



Cabinet Decisions taken at the Cabinet Meeting held on 20.07.2026

01. Development of the roads which are not included to the Road Development Authority

The Road Development Authority is responsible for the construction, rehabilitation, improvement, maintenance, and management of the national highway systems, which include A and B grade roads, expressways, and related bridges. Requests have been made by District Coordination Committees and other institutions to take necessary steps to take over the roads that are not under the management of the Road Development Authority and other authorities, that are urgently required to be rehabilitated by the Road Development Authority. Accordingly, 60 roads that are under the ownership of Provincial Councils and other Local Government Institutions have been identified. Accordingly, the Cabinet of Ministers has approved the resolution furnished by the Minister of Transport, Highways, and Urban Development to appoint a committee of officials comprising representatives from the following institutions to forward the recommendations relevant to the rehabilitation of the aforementioned roads.

- Ministry of Finance, Planning, and Economic Development
- Ministry of Transport, Highways, and Urban Development
- Ministry of Public Administration, Provincial Council, and Local Government
- Finance Commission
- A Chief Secretary to a Provincial Council
- Department of Management Services
- Road Development Authority
- A General Manager of a Provincial Road Development Authority

02. Ratification of the Work in Fishing Convention(C188) by the International Labour Organization

The Work in Fishing Convention (C188) was adopted by the International Labour Organization at its 96th International Labour Conference in 2007. Thereby, standards of decent working conditions, health facilities, and access to security for medical treatments have been established. The Sri Lankan fishing industry, which comprises over 315,000 fishing community members, is in a serious informal condition due to its nature and traditional activities and has encountered various challenges related to professional security, health, and service conditions. Therefore, in order to successfully address the aforementioned challenges, the Cabinet of Ministers has approved the joint resolution furnished by the Minister of Fisheries, Aquatic, and Ocean Resources, and the Minister of Labour, to ratify the Work in Fishing Convention (C188), enabling the introduction of internationally recognized standards for the fishing industry and the implementation of the regulations of the said convention in a phased manner for the establishment of the aforementioned standards.

03. Protection of Historical, Cultural, and Traditional Intellectual Property related to the Kandy Esala Perahera.

The Committee on Development and Intellectual Property of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) has initiated a project called "Promotion of Festival Tourism Development through Intellectual Property." The objective of this project is to increase the capacity of cultural festival organizers in the beneficiary countries to use intellectual property rights for the development of festival tourism while respecting local traditions and cultural heritage. It has been identified the appropriateness to submit a project proposal for the protection of historical, cultural, and traditional property rights related to the Kandy Esala Perahera, comprising traditional art models and knowledge that have been passed down through the centuries. Accordingly, the Cabinet of Ministers has approved the resolution submitted by the Minister of Trade, Commerce, Food Security, and Cooperative Development to appoint a committee comprising all relevant parties under the co-partnership of the Minister of Trade, Commerce, Food Security, and Cooperative Development and the Minister of Buddhism, Religious Affairs, and Cultural Affairs to prepare and submit the relevant project proposal aimed at protecting intellectual property rights of the historical, cultural, and traditional identity and values of Kandy Esala Perahera, with special attention toward 'Protection of Publication Rights' and 'Trademarks and Brand Names.

04. Entering into Memorandum of Understanding Between Royal Melbourn Institute of Technology (RMIT) of Australia and the National Water Supply and Drainage Board of Sri Lanka.

Adhering to the government policy of modification of water and wastewater sector, increasing the research capacity as well strengthening the international cooperation, the National Water Supply and Drainage Board has held discussions with the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology (RMIT) of Australia, an institution that is recognized for its excellence in the fields of Engineering, Environmental Science, Water Management, and Technological Innovations. It is expected to enhance the technological knowledge, research abilities, and to expand the professional development opportunities of the staff of the Water Supply and Drainage Board, and to assist the long - term water security and development of the infrastructure development opportunities of the National Water Supply and Drainage Board. Accordingly, the Cabinet of Ministers approved the resolution furnished by the Minister of Housing, Construction, and Water Supply to sign a Memorandum of Understanding between the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology and the Water Supply and Drainage Board based on the agreement between both parties, based on the agreement entered into between the two parties.

