



**Cabinet Decisions taken at the Cabinet Meeting held on 20.04.2026**

**01. Implementation of the Recommendations of the Report Submitted by the Presidential Commission appointed to Inquiry on the Easter Sunday Attacks and the Then Sectoral Oversight Committee on National Security.**

Approval was granted at the Cabinet Meeting held on 17-05-2021 to implement the recommendations submitted by the Presidential Commission appointed to Inquiry on the Easter Sunday attacks and to propose measures to prevent the recurrence of such incidents, as well as the recommendations of the then Sectoral Oversight Committee on National Security. However, since no systematic, formal, and sustainable mechanism has yet been established to monitor the practical implementation of the said recommendations, there is currently no effective mechanism to evaluate the progress of their implementation of the aforementioned recommendations. Therefore, the need has been identified to establish a mechanism with a broad organized structure prioritizing public and national security, to ensure the successful implementation of the aforementioned recommendations and the Cabinet of Ministers has approved the resolution furnished by the Hon. President, in his capacity as the Minister of Defence, to appoint a committee comprising an expert in the field of counter-terrorism and national security along with the representatives of the relevant ministries and institutes under the supervision of the Presidential Secretariat.

**02. Introduction of a New Methodology that should be followed in the Issuance of Inter-Provincial Passenger Transport Permits by the National Transport Commission.**

Approval was granted at the Cabinet Meeting held on 11-12-2023 to implement a new methodology that should be followed in the issuance of inter-provincial passenger transport permits. Accordingly, upon review of the proposed methodology, and taking into consideration the criteria stipulated in the National Transport Commission (Amendment) Act, No. 8 of 2025, a revised methodology for the issuance of inter-provincial passenger transport permits has been formulated by the National Transport Commission. The aforementioned methodology has been designed to safeguard the interests of existing bus operators currently engaged in the passenger transport sector, while also expanding opportunities for new investors to provide public transport services, thereby ensuring the public's right to access quality transport services. Accordingly, the Cabinet of Ministers has approved the resolution furnished by the Hon Acting Minister of Transport, Highways and Urban Development to implement the said new methodology for the issuance of passenger transport permits.

**03. Arrangements to Convey the Sacred Relics of Lord Buddha to the Maha Vipassana Meditation Centre in Texas, United States of America for Public Veneration and Exhibition**

The Sacred Relics unearthed through the excavation of the Neelagiri Stupa, dating back to the 1st–2nd centuries BC and located in the Lahugala Divisional Secretariat Division of the Ampara District; the Hair Relics donated by the Government of Thailand and presently enshrined at the Gangaramaya Temple; as well as the Sacred Relics enshrined at the Mahiyangana Raja Maha Viharaya, are objects of profound reverence and veneration among the Buddhist community in Sri Lanka. A request has been made by the Venerable Rathnaguna Thero and the Venerable Pannakara Thero of the Maha Vipassana Meditation Centre in Texas, United States of America, to make arrangements to facilitate the exhibit and veneration the said Sacred Relics from 02-05-2026 to 10-05-2026 at the said Centre. Accordingly, the Cabinet of Ministers has approved the resolution furnished by the Minister of Buddhasasana, Religious and Cultural Affairs to make arrangements to convey the aforementioned Sacred Relics to the Maha Vipassana Meditation Centre in Texas, United States of America, and to provide an opportunity for devotees to pay homage and venerate the Relics.

**04. Revision of the National Housing Policy**

Attention has been drawn to the need to ensure access to adequate and quality housing and infrastructure in Sri Lanka, especially for low-income communities, under the “A Comfortable Home – A Healthy Life” housing policy framework set out in the “A Thriving Nation – A Beautiful Life” policy statement of the present Government. Accordingly, the need has been identified to revise the National Housing Policy, which was last amended in 2019, taking into consideration all components of housing and human settlements, as well as emerging global trends in the sector. Accordingly, the Cabinet of Ministers approved the resolution furnished by the Minister of Housing, Construction and Water Supply to revise the National Housing Policy to address contemporary challenges in human settlements through sustainable solutions, and to carry out such revision through a committee comprising experts in the field.

**05. Appointment of an Expert Committee to Obtain Recommendations on Resolving the Issues Relating to Housing Projects Initiated by the National Housing Development Authority during 2015–2019**

During the period 2015–2019, it had been planned to initiate 2,562 housing projects under the National Housing Development Authority, under which a total of 64,407 housing units were envisaged to be constructed. Accordingly, these housing projects had been planned as comprising 1,138 villages under housing aids, 1,334 villages through housing loans provided to beneficiaries, and 90 villages through the aids from the Government of India. However, only 386 villages have been completed and opened, while the total number of completed housing units stands at 10,532. It is estimated that an additional Rs. 11.26 billion is required to complete the remaining housing units. As it has been observed that several factors have contributed to the low progress of the aforementioned projects, the Cabinet of Ministers has approved the resolution furnished by the Minister of Housing, Construction and Water Supply to appoint an Expert Committee to examine the current status of the said projects and to provide recommendations on identifying low-income families with genuine housing needs, expediting the completion of stalled projects and resettlement of beneficiaries, and establishing a systematic mechanism for the recovery of housing loans granted.

