



**Cabinet Decisions taken at the Cabinet Meeting held on 11.05.2026**

**01. Calling for Investment Proposals for the Implementation of a Mixed Development Project on the Land Parcel Known as “Walawwewatta” Located in the Centre of Kottawa Town Belonging to the Urban Development Authority.**

A land parcel, measuring 1 acre, 1 rood and 19.40 perches, located in the centre of Kottawa Town facing the High-Level Main Road within the limits of the Maharagama Urban Council in the Colombo District, has been vested in the Urban Development Authority as a gratuitous grant under Section 6(1) of the State Lands Ordinance. The special committee appointed by the Cabinet of Ministers to recommend more suitable development activities for underutilized lands currently owned by the Urban Development Authority has recommended that the aforementioned land parcel be utilized for the implementation of a mixed development project. Accordingly, the Cabinet of Ministers has approved the resolution furnished by the Minister of Transport, Highways and Urban Development to call for investment proposals in compliance with Government Procurement Guidelines for the purpose of alienating the aforementioned land to a suitable investor on a long-term lease basis for a period of 99 years in order to implement the said project.

**02. Entering into Memoranda of Understanding between Sri Lanka and the Republic of Belarus.**

The Minister of Foreign Affairs, Foreign Employment and Tourism is scheduled to undertake an official visit to the Republic of Belarus from 2026-05-12 to 2026-05-15. With a view to further strengthening bilateral cooperation between the two countries, The Approval of the Cabinet of Ministers has been granted to sign the following agreement and Memoranda of Understanding during the aforementioned official visit, covering the sectors of air services, higher education, and health.

- Air Services Agreement between the Government of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka and the Government of the Republic of Belarus.
- Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation in the Field of Higher Education between the Ministry of Education, Higher Education and Vocational Education of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka and the Ministry of Education of the Republic of Belarus.
- Memorandum of Understanding on Enhancing Cooperation in the Field of Health Services between the Ministry of Health and Mass Media of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka and the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Belarus.

**03. Establishment of a 'Trust' to Carry out the Management of the Jaffna Thiruvalluvar Cultural Centre.**

The Jaffna Thiruvalluvar Cultural Centre, comprising 11 floors, has been constructed with the assistance of the Government of India with the objective of serving as a hub for cultural activities in Sri Lanka and expanding bilateral cooperation for the promotion, preservation, and fostering of the cultural heritage of Jaffna. In accordance with the approval granted at the Cabinet meeting held on 2022-02-21, a Joint Management Committee has been appointed to make decisions relating to the affairs of the said cultural centre, in terms of the Memorandum of Understanding signed for the operation of the Jaffna Thiruvalluvar Cultural Centre. According to the provisions of the aforementioned Memorandum of Understanding, upon completion of the construction of the project, the cultural centre should be transferred to the Jaffna Municipal Council through the Government of Sri Lanka. Following such transfer, the relevant parties have reached an agreement to establish a 'trust' for carrying out the management activities of the centre. The Attorney General's clearance has been received for the draft trust deed prepared for that purpose. Accordingly, the Cabinet of Ministers has approved the resolution furnished by the Minister of Buddhasasana, Religious and Cultural Affairs to establish the trust to continue the management activities of the Jaffna Thiruvalluvar Cultural Centre

**04. Payment of Additional Compensation in Lieu of Alternative Paddy Lands to 245 Families Who Lost Paddy Lands Due to the Construction of the Yan Oya Reservoir.**

