Cabinet Decisions taken at the Cabinet Meeting held on 26.10.2026

01. Obtaining Financial Facilities from the Asian Development Bank for Implementation of the Macro-Recovery Sector Development Program to Promote the Resilience and All Inclusive Economic Opportunities

Approval was granted at the cabinet meeting held on 16-03-3026 to obtain a policy-based loan of US$ 620 million under five sub-programs to advance Sri Lanka's reform agenda in line with the International Monetary Fund's Extended Fund Facility and to conduct negotiations with the International Monetary Fund in that respect. Approval has also been granted at the cabinet meeting held on 07-09-2026 for the implementation of the Macro-Recovery Sector Development Program to promote resilience and all-inclusive economic opportunities utilizing US$ 100 million from this loan amount. The External Resource Department has already completed the formal negotiations with the Asian Development Bank related to obtaining the aforementioned credit facility. Accordingly, the Cabinet of Ministers has approved the resolution furnished by the President in his capacity as the Minister of Finance, Planning, and Economic Development to enter into an agreement with the Asian Development Bank to obtain the aforementioned credit facility, comprising a policy-based loan component of USD 50 million and an investment loan component of USD 50 million provided from the ADB's regular ordinary capital resources.

02. Performance and Sustainability-Based Framework for Collective Agreements in State-Owned Enterprises

A decision has been taken at the cabinet meeting held on 11-05-2026 to extend the currently implemented collective agreements under the prevailing agreements, existing orders and conditions in force at present for state-owned enterprises until 31-12-2026 and to prepare a revised framework to be implemented from 01-01-2027 and to appoint an expert committee to prepare the aforementioned revised framework after reviewing the existing collective agreements. Accordingly, the secretary to the Treasury has appointed an expert committee, and the aforementioned committee has submitted the relevant report under the theme "Performance and Sustainability-Based Framework for Collective Agreements in State-Owned Enterprises" in consultation with the relevant parties as well. The recommendations have been provided concerning the implementation of Collective Agreements for public enterprises subject to the Industrial Disputes Act, Trade Unions Ordinance, Shop and Office Employees Act, and other relevant labor laws and in addition the recommendations pertaining to the sharing of profits and bonus framework as well. Accordingly, the Cabinet of Ministers has approved the resolution submitted by the President in his capacity as the Minister of Finance, Planning, and Economic Development to implement the aforementioned new policy framework relevant to the collective agreement methodology in state-owned enterprises starting from 01-01-2027.

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03. Obtaining Funds from OPEC Fund for International Development (OFID) for the Mahaweli Water Security Investment Program (MWSIP) – Phase 2

The second phase of the Mahaweli Water Security Investment Program has been planned to achieve the long-term objectives of the government, such as increasing the food security of the dry zone areas, strengthening water resource management, increasing the ability to be resilient to climatic changes, and minimizing poverty. Accordingly, under this phase, the following tasks are expected to be completed:

- Completion of the remaining parts of the main tunnel including the excavation of the 07 km long tunnel and completion of all the works related thereto.
- Construction of open and covered channels, waterways, and minor tunnel sections with a total length of approximately 68 kilometers.
- Construction of an approximately 8 km part of the Ellapothana Irrigation Project canal.
- Establishment of commercial agricultural development infrastructure for the development of about 13 pressure distribution networks for supplying the reliable and efficient irrigation water for higher value crops and field crops.
- Transformation of agricultural production systems by introducing climate-resilient value chains and expanding farmers' access to financial services and agricultural project services.

Since the estimated total cost for the 2nd phase of the Mahaweli Water Security Investment Program is US$ 536.5 million, it has been proposed to obtain the relevant funds under the co-financial methodology with the multi-development partners. Accordingly, the Asian Development Bank has agreed to provide US$ 200 million. Approval has been granted at the cabinet meeting held on 20-07-2026 to conduct negotiations with the OPEC Fund for International Development (OFID) for obtaining US$ 60 million as a part of the proposed co-financial provision. Subsequent to these negotiations, the OPEC Fund for International Development (OFID) has agreed to provide a loan facility comprising two components of US$ 48 million and US$ 12 million. Accordingly, the Cabinet of Ministers has approved the resolution furnished by the President in his capacity as the Minister of Finance, Planning, and Economic Development to enter into an agreement with the OPEC Fund for International Development (OFID) to obtain a US$ 60 million loan facility for the aforementioned project.

04. Hosting the 19th World Federation of Trade Unions Congress in Sri Lanka from 13-05-2027 to 15-05-2027

It has been decided to conduct the 19th World Federation of Trade Unions Congress, organized by the World Federation of Trade Unions, in Colombo from 13-05-2027 to 15-05-2027. The Board of Presidents of the World Federation of Trade Unions Congress has assigned the hosting rights of holding this congress to Sri Lanka, considering Sri Lanka's active trade union sector and strategic location. It is expected that approximately 800 representatives from 130 countries will participate in this congress, representing worldwide unions. Accordingly, after informing the Cabinet of Ministers by the Minister of Labor regarding the hosting of 19th congress in Colombo from 13-05-2027 to 15-05-2027, the Cabinet of Ministers has granted its agreement to proceed with the necessary subsequent actions.

