



**Cabinet Decisions taken at the Cabinet Meeting held on 22-09-2025**

**01. Entering into Memorandum of Understanding on educational cooperation between Sri Lankan universities and foreign universities**

The Cabinet of Ministers has approved the proposal presented by Hon. the Prime Minister, in her capacity as the Minister of Education, Higher Education, and Professional Education, to sign the following Memorandum of Understanding between Sri Lankan universities and foreign universities with the objective of raising Sri Lankan universities to the top of the world ranking indices and establishing higher education collaborations with foreign universities.

- Memorandum of Understanding between the University of Kelaniya and Polcsky State University of the Republic of Belarus for the valid period of 05 years.
- Memorandum of Understanding between the University of Kelaniya and Vladimir State University of the Russian Federation for the valid period of 03 years.
- Memorandum of Understanding between the Department of Polymer Science, Faculty of Applied Science of the University of Sri Jayawardenapura, and the Petroleum and Petrochemical College of the Chulalongkom University of Thailand.

**02. Memorandum of Understanding on agricultural cooperation between Sri Lanka and Republic of Türkiye.**

Approval was granted at the cabinet meeting held on 15-02-2021 to sign the Memorandum of Understanding on agricultural cooperation between Sri Lanka and the Republic of Türkiye, taking into consideration the benefits received for the development of agriculture through mutual cooperation with the Republic of Türkiye. However, the Memorandum of Understanding has yet to be signed. Therefore, the Cabinet of Ministers has approved the proposal presented by the Minister of Agriculture, Livestock, Land, and Irrigation to obtain the approval of the current Cabinet of Ministers to sign the aforementioned Memorandum of Understanding.

**03. Signing an agreement on mutual legal cooperation on criminal matters between the Philippines and Sri Lanka.**

The process of providing or receiving assistance from one state to another by delivering judicial documents and collecting evidence that can be used in criminal proceedings is known as mutual legal cooperation in criminal matters. It is expected that entering into a formal agreement on mutual legal cooperation will create stronger collaboration and prevent criminal activities and conduct investigations, prosecutions, and the suppression of criminals effectively. Accordingly, the Cabinet of Ministers has approved the proposal presented by the Minister of Justice and National Integration to sign an agreement on mutual legal cooperation in criminal matters between the Philippines and Sri Lanka.

**04. Agreement between Sri Lanka and Republic of the Philippines on the extradition of sentenced persons.**

The Extradition Act, No. 5 of 1995, provides the provisions for the transfer of a citizen of another country who has been sentenced to imprisonment by the court of Sri Lanka to serve his sentence in the country of his nationality. Furthermore, the provisions have also been included in the aforementioned Act that a Sri Lankan citizen who has been sentenced to imprisonment by a certain country be deported to Sri Lanka, enabling him to serve the remainder of his sentence in Sri Lanka. Accordingly, it has been proposed to sign an agreement between Sri Lanka and the Republic of the Philippines on the extradition of such offenders. Through the aforementioned agreement, the prisoner will be provided with an opportunity to return to his motherland for social rehabilitation and rejoining his society. Accordingly, the Cabinet of Ministers has approved the proposal presented by the Minister of Justice and National Integration to sign the proposed agreement and to ratify the aforementioned agreement thereafter.

**05. National Policy on the senior persons of Sri Lanka**

Approval of the Cabinet of Ministers was granted for the National Charter and National Policy on Sri Lankan Senior Citizens of Sri Lanka in the year 2006. It has been identified that the National Policy on Senior Citizens should be updated according to the changing world trends. Since the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations has predicted that the population of elderly persons of 60 years or more will increase up to 24.8% by the year 2052. Therefore, the necessity for the promotion and protection of the welfare and rights of senior citizens has been identified. Accordingly, the national policy on senior citizens in Sri Lanka was prepared to facilitate their ability to live in good social, economic, physical, and spiritual conditions in line with the theme of "Respectful Senior Citizen-Meaningful Retirement" under the government policy framework. Accordingly, the Cabinet of Ministers has approved the proposal presented by the Minister of Rural Development, Social Protection, and Community Empowerment for the aforementioned national policy.

