has been vacant. Further, since Mr.N.S.M.P. Ranjith, a special grade officer of the Sri Lanka Planning Service, who is serving in the Department of Project Management and Monitoring is due to retire on 10-11-2024 upon reaching 60 years of age, the said post will also due to be vacant. Further, a suitable officer to the post of Director General of the Debt Management Office, which will be established in the Treasury, should also be appointed. Accordingly, the Cabinet of Ministers has decided to make following appointments as per the proposal presented by His Excellency, the president, in his capacity as the Minister of Finance, Economic Development, Policy Formulation, Planning and Tourism.

- Mr. R.M.S.P.S Bandara , a special grade officer of the Sri Lanka Planning Service, who serving as an Additional Director General of the Department of External Resources, to be appointed to the post of the Director General of the Department of External Resources with effect from the 06-11-2024.
- Mr. S.S.Mudalige , a special grade officer of the Sri Lanka Planning Service, who is serving in the post of Director General of the Highway Division of the Ministry of Transport, Highways, Ports and Civil Aviation currently, to be appointed to the post of Director General of the Department of Project Management and Monitoring , and his appointment to act in the post of General Manager of the Railways will be remained in the same manner.
- Mrs. Udeni Udugapaththuwa , Grade 1 officer of the Sri Lanka Planning Service, who is serving as a Director of the Department of External Resources currently , to be appointed to the Director General of the Debt Management Office, which will be established in the Treasury, with effect from 01-12-2024 on acting basis.

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