05. Entering into a Memorandum of Understanding to Implement Vocational Training and Student Exchange Programs

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was entered into in 2023 between the National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), that is under the purview of the Ministry of Labor, and Taeshin University in the Republic of Korea for the implementation of a vocational training and student exchange program. However, due to issues arising from the provisions of the said MoU, it has not been possible to implement the program as envisaged. Accordingly, a new Memorandum of Understanding and an operational framework have been prepared in consultation with the five(5) main parties, with the objective of establishing a formal institutional partnership and clearly defining the roles and responsibilities of all parties concerned. The proposed MoU is intended to provide an opportunity for students selected by the National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health to pursue higher education at Taeshin University in the Republic of Korea. It is further envisaged that, upon completion of their studies, such students will have access to employment opportunities in industries located in Gyeongsangnam-do Province, together with opportunities for long-term residence in the area. Accordingly, the Cabinet of Ministers has approved the resolution furnished by the Minister of Labor to enter into the aforementioned Memorandum of Understanding and operational framework among the Ministry of Labor, the National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health, Gyeongsangnam-do Province, Sacheon Commercial, and Taeshin University (Changshin University).

06. Leasing underutilized lands/properties in the plantation sector to suitable investors for optimal utilization

The Cabinet of Ministers had previously granted approval to call for Expressions of Interest (EOIs) from interested investors for the long-term leasing of underutilized lands and properties managed by the Sri Lanka State Plantations Corporation, the Janatha Estates Development Board, and Elkaduwa Plantations Limited, with a view to ensuring their optimal utilization. Accordingly, during the first phase, Expressions of Interest were invited for 1,514 hectares of land, 10 tourist bungalows and scenic locations, and 15 inactive factories. In response, a total of 470 interested investors submitted Expressions of Interest. Subsequently, requests for proposals were issued to the shortlisted investors, resulting in the submission of 44 proposals pertaining to 30 land and property lots. Following the evaluation of these proposals in accordance with the recommendations of the Higher - Level Procurement Committees, the Cabinet of Ministers has approved the proposal submitted by the Minister of Plantation and Community Infrastructure to award 15 lands/properties belonging to the Sri Lanka State Plantations Corporation, the Janatha Estates Development Board, and Elkaduwa Plantations Limited to the selected investors on a long-term lease basis.

07. Establishment of the National Wildlife Hazard Management Committee for Aviation Safety

As a contracting State to the Convention on International Civil Aviation (Chicago Convention), Sri Lanka should implement relevant standards and recommended practices for minimizing aircraft and wildlife strike hazards according to the provisions of that Convention. Especially, in terms of the paragraph 9.4 of Volume 1 of 14th annexure of the Convention on International Civil Aviation, a national procedure shall be used to record and report aircraft and wildlife collisions, collect information on wildlife that may pose a threat, assess the risk of wildlife collisions occurring at or near an aerodrome through continuous assessment by suitably qualified persons. Reports of wildlife collisions should be submitted for inclusion in the Birds Collision Information System of the Convention on International Civil Aviation. The guidelines for the Asia and Pacific Region of the Convention on International Civil Aviation have been provision for the establishment of a Wildlife Hazard Management Committee to facilitate national level action on this matter. Accordingly, the Cabinet of Ministers has approved the resolution furnished by the Minister of Port, and Civil Aviation to establish Wildlife Hazard Management Committee for Aviation Safety, representing all relevant stakeholder institutions as the national coordinating mechanism for wildlife hazard management related to civil aviation activities.

08. Provision of compensation and relief for prison officers killed and injured due to clashes at the Negombo Prison on 05 and 06-07-2026

A decision has been taken at the cabinet meeting held on 03-08- 2026 to appoint a committee under the chief of the Secretary to the Ministry of Justice and National Integration to submit recommendations regarding the provision of compensation and relief for prison officers who were killed and injured while on duty during the clashes that occurred at the Negombo Prison on 05 and 06-07-2026. The aforementioned committee has forwarded its report with the recommendations. Subsequent to submission of the said report to the Cabinet of Ministers, the Cabinet of Ministers has decided to grant the approval to implement the following recommendations.

(i) Payment of special compensation as follows, in addition to the compensation paid under the provisions of Public Administration Circular No. 22/93:

- Payment of a compensation of Rs. 5 million for each officer who was killed.
- Payment of a compensation of Rs. 5 million to any officer who was totally disabled in the clashes.
- Payment of compensation of Rs. 4 million to any officer who lost their maximum earning capacity of 100% and suffered partial disability
- Payment of a compensation of Rs. 3 million to any officer who suffered temporary partial disability.