05. Purchase of 600 buses for intercity / long distance services of the Sri Lanka Transport Board

A budget provision of Rs. 14,400 million has been allocated to the Sri Lanka Transport Board for the project of purchasing 600 new standard buses with 49-54 seats under the Government Investment program in the year 2026. After allocation of said provisions, 'the Road Safety Plan -2025-2026' has been introduced. Under the aforementioned plan, the buses used for passenger transport have been identified as safe vehicles. Accordingly, the minimum specifications of the buses suitable for intercity and long-distance services have been identified. According to these specifications, Delux model (air-conditioned) buses should be used for the intercity and long-distance services. Accordingly, the

Cabinet of Ministers has approved the resolution furnished by the Acting Minister of Transport, Highways, and Urban Development to take further steps to purchase more comfortable Deluxe model (air-conditioned) buses rather than the standard model new 600 buses for which provisions have already been allocated.

06. Acquisition of Two Tug Vessels to the Sri Lanka Ports Authority on Lease Basis

After a comprehensive assessment of the requirements of the Sri Lanka Ports Authority, approval has been granted at the cabinet meeting held on 06-01-2025 to acquire two tug port vessels with 70-ton Bollard Pull (BP) Twin Azimuth Stern Drive for a specific period of time with the objective of increasing the tug fleet of the authority. As per the aforementioned cabinet decision, bids have been invited following the international competitive procurement procedure to select a suitable supplier, and three (3) bids have been received for that purpose. Accordingly, the Cabinet of Ministers has approved the resolution furnished by the Minister of Port and Civil Aviation to obtain the aforementioned two tug vessels from M/S Sri Lanka Shipping Company Limited, the minimum satisfactory lowest bidder, for an amount of US \$17.16 million (excluding relevant taxes and duties) for a period of five years, based on the evaluation of the aforementioned bids and the recommendations of the higher-level procurement committee.

07. Project on Method- Based Management of Hypertension and Diabetes in Primary Care Services

Approval has been granted at the cabinet meeting held on 12-01-2026 to obtain the grant of US\$ 242,125 from the institute 'Resolve to Save Lives, Inc. ' to implement the project on the management of hypertension and diabetes based on methodologies implemented in the districts of Kaluthara, Kandy, Nuwara-Eliya, Matale, Galle, Colombo, and Gampaha. Accordingly, the Ministry of Health and Mass Media has entered into an agreement with the institute 'Resolve to Save Lives' and it is due to end this agreement period on 30-09-2026. It has been recognized that there is a remaining balance of US\$ 50,320 as of 31-05-2026. Accordingly, the Cabinet of Ministers has approved the resolution furnished by the Minister of Health and Mass Media to extend the aforementioned project duration until 31-12-2027 in order to enable project activities effectively with the remaining provisions.

08. Establishment of Chartered Computer Institute of Sri Lanka

The Chartered Computer Institute of Sri Lanka was established in 1976 as the premier and sole body representing professionals in the Information and Communication Technology sector in Sri Lanka. It has recognized the importance of establishing the Sri Lanka Chartered Computer Association as the main professional organization to act on behalf of the interests of professionals representing the computer sector in Sri Lanka, which should be treated equally with other professional organizations that have obtained chartered status and other formal recognition. Accordingly, taking into account a resolution furnished by the Hon. President, the Cabinet of Ministers has decided to grant policy approval for the establishment of the Chartered Computer Institute of Sri Lanka and to instruct the Legal Draftsman to prepare a draft bill in line with the proposed objectives.

09. Compilation of New Law for Strengthening the Foreign Employment Sector Repealing the Foreign Employment Bureau Act No. 21 of 1985

The Foreign Employment Bureau Act No. 21 of 1985 was introduced to promote and safeguard the welfare of Sri Lankan migrant workers, regulate foreign employment, and promote foreign employment opportunities. It has been recognized that there is a necessity to modernize the existing establishment framework to respond to current trends in the foreign employment sector and to align it with national priorities and international standards. In order to meet this requirement, it is expected that the existing Foreign Employment Bureau Act No. 21 of 1985 will be repealed to introduce a new Act. Accordingly, a concept paper has been prepared to modernize and strengthen the legal and institutional framework related to the foreign employment sector. The Cabinet of Ministers has approved the resolution furnished by the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Foreign Employment and Tourism to instruct the Legal Draftsman to prepare a draft bill enabling the introduction of a new Act repealing the Employment Bureau Act No. 21 of 1985 based on the aforementioned concept paper.