**06. Project for the Construction of a Multipurpose Building for the Bhikkhu University of Sri Lanka.**

Although approval was granted by the Cabinet of Ministers in 2018 for the construction of a multipurpose building for the Bhikkhu University of Sri Lanka at an estimated cost of Rs. 486 million, the construction has not been fully completed due to various constraints encountered during the project period. The revised total cost of the project has been estimated at Rs. 663 million, and an additional provision of Rs. 177 million should be obtained for the full completion of the construction work. Accordingly, the Cabinet of Ministers has approved the resolution furnished by the Hon. Prime Minister, in her capacity as the Minister of Education, Higher Education and Vocational Education, to amend the total cost estimate of the said project to Rs. 663 million, in order to facilitate the completion of the construction of the multipurpose building of the Bhikkhu University of Sri Lanka.

**07. Establishment of Activity-Based Learning Centers at Regional Level for Commerce Education**

The importance of establishing learning centers at regional level has been identified in order to achieve multiple objectives, including the development of teachers, utilization as a hub for new technology and resource sharing, enhancement of vocational and higher education opportunities, efficient utilization of limited physical and human resources, integration of new technologies with subject-specific knowledge, sharing of limited resources to ensure equitable access to education, and development of skills in line with regional potential, thereby contributing to the qualitative development of commerce education. Accordingly, the project to establish 100 activity-based learning centers for the enhancement of commerce education has been included in the Public Investment Programme as a major investment project in general education, with an estimated total cost of Rs. 289 million, to be implemented during the period 2026–2028. Accordingly, having considered the proposal submitted by the Hon. Prime Minister, in her capacity as the Minister of Education, Higher Education and Vocational Education, Cabinet approval was granted to establish and operationalize 25 regional centres covering all 25 districts.

**08. Obtaining the Consultancy Services for the Feasibility Study and Preparation of Detailed Plans for the Extension of the Kelani Valley Railway Line from Avissawella to Ratnapura**

Approval was granted at the Cabinet Meeting held on 21-10-2025 to carry out a feasibility study and prepare detailed plans for the extension of the Kelani Valley Railway Line from Avissawella to Ratnapura. The calling of expressions for this purpose has been conducted under the national Competitive Procurement Procedure, and 8 bidders have submitted their Expression of Interest in that respect. Following the evaluation of technical proposals submitted by the short-listed bidders, and financial proposals of the 4 eligible institutions have been opened. Subsequent to the evaluation of the aforementioned financial proposals, the Consultant Procurement Committee has recommended awarding the consultancy for the feasibility study and preparation of detailed plans for the extension of the Kelani Valley Railway Line from Avissawella to Ratnapura to M/s. Resources Development Consultants (Pvt) Ltd at a total cost of Rs. 356.22 million (exclusive of taxes). Accordingly, the Cabinet of Ministers has approved the resolution furnished by the Minister of Transport, Highways and Urban Development to award the said procurement in line with the above recommendation.

**09. Award of Contracts for Ground Handling Services of SriLankan Airlines at Dubai International Airport, United Arab Emirates**

SriLankan Airlines Limited currently operates scheduled passenger and cargo flights to Dubai International Airport. The Standard Ground Handling Agreement entered between Sri Lankan Airlines Limited and Dnata Company, the sole service provider of such services at Dubai International Airport, for passenger handling and supplying ground services expired on 31-03-2026. The Standard Agreement for cargo handling services between Sri Lankan Airlines Limited and Dnata Company is due to expire on 30-06-2026. Based on the recommendations of the Bid Evaluation Committee and the Higher Level Procurement Committee, the Cabinet of Ministers has approved the resolution furnished by the Minister of Ports and Civil Aviation to award the relevant contracts as follows:

- \* To award the contract for passenger and ground services handling of Sri Lankan Airlines Limited at Dubai International Airport to Dnata Company for a period of three (03) years from 01-04-2026 to 31-03-2029, at an estimated cost of AED 33.04 million.
- \* To award the contract for cargo handling services of Sri Lankan Airlines Limited at Dubai International Airport to Dnata Company for a period of three (03) years from 01-07-2026 to 30-06-2029, at an estimated cost of AED 7.6 million.