(ii) Amending the Prisons Ordinance by incorporating appropriate provisions to grant legal status to the Prisons Tactical Force.

(iii) Strengthening the Prisons Tactical Force by recruiting a sufficient and appropriate number of officers.

(iv) Providing formal training in relevant fields to the Prisons Tactical Force and equipping them with necessary modern equipment.

(v) Taking steps to establish a headquarters for the Prisons Tactical Force at a suitable location.

09. Renovation and Enhancement of Norwood – Bogawanthalawa – Campion Road (B329) from 10+ 500-kilometre Post to 16 + 890-kilometre Post.

Bids have been called adhering to the national competitive procurement scheme to renovate and enhance the Norwood – Bogawanthalawa – Campion Road (B329) from 10+ 500-kilometre post to 16 + 890 kilometre post dilapidated due to exposure to long – term unfavourable weather conditions and disaster impacts. Accordingly, three (03) bids have been submitted. Based on the recommendations furnished by the higher - level procurement committee on the relevant bids, the Cabinet of Ministers granted approval to the resolution furnished by the Minister of Transport, Highways and Urban Development to award the relevant contract to the substantially responsive minimum bidder, M/s Asset Engineering (Pvt.) Limited to a contracted sum of rupees 756.99 million (exclusive of value added tax).

10. Submission of Amended Regulations of Issuing Licenses for Production Material (Tea) Brokers to be Submitted for the Concurrence of the Parliament.

As per the approval granted at the meeting of the Cabinet of Ministers on 22.06.2026, amendment regulations have been published by the extraordinary gazette notification No. 2501/68 of 12.08.2026 to revise the licensing regulations of production (Tea) brokers formulated in 1979 under the provisions of the Licensing of Produce Brokers Act No. 9 of 1979. Therefore, the Cabinet of Ministers approved the resolution furnished by the Minister of Plantation and Community Infrastructure Facilities to submit the said amendment regulations to the Parliament for its concurrence.

11. Imposing Regulations for Registration of Intellectual Property Delegates under the Intellectual Property Act No. 36 of 2003

Legal provisions have been provided by the Intellectual Property Act No. 36 of 2003 to accept intellectual delegates and execute their role. Whereas it has given the legitimate basis for providing provision to accept the attorneys – at – law as intellectual property delegates as well as accept individuals who are non – attorneys and institutional entities as intellectual property delegates. As per the intellectual property regulations No. 01 of 2006 declared by the gazette notification No. 1445/10 of 17.05.2006, the Director General of Intellectual Properties has been entrusted with the powers to formulate the administrative

procedure for registering delegates while, it prescribes the criteria qualifications required for the delegates being appointed from those non – attorneys – at – law accomplished the relevant qualifications. Accordingly, the extraordinary gazette notification No. 2500/15 of 03.08.2026 has been published to amend the regulation 58 of the intellectual property regulations No. 01 of 2006 providing provisions for individuals in specific relevant fields such as higher educational qualifications including a first degree in relevant field, for instance Engineering Science and Science fields to act as delegates in regard to patent permits. The Cabinet of Ministers approved the resolution furnished by the Minister of Trade, Commerce, Food Security and Cooperative development to submit the aforementioned revisions to the Parliament for its concurrence.

12. Hosting the First Meeting of BIMSTEC Health Ministers and Senior Officers of BIMSTEC of Health Sector.

The Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC) acts as a pioneer regional cooperation for promoting socio – economic development and technological cooperation among the south and south – eastern countries. Attention was drawn at the 6th state leaders' conference held in Bangkok, Thailand in April 2025 to calling a conference of the BIMSTEC Health Ministers and hold it in Sri Lanka; the country that is nominated as the pioneer country on public health cooperation within the BIMSTEC organization in order to strengthen the regional cooperation in health sector. Therefore, it has been decided to hold the first assembly of the BIMSTEC Health Ministers and the meeting of Senior Officers of BIMSTEC on Health in Colombo on 10th and 11.11.2026. The Cabinet of Ministers approved the resolution furnished by the Minister of Health and Mass Media to host the assembly

13. Hosting the 14th Commonwealth Women's Affairs Ministers Meeting (WAMM) in Sri Lanka.

The Commonwealth Women's Affairs Ministers Meeting is a high-end international platform that provides the opportunity to conduct policy discussions for promoting gender equality and women's empowerment in member countries, as well as share experiences and good practices, and strengthen cooperation among member countries. Sri Lanka has agreed to host the 14th meeting of the event. The meeting is expected to be attended by ministers responsible for women's affairs from member countries, senior government officials, representatives of recognized civil society organizations, and representatives of relevant stakeholder organizations. Accordingly, the Cabinet of Ministers granted their consent to the resolution furnished by the Minister of Women's and Child Activities to host the 14th Commonwealth Women's Affairs Ministers Meeting in Sri Lanka scheduled during the first quarter of 2028.

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