

## **Cabinet Decisions taken at the Cabinet Meeting held on 24-02-2025**

### **01. Extension of the period of the Project Management Unit of the Colombo Port City Development Project**

The Project Management Unit of the Colombo Port City Development Project is the main unit that connects the Sri Lankan government and the CHEC Port City Colombo (Pvt) Ltd for project supervision, resolution of issues, and coordination of utility services. It is expected to complete the functions that were planned under the second (2nd) stage of this project at the end of June 2027. Therefore, it has been identified that the supervision and coordination activities conducted by the Project Management Unit of the Colombo Port City Development Project should be further continued. 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 extend the operational time of the said Project Management Unit of the Colombo Port City Development Project until 05-06-2027.

### **02. Memorandum of Understanding between Bandaranaike International Diplomatic Training Institute (BIDTI) and Foreign Service Institute of the Republic of the Philippines**

It has been proposed to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding between Bandaranaike International Diplomatic Training Institute (BIDTI) and the Foreign Service Institute of the Republic of the Philippines in order to provide facilitation for the conducting of education, research, and training programs in the diplomatic field and the exchange of expertise among the foreign service officers with the objective of developing and uplifting the friendship and cooperation between the two countries. Accordingly, the Cabinet of Ministers has approved the proposal presented by the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Foreign Employment, and Tourism to sign the said agreement between the two parties.

### **03. Providing the policy approval of the present Cabinet of Ministers to access the Article 3 bis - Alliance Paper relevant to the amendment for the International Civil Aviation Convention**

It was decided at the 25th general meeting of the International Civil Aviation Organization conducted on 10-05-1984 to amend the Chicago Convention, enabling the prevention of the use of weapons by States Parties against a civil aircraft in flight, and the relevant Alliance Paper of Article 3 bis of the Chicago Convention had come into effect from 01-10-1998. Although approval was granted at the Cabinet Meeting held on 12-02-2024 to access the said Alliance Paper as a State Party of the International Civil Aviation Convention, no further action has been taken in this respect so far. Accordingly, policy approval has been given by the Cabinet of Ministers to the proposal presented by the Minister of Transport, Highways, and Civil Aviation to access to the said Alliance Paper.

**04. Imposition of laws to empower the convention for suppression of the unlawful activities (Beijing Convention, 2010) relevant to the international civil aviation activities.**

The convention for suppression of unlawful activities (Beijing Convention, 2010) was passed at the international conference on aviation law on 10-09-2010 declaring the use of civil air craft for causing a death, body injuries serious harm to the body, use of civil air craft for releasing biological, scientific, nuclear weapon or material, or using certain biological, chemical or nuclear weapon or an equivalent material against to an air craft or civil aircraft as criminals. Since such criminals are not covered by the provisions of the presently effective Act No 31 of the 1996 for suppression of unlawful activities against to the safety of international civil aviation activities, approval has been granted at the cabinet meeting held on 02-05-2022 to prepare a draft to be empowered the Beijing Convention. Accordingly, the Cabinet of Ministers has approved the proposal presented by the Minister of Transport, Highways, Port and Civil Aviation to provide the policy approval of the present Cabinet of Ministers enabling to be completed preparing the said draft as earliest possible.

**05. Declaration of “National Women’s Week” in line with the commemoration of International Women’s Day**

The United Nations Organization declared March 08 as International Women’s Day in the year 1977. From that, all the member countries of the United Nations Organization commemorate the day March 08 as International Women’s Day every year. This year's International Women's Day celebration is themed "Equality, Empowerment, and Dignity for All Women and Girls." Accordingly, the Cabinet of Ministers has approved the proposal presented by Hon. Prime Minister in her capacity as Minister of Women and Child Affairs to implement the programs at the national, provincial, district, and divisional levels, including the commemoration of International Women’s Day nationally, having declared from March 02 to 08 of the year 2025 with the theme “Building a sustainable tomorrow—her strength is the path” in line with the commemoration of International Women’s Day.

**06. Signing a memorandum of understanding between Sri Lanka Department of Posts and the Postal Agency of Pakistan for issuance of postal stamps to commemorate Sri Lanka – Pakistan diplomatic relations.**

An agreement has been made between the two parties to issue 02 postal stamps commemorating the 75 years old long term relationship between Sri Lanka and Pakistan. Accordingly, approval has been granted at the meeting of the Cabinet of Ministers held on 21.10.2024 to sign a memorandum of understanding between the postal institutions of the two countries to act accordingly. According to the agreement Sri Lanka Department of Posts and the Postal Agency of Pakistan have agreed to design stamps based on historical Buddhist religious places in both countries and exchange 5,000 stamps along with 2,000 first day covers between the two parties. The Cabinet of Ministers decided to grant approval to the resolution furnished by the Minister of Health and Mass Media to obtain the policy approval of the current Cabinet of Ministers since the memorandum of understanding has not so far been signed and to sign the proposed memorandum at the end of this month.