**10. Procurement for the Supply of 800,000 Bags of Medicines Used for Hemodialysis for the Patients with Kidney Disease.**

Peritoneal dialysis solutions are used for the hemodialysis of patients suffering from chronic kidney failure. The international competitive bids were invited for the procurement of the aforementioned item, and two bids were received. Accordingly, based on the recommendation of the Higher Level Procurement Committee, the Cabinet of Minister has approved the resolution furnished by the Minister of Health and Mass Media to award the procurement to the substantially responsive minimum bidder, Influxion Lanka (Private) Limited (Manufacturer: Peritone Health SDN BHD, Malaysia), for the supply of 800,000 units of 2-litre peritoneal dialysis solution bags containing 1.5% dextrose with a calcium concentration of 1.25 mmol/L (2.5 mEq/L), equipped with an integrated asymmetrical Y-set and blue clamp, at a unit price of Rs. 1,112, for a total delivered cost of Rs. 889.6 million to the Medical Supplies Division.

**11. Submission of the Import and Export (Control) Regulations No. 01 of 2026, Issued under the Imports and Exports (Control) Act, No. 1 of 1969, for Concurrence of the Parliament.**

The Special Import Licence Regulations No. 01 of 2023, published in Extraordinary Gazette No. 2312/77 dated 01-01-2023, prohibit the importation of retreaded tires, including those used for aircraft. However, the Ministry of Ports and Civil Aviation has made a request that an exemption be granted to permit the importation of retreaded aircraft tires classified under HS Code 4012.13 for Sri Lankan Airlines. Taking into consideration essential operational and safety requirements, it has been decided to permit the importation of retreaded aircraft tires classified under HS Code 4012.13, subject to the recommendation of the Ministry of Ports and Civil Aviation, provided that such tires comply with the requirements specified by internationally recognized aviation authorities and are imported by Sri Lankan airline operators engaged in international air services under a duly executed supply agreement between the airline and a certified international supplier. Accordingly, the Cabinet of Ministers has approved the resolution furnished by the Hon. President, in his capacity as the Minister of Finance, Planning and Economic Development, to submit the Import and Export (Control) Regulations No. 01 of 2026, published in Extraordinary Gazette No. 2481/02 dated 23-03-2026 under the provisions of the Imports and Exports (Control) Act, No. 1 of 1969, for the concurrence of the Parliament.

**12. Formulation of an Act for establishment of the Sri Lanka Industrial Transformation and Innovation Authority**

An Officials' Committee appointed under the chairmanship of the Secretary to the Prime Minister to review non-commercial state-owned institutions has recommended the consolidation of the Industrial Development Board, the National Enterprise Development Authority, and the Small Enterprise Development Division into a single entity. Based on the aforementioned recommendations, policy approval was granted at the Cabinet Meeting held on 29-12-2025 to establish the Sri Lanka Industrial Transformation and Innovation Authority. Accordingly, the Ministry of Industry and Entrepreneurship Development, in consultation with all relevant stakeholders and with technical assistance from the Asian Development Bank, has prepared a draft legal framework for this purpose. Accordingly, the Cabinet of Ministers has approved the resolution furnished by the Minister of Industry and Entrepreneurship Development to instruct the Legal Draftsman to draft a Bill to establish the "Sri Lanka Industrial Transformation and Innovation Authority" based on the said draft framework.

**13. Appointment to the Post of Controller General of Immigration and Emigration.**

Approval was granted at the Cabinet Meeting held on 19-05-2025 to appoint Mr. Iraj Chaminda Pathiraja, an officer in the Special Grade of the Sri Lanka Administrative Service, on fulltime acting basis to the post of Controller General of Immigration and Emigration. The Cabinet of Ministers approved the resolution furnished by the Minister of Public Security and Parliamentary Affairs to appoint him to the post of Controller General of Immigration and Emigration on a permanent basis.

**14. Establishment of Short-Term Treatment and Rehabilitation Centers and Recruitment of Staff under the ‘Ratama Ekata’ (A Nation United) Anti-Drug Programme**

With the recent implementation of the “Ratama Ekata” anti-drug programme, it has been observed that the number of individuals voluntarily seeking treatment services has increased, resulting in existing residential facilities being insufficient to meet the growing demand for such services. As a result, an urgent need has arisen to expand structured treatment and rehabilitation services across the country. As a remedy for that, six (06) underutilized state building premises have been recognized appropriate for conversion into short – term treatment and rehabilitation centers for individuals who enroll for volunteer treatments and steps are being taken to publish those centers in the Government Gazette notification. Accordingly, the Cabinet of Ministers approved the resolution furnished by the Minister of Public Security and Parliamentary Affairs to establish six (06) short – term treatment and rehabilitation centers and recruit the staff required for them.

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