**06. Preparing a Government Super App enabling the public to obtain the government services through one app**

It has been observed that the community encounters considerable difficulties due to the different access methods prevailing at present, which require entering the same data repeatedly to obtain public services from various departments through different systems and multiple verification processes. Furthermore, it has been estimated that there would be economic loss of Rs 500 million thereby. Therefore, in line with the digital economic plan in Sri Lanka, the development of a Government Super App that covers a broad range has been identified as a strategic priority in providing government services. This project will formulate a digital platform that provides the capability of accessing public services through one interface for about 2 million accesses annually for the 14 million citizens aged 18 years or older, combining all public services into a user-friendly mobile application and one web application. Accordingly, the Cabinet of Ministers has approved the proposal presented by His Excellency, the President, in his capacity as the Minister of Digital Economy, to implement the Government Super App project in 02 stages at a cost of Rs. 500 million within the period 2025-2026.

**07. Completion of all unfinished construction projects in universities.**

Several projects implemented in the universities of Ruhuna, Rajarata, Sabaragamuwa, Wayaba, Sri Jayawardenapura and the Trincomalee campus of the Eastern University of Sri Lanka to develop the buildings and other infrastructure required by the universities have not been fully completed due to various obstacles encountered during the approved period. The remaining works of those projects, which have been completed by more than 75%, need to be completed fully. Accordingly, the Cabinet of Ministers has approved the proposal presented by the Hon. the Prime Minister, in her capacity as the Minister of Education, Higher Education, and Professional Education, to fully complete the remaining constructions on a priority basis, managing the provisions of the budget that will be allocated in the years 2026, 2027, and 2028.

**08. Completing the work on the sub-projects implemented in the “Nearest School is the Best School” project that have been stalled**

A project by the name of "Nearest School is the Best School" was implemented to develop the infrastructure of the schools during the period of 2016-2020. At the commencement of the year 2025, out of the subprojects initiated under the aforementioned project, 29 projects were pending under the Ministry of Education, Higher Education, and Professional Education, and 03 projects were pending under the Provincial Department of Education. Due to the stalled projects, the school community is facing many problems, and the money spent on these projects has become idle expenses. Accordingly, the Cabinet of Ministers has approved the proposal presented by the Hon. Prime Minister, in her capacity as the Minister of Education, Higher Education, and Professional Education, to recommence the remaining constructions that were started under the "Nearest School is the Best School" project on a priority basis in the years 2025, 2026, and 2027.

**09. Upgrading of Ambilipitiya- Panamura- Buluthota road (B115)**

The Sri Lankan government has obtained a loan amount of US\$ 40 million from the international organization OPEC Fund to develop a section of the road from Rakwana to Suriyakanda of the Galle-Deniyaya-Madampe road. There is a remaining amount of Rs. 1,000 million from that loan, and it has been planned to upgrade the section of the road from Kolonna to Suriyakanda, 9.62 km in length, of the Ambilipitiya-Panamura-Buluthota road (B115) by utilizing the aforementioned remaining amount and government funds. Since this road provides access to several tourist attractions such as Sinharaja Forest, Maduwanwela Walavva, Waulpane, Gongala, Hadapanagala, Buluthota Waterfalls, and Himidiri Place, the tourist industry will also be encouraged. Accordingly, the Cabinet of Ministers has approved the proposal presented by the Minister of Transport, Highways, Ports, and Civil Aviation to upgrade the section of the Ambilipitiya-Panamura-Buluthota road by utilizing the aforementioned remaining loan amount of the Rakwana-Suriyakanda road project and to fulfill the remaining financial requirement from the Sri Lankan government.

**10. Renovation of the section of the road From Kottawa to Dodangoda of the Southern Expressway.**

The section of the road from Kottawa to Dodangoda on the Southern Expressway was opened to traffic in 2011 and has not undergone any major repairs to date. The expeditious renovation of the expressway section from 0 km to 19 km and the expressway section from 19 km to 34 km of the Southern Expressway has been identified under two (2) packages. Accordingly, the damaged expressway section from 0 km to 19 km, covering a 19 km stretch of a 4-lane expressway, has been planned to be repaired under the second package. Bids have been invited from local contractors under the national competitive procedure, and five bids have been submitted for that purpose. Accordingly, the Cabinet of Ministers has approved the proposal presented by the Minister of Transport, Highways, Ports, and Civil Aviation to award the relevant contract to M/s Access WKK Joint Venture, the lowest responsive bidder, for the amount of Rs. 1,490.96 million based on the recommendations of the Bid Evaluation Committee and the Highest Level Standing Procurement Committee.