10. Amendment of the Registration of Title Act No. 21 of 1998

The Registration of Title Act No. 21 of 1998 has been introduced for title registration on plots of land, formalize the transactions applicable to so registered plots of land, and provide provisions for corresponding facts linked to the same. After enacting the said act, actions have been taken to register the title rights decisions by preparing cadastral maps throughout the island since the year 1998. The Registrar General Department has taken actions to establish a database on rights through title rights decisions registration and, measures have been taken to combine the said database with the land information system prepared by the Survey General's Department. However, various issues have been unveiled during the execution of 'Bim Saviya' national programme of registration of titles and, it has been difficult to reach out the expected goals of that programme. Considering this situation, measures have been taken to identify the due amendments to the Registration of Title Act with the participation of all the relevant sectors. Therefore, the Cabinet of Ministers approved the resolution furnished by the Minister of Agriculture, Livestock, Lands and Irrigation to amend the Registration of Title Act No. 21 of 1998 based on the said revisions.

11. Amendment of Sri Lanka Social Security Board Act No. 17 of 1996

Sri Lanka Social Security Board has been established under the Sri Lanka Social Security Board Act No. 17 of 1996 and, the Board introduces and executes various pension schemes with the objective of providing pension salaries and social security benefits for those engaged in self – employments excluding fishing and cultivation / farming. The Cabinet of Ministers has given consent previously to amend the Sri Lanka Social Security Board Act in order to expand the target groups for pensions schemes for that are executed by Sri Lanka Social Security Board. Based on that approval, the Cabinet of Ministers granted their concurrence to the resolution furnished by the Minister of Rural Development, Social Security and Community Empowerment to instruct the Legal Draftsman to formulate the draft bill for the said act including the revisions recognized further to the draft bill prepared by the Legal Draftsman.

12. Amendment of the National Dangerous Drugs Control Board Act No. 11 of 1984

The National Dangerous Drugs Control Board Act No. 11 of 1984 has supplied provisions for the establishment of the National Dangerous Drugs Control Board, precisely defining the powers of that Board and providing provisions for the corresponding facts. A dire need has been erupted in amending the said act for expanding the role and powers of the National Dangerous Drugs Control Board in the presence of the daily sprouting drug menace and its misuse. Accordingly, considering a resolution forwarded by the Minister of Public Security and Parliamentary Affairs, the Cabinet of Ministers decided to grant the policy approval to revise the National Dangerous Drugs Control Board Act No. 11 of 1984 and direct the Legal Draftsman to formulate a draft bill including the relevant amendments

13. Amendment of Drug Dependent Persons (Treatment and Rehabilitation) Act No 54 of 2007.

A legal framework has been formulated from the Drug Dependent Persons (Treatment and Rehabilitation) Act No 54 of 2007 to ensure access for treatments, treating the drug addicted individuals with the fundamental objective of promoting the facilitation for rehabilitation and re socialization, rehabilitation and secure post protection. Considering the government policy on minimizing the drug addicted individuals within the country as well as capturing the individuals using drugs for the first time, it has become essential to introduce appropriate revisions to the Drug Dependent Persons (Treatment and Rehabilitation) Act No 54 of 2007 so that a proper formal mechanism can be maintained in treatment and rehabilitation. Accordingly, considering a resolution forwarded by the Minister of Public Security and Parliamentary Affairs, the Cabinet of Ministers decided to grant the policy approval to revise the Drug Dependent Persons (Treatment and Rehabilitation) Act No 54 of 2007 and direct the Legal Draftsman to formulate a draft bill including the relevant amendments.

14. Appointment to the Post of Surveyor General

Mrs. P. K. L. S. Panduwawala currently serving as the Surveyor General at the Sri Lanka Survey Department will be retired from service upon completion of the age of compulsory retirement with effect from 20.08.2026. Therefore, the Cabinet of Ministers approved the resolution furnished by the Minister of Agriculture, Livestock, Lands and Irrigation to appoint from Mrs. O. T. M. I. Thilakarathne, the senior most officer in Sri Lanka Surveyors' Service serving as an Additional Surveyor General of that Department to the Post of Surveyor General that will be vacant from 20.08.2026.

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