**07. Execution of “Praja Shakthi” programme as a consolidated programme including multiple approach for eradication of poverty.**

One individual from every 06 individuals from the total population of Sri Lanka at present experience multi – dimensional poverty and 95.3% of that population are living in rural and estate related environs. It is apparent that none of the parties are satisfied with final outcome of any of the programmes to eradicate poverty executed in Sri Lanka up to now when opinions on the matter is probed. During the past few decades, the number of poverty eradication relief programmes and the number of beneficiaries have been escalated as well as the amounts spent over them have been hiked. By the year 2000, the number of beneficiaries were 1.10 million whereas by the year 2010 the amount has hiked up to 1.57 million. Also by the year 2024 the amount has further swelled up to 1.79 million. Since continuation of this situation for extended periods, a well - planned programme should be implemented to direct the vulnerable groups / communities to a formal social security programme and utilize the others as active stakeholders in the economic process. Accordingly, the Cabinet of Ministers granted approval to the resolution forwarded by the Minister of Rural Development, Social Security and Community Empowerment to implement the “Praja Shakthi” programme as a consolidated programme with a multiple approach so that the vision of ‘Pohosath Ratak – Surakshitha Jeewithayak’ (A wealthy country – secure life) can be achieved as per the policy declaration of the new government.

**08. Construction of hostel of the National College of Education for technology subject stream to be established in Narangalle, Kuliyaipitiya.**

Approval of the Cabinet of Ministers had been granted in the year 2017 to establish a National College of Education in Narangalle, Kuliyaipitiya for Technology subject stream under Korean government grants with the objective of accomplishing the teacher requirement after introducing the technology subject stream to the Advanced Level subject stream. At the meeting of the Cabinet of Ministers held on 04.03.2024, approval was granted to select an appropriate contractor following the open competitive procurement methodology to plan and construct the hostels of the said College of Education. Accordingly, bids have been invited and 12 bids have been furnished. Based on the recommendations of the standing procurement committee appointed by the Cabinet of Ministers, the Cabinet of Ministers granted approval to the proposal submitted by the Hon. Prime Minister in her office as the Minister of Education, Higher Education and Vocational Education to grant International Construction Consortium (Pvt.) Ltd. who is the minimum bidder that responded substantively in regard to the contract for planning and construction of hostel buildings.

**09. Awarding contracts to supply fuel for aircrafts of Sri Lankan Airlines.**

International limited competitive bids have been invited for awarding contracts to supply fuel required for aircrafts of Sri Lankan Airlines at the international airports of Paris, Canton, Dhaka, Dubai, Gann Island, Jeddah, as well as Bangalore, Kachin, Chennai, Delhi, Madurai, Mumbai, Thiruvananthapuram, and Tiruchirappalli. Accordingly, the Cabinet of Ministers granted approval to the resolution furnished by His Excellency the President in his capacity as the Minister of Finance, Plan Implementation and Economic Development to award the relevant contract for a period of two (02) years as follows based on the recommendations of the higher level standing procurement committee recommendations.

Airport	Recommended Bidder
Paris	BP Middle East LLC
Canton	BP Middle East LLC
Dhaka	Aviation Services Management Limited
Dubai	Chevron Products Company, A division of Chevron USA INC.
Gann Island	Royal Sino – Energy Aviation Services Hong Kong Company Limited
Jeddah	United fuel Company Limited
07 Airports in India	Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited

#### **10. Establishment of the Authority to regulate gambling.**

Approval of the Cabinet of Ministers had been granted at their meeting held on 26.06.2023 to establish the Gambling Regulation Authority as an independent establishment with a broad and complete subject arena to standardize gambling institutions, minimize social damage, promotion of tourism sector and ensure economic growth. The Legal Draftsman has informed that the concurrence of the current Cabinet of Ministers is sought to continue the process of drafting bills. Therefore, the Cabinet of Ministers granted approval to the resolution furnished by His Excellency the President in his capacity as the Minister of Finance, Plan Implementation and Economic Development to grant the policy approval of the Cabinet of Ministers for formulating the said draft bill with immediate effect.

#### **11. Amendment of Convention Against Doping in Sports Act No. 33 of 2013**

Sri Lanka Anti Doping Agency (SLADA) is an institution operating based on laws and regulations of World Anti Doping Agency (WADA) and, Sri Lanka Anti Doping Agency (SLADA) has to adhere to its laws and regulations if to gain opportunity to represent international sports events by Sri Lankan athletes. The World Anti Doping Agency (WADA), from time to time review the anti doping law of each country and recommend the possible amendments. The international provisions existed in the year 2013 had been considered when the Convention Against Doping in Sports Act No. 33 of 2013 was formulated. The World Anti Doping Agency (WADA) has recommended a number of amendments to be made after reviewing the anti doping law of Sri Lanka for the year 2024. Accordingly, the Cabinet of Ministers granted approval to the resolution submitted by the Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports to direct the Legal Draftsman to prepare a draft bill to amend the Convention Against Doping in Sports Act No. 33 of 2013.

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