**11. Inviting proposals for aspirations from investors investors interest in the Caustic Soda/ Chlorine project at Paranthan**

Paranthan Chemicals Company Limited has already completed feasibility study for reinitiating the Caustic Soda/ Chlorine manufacturing factory which was within the premises where Paranthan Chemical Factory had been and plans are being drawn to establish the factory in the same venue. At present, Paranthan Chemicals Company Limited import Chlorine and distribute island wide and since the total quantity of Chlorine required for purifying water in our country is imported and there is a risk of disruption of the total water purifying system at times when global supply chains are disrupted. Furthermore, it has been identified that that establishing a factory within the country in order to ensure the water security minimizing the foreign exchange spent for import of Chlorine is a nationally important step. Also, it is expected that 95 direct employment opportunities and 2000 indirect employment opportunities would generate by implementing of this proposed project. Therefore, the Cabinet of Ministers has approved the proposal presented by the Minister of Industries and Entrepreneurship to call for the expression of interest from the interested local and foreign investors for implementation of proposed project as a public-private partnership within the 30 acres land allocated to that company from the Paranthan Chemicals Company Limited.

**12. Implementation of Phase I of the Consolidated Water Supply Project of Eppawala, Giribawa, Rajanganaya and Notchiagama.**

Decisions have been taken to inaugurate the consolidated Water Supply Project of Eppawala, Giribawa, Rajanganaya and Notchiagama as a solution to the spread of chronic kidney disease experienced in the margin areas of Anuradhapura district and Kurunegala district. Initially it has been planned to cover 134 Grama Niladhari divisions in 09 Divisional Secretariat divisions under this project and, considering the health risk and lack of secure drinking water facilities in the affected areas, the Eppawala, Giribawa, Rajanganaya and Notchiagama consolidated water supply project has been restructured as Phase I. Accordingly, the Cabinet of Ministers granted approval to the proposal submitted by the Minister of Urban Development, Construction and Housing to execute Phase I of the Consolidated Water Supply Project of Eppawala, Giribawa, Rajanganaya and Notchiagama within the period 2026 – 2029.

**13. The procurement for the supply of 2,200,000 vials of Biphasic Isophane Insulin injection (human) 30 % Soluble 70% Isophane**

International competitive bidding has been invited for the procurement of 2,200,000 vials of 30% Biphasic Isophane Insulin injection (Human) 30 % Soluble 70% Isophane injection, a medicine used for the treatment of diabetes patients. Two bids have been received for that purpose. Accordingly, the Cabinet of Ministers has approved the proposal presented by the Minister of Health and Mass Media to award the contract for supply of 2,200,000 vials of Biphasic Isophane Insulin injection (human) 30 % Soluble 70% Isophane to the M/s M.J. Biopharm Pvt. Ltd in India, the lowest substantially responsive bidder at a price of US\$ 3.98 million.

**14. The programme to provide a cost of living allowance for children under institutional protection or guardianship and the street children**

Approval of the Cabinet of Ministers was granted at their meeting held on 16.06.2025 to implement a programme to provide a cost of living allowance of Rs. 5,000/- for children under institutional protection or guardianship and the street children. Accordingly, providing benefits of the said programme named as 'Artha' has been inaugurated from the month of July 2025. It has been observed that benefits of this programme can be provided with effect from the month of January 2025 so that the allocation of rupees 1000 million for the year 2025 for 'Artha' programme can be fully utilized for the betterment of children. Therefore, the proposal submitted by the Minister of Women and Child Affairs was approved by the Cabinet of Ministers to consider starting day of benefits granting of 'Artha' programme to be 01.01.2025 and to deposit the arrears benefits entitled from that day to the accounts of children.

**15. New Micro Finance and Credit Regulation Draft Bill.**

Since the provisions of the Micro Finance Act No. 6 of 2016 to establish a broad regulation framework to the micro finance industry of Sri Lanka is not sufficient, the approval of the Cabinet of ministers has granted approval earlier to introduce a new Micro Finance and Credit Regulation Authority Act. Accordingly, subsequent to publishing the draft bill in the government gazette notification, seven (07) petitions had been filed in the Supreme Court by various parties opposing the said draft bill. Considering both the decision of the Supreme Court and the guidance provided by the 'Sector Supervision Committee on Redressing the Economic Crisis' of the Parliament, the Ministry of Finance, Plan Implementation and Economic Development and the Central Bank of Sri Lanka has paid attention to formulate a new draft bill. Accordingly, approval has been granted on 11.08.2025 at the meeting of the Cabinet of Ministers to introduce the new Micro Finance and Credit Regulation Authority Act. Clearance of the Attorney General has been received for the new draft bill prepared by the Legal Draftsman. Approval of the Cabinet of Ministers has been granted to the resolution submitted by His Excellency the President in his capacity as the Minister of Finance, Plan Implementation and Economic Development to publish the said Micro Finance and Credit Regulation Draft Bill in the government gazette notification and thereafter present the same to the Parliament for its concurrence.

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