The Yan Oya Reservoir, with a storage capacity of 169 million cubic metres, has been constructed with the objective of providing water for cultivation during both the Yala and Maha seasons for approximately 11,500 acres of paddy lands in the Anuradhapura District and Trincomalee District. Compensation for the lands acquired for the construction of the aforementioned reservoir is being paid in accordance with Government valuations. As a result of the said reservoir project, 313 alternative paddy land allotments have been provided to families that lost paddy lands in the Horowpothana Divisional Secretariat Division in the Anuradhapura District. Further, approval was granted at the Cabinet meeting held on 2024-03-18 to provide additional compensation in lieu of alternative paddy lands to 614 selected families, and the Divisional Secretary of Horowpothana identified 540 families eligible to receive such additional compensation, and compensation has been paid accordingly. As it is not possible to provide alternative paddy lands, a further 245 families have been identified as being entitled to receive additional compensation. The Chief Valuer of the Government has estimated the value of one and a half (1 1/2) acres of irrigated paddy land cultivated during both the Yala and Maha seasons at Rs. 1,800,000/-. Accordingly, the Cabinet of Ministers has approved the resolution furnished by the Minister of Agriculture, Livestock, Land and Irrigation to pay additional compensation of Rs. 1,800,000/- per family to the further identified 245 families.

**05. Implementation of the National Programme titled “Wari Mahima – Ape Urumaya”**

Small-scale irrigation projects and Cascade (Ellanga) systems in Sri Lanka are historically evolved, community-based water management systems that have contributed to the sustainable maintenance of rural agriculture and national food security. However, due to silt accumulation, structural weaknesses, reduction of irrigation efficiency, unauthorized settlements in conservation areas associated with cascade (Ellanga) systems, and climate change, these systems have reached a condition that requires special attention. Therefore, a national programme titled “Wari Mahima – Ape Urumaya” has been planned for implementation with the objective of enhancing agricultural prosperity and promoting rural economic development in small-scale rural irrigation schemes, cascade (Ellanga) systems, and village-centred agricultural units. The provision of Rs. 1,000 million has been allocated by the 2026 Budget Proposal for this purpose. Accordingly, the Cabinet of Ministers has approved the proposal resolution furnished by the Minister of Agriculture, Livestock, Land and Irrigation to implement the proposed programme.

**06. Awarding of Contracts for Phase II of Section 3 of the Central Expressway Project (Rambukkana to Galagedara)**

Bids have been called under the National Competitive Bidding procedure, through a competitive procurement process among qualified local contractors and using Government funds, for the implementation of Phase II of Section 3 of the Central Expressway Project (from Rambukkana to Galagedara), from 13+800 km to 32+450 km, under seven (07) contract packages. Accordingly, bids were submitted by six (06) bidders for Packages 2A, 2B, 2C and 2F, five (05) bidders for Package 2D, four (04) bidders for Package 2E, and three (03) bidders for Package 2G. Based on the recommendations of the Standard High-Level Procurement Committee, the Cabinet of Ministers has approved the resolution furnished by the Minister of Transport, Highways and Urban Development to award the contracts as follows:

- \* Package 2A – Construction awarded to Maga Engineering (Pvt) Ltd. at a contract sum of Rs. 14.90 billion (excluding VAT).
- \* Package 2B – Construction awarded to K.D.A. Weerasinghe & Company (Pvt) Ltd. at a contract sum of Rs. 14.71 billion (excluding VAT).
- \* Package 2C – Construction awarded to International Construction Consortium (Pvt) Ltd. at a contract sum of Rs. 14.12 billion (excluding VAT).

- \* Package 2D – Construction awarded to NEM Construction (Pvt) Ltd. at a contract sum of Rs. 16.39 billion (excluding VAT).
- \* Package 2E – Construction awarded to Access Engineering PLC at a contract sum of Rs. 18.70 billion (excluding VAT).
- \* Package 2F – Construction awarded to Edward & Christie (Pvt) Ltd. at a contract sum of Rs. 14.52 billion (excluding VAT).
- \* Package 2G – Construction awarded to Maga Engineering (Pvt) Ltd. at a contract sum of Rs. 19.10 billion (excluding VAT).

**07. Procurement for the Supply of 865,000 Vials of 1g Meropenem Injection**

Approval was granted at the Cabinet meeting held on 2025-10-21 to award the contract for the supply of 1,900,000 vials of 1g Meropenem injection, which is used for the treatment of severe bacterial infections, to United Biotech (Pvt) Ltd., India (Manufacturer: United Biotech (P) Limited, India). Considering the increasing demand, the Medical Supplies Division has submitted a request to procure an additional 45.53% of the original order quantity, equivalent to 865,000 vials. Accordingly, based on the recommendation of the Standard High-Level Procurement Committee, the Cabinet of Ministers approved the resolution furnished by the Minister of Health and Mass Media to award the Procurement for the Supply of 865,000 Vials of 1g Meropenem Injection at the same unit price as the original order, i.e. USD 1.05 per vial, to the previous supplier, United Biotech (Pvt) Ltd., India (Manufacturer: United Biotech (P) Limited, India), for a total cost, including freight charges, amounting to USD 908,250.

**08. Amendment to the State Mortgage and Investment Bank Law No. 13 of 1975**

The State Mortgage and Investment Bank, which has been in operation since 1979-01-01, was established under the State Mortgage and Investment Bank Law No. 13 of 1975 through the amalgamation of the Ceylon State Mortgage Bank and the Agricultural and Industrial Credit Corporation. Due to certain limitations in the current Act, the Bank has been unable to achieve its targeted objectives and maintain the expected level of profitability. Accordingly, the requirement has been identified to amend the Act in order to align it with the current business environment and to enable the achievement of its intended goals and objectives. Accordingly, the Cabinet of Ministers approved the resolution furnished by the Hon. President in his capacity as the Minister of Finance, Planning and Economic Development to instruct the Legal Draftsman to prepare a draft bill to amend the aforementioned act.

**09. Amendment to the Animals Act No. 29 of 1958.**

By Cabinet decision dated 2025-12-01, policy approval was granted to amend the definition of the term “animal” in the Animals Act No. 29 of 1958 by including, pigs, goats, and sheep, in addition to cattle and buffaloes, within the interpretation section of the act. In accordance with the said approval, the Legal Draftsman has drafted an Amended Bill in all three languages, and the clearance of the Attorney General has also been obtained. Accordingly, the Cabinet of Ministers has approved the resolution furnished by the Minister of Agriculture, Livestock, Land and Irrigation to publish the draft Amendment Bill in the Government Gazette and thereafter to submit the same to the Parliament for its concurrence.

**10. Amendment to the Monetary Penalties Specified in the Employment of Women, Young Persons and Children Act No. 47 of 1956.**

By Cabinet decision dated 2025-09-03, policy approval was granted to revise the fines that may be imposed by courts for offences under the Employment of Women, Young Persons and Children Act No. 47 of 1956, so as to bring them in line with current conditions. In accordance with the said approval, the Legal Draftsman has drafted an Amended Bill in all three languages incorporating provisions to increase the monetary penalties specified in Sections 7(3), 13(2), and 20(a)(3) of the Act from Rs. 10,000/- to Rs. 100,000/-, and the clearance of the Attorney General has also been obtained for the same. Accordingly, the Cabinet of Ministers has approved the resolution furnished by the Minister of Labour to publish the draft Amended Bill in the Government Gazette notification and thereby submit the same to the Parliament for its concurrence.

**11. Procurement for Selection of a Service Provider for Security Features and Maintaining the Security Feature Management for the Excise Department of Sri Lanka.**

The Excise (Amendment) Act No. 26 of 2018 has introduced legal provisions relating to the application of security features on alcoholic products. Accordingly, Excise Notification No. 10/2021, published in the Extraordinary Gazette No. 2249/50 dated 2021-10-16, made it mandatory with effect from 2021-01-03 to affix security features on imported foreign liquor, locally produced foreign liquor, and locally produced liquor. The contract period of the current institution entrusted with the printing of security features is due to expire on 2027-01-01. Accordingly, the Cabinet of Ministers granted approval to the resolution furnished by the Hon. President in his capacity as the Minister of Finance, Planning and Economic Development to implement a procurement process, under the International Competitive Bidding procedure using a Single-Stage Two-Envelope method, to select a suitable service provider for the provision of security features and system management services required for the relevant data system, for a period of five (05) years.

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