



# ***NEW LAWS AND EXECUTIVE DECISIONS UPDATE - FEBRUARY 2026 -***

5<sup>th</sup> March 2026



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# NEW LAWS AND EXECUTIVE DECISIONS UPDATE – FEBRUARY 2026

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# I. ACTS CERTIFIED

## 1. UNIVERSITIES (AMENDMENT) ACT, NO. 02 OF 2026

**Act No.:** 02 of 2026

**Date Certified:** 2 March 2026

**Type:** Amendment Act

**Principal Law:** Universities Act No. 16 of 1978

**Key Amendments:**

- Amendments to provisions governing administration and governance of universities under the national higher education system.
- Revises the powers and functions of university authorities such as the University Grants Commission and university councils.
- Regulatory oversight, quality assurance, and institutional management of universities.
- Legal procedures related to establishment, operation, and supervision of universities and degree-awarding institutions.

## 2. LICENSING OF CONTAINER DEPOT OPERATORS ACT, NO. 03 OF 2026

**Act No.:** 03 of 2026

**Date Certified:** 17 February 2026

**Type:** New Law

**Key Provisions:**

- Introduces a mandatory licensing system for businesses operating inland container depots handling import/export containers.
- Sets out eligibility requirements, operational standards, and regulatory oversight for such operators.
- Empowers the relevant authority (likely under ports/logistics regulation) to issue, suspend, or cancel licences for non-compliance.
- Refers to improving efficiency, security, and regulation of container storage, handling, and movement within the national logistics chain.

## 3. LICENSING OF SHIPPING AGENTS, FREIGHT FORWARDERS, NON-VESSEL OPERATING COMMON CARRIERS AND CONTAINER OPERATORS (AMENDMENT) ACT, NO. 04 OF 2026

**Act No.:** 04 of 2026

**Date Certified:** 17 February 2026

**Type:** Amendment Act

**Principal Law:** Licensing of Shipping Agents Act No. 04 OF 2026

**Key Amendments:**

- Amends licensing framework governing logistics service providers in maritime transport.
- Expands regulatory oversight for compliance, accountability, and professional standards in shipping and freight operations.
- Introduces revised requirements for licensing, registration, and monitoring of industry operators.
- Aligns national regulatory rules with modern logistics practices and international maritime trade standards.

#### **4. PARLIAMENTARY PENSIONS (REPEAL) ACT, NO. 05 OF 2026**

**Act No.:** 05 of 2026

**Date Certified:** 17 February 2026

**Type:** Repeal Act

**Principal Law:** Repeals Parliamentary Pensions Law No.1 of 1977

**Key Provisions:**

- Abolishes the statutory pension scheme for Members of Parliament.
- Terminates entitlement to future pension benefits based solely on parliamentary service.
- Provides legal authority to cease operation of the parliamentary pension framework within public expenditure systems.

## II. BILLS PROPOSED

### 1. INLAND REVENUE (AMENDMENT) BILL

**No:** 13 of 2026

**Date on List:** 24 February 2026

**Stage:** Gazette Supplement (GS)

**Principal Law:** Inland Revenue Act No. 24 of 2017 – national income tax administration and taxation framework

**Key Provisions:**

- Amends provisions governing income tax computation, deductions, and tax treatment of certain payments under the Inland Revenue Act.
- Revises withholding tax obligations and reporting procedures for specified payments and service providers.
- Updates administrative powers of the Commissioner-General of Inland Revenue regarding filing requirements, tax statements, and compliance procedures.
- Introduces amendments to schedules and technical provisions affecting tax incentives, allowable deductions, and compliance obligations.

### 2. RESCUE, REHABILITATION AND INSOLVENCY (CORPORATE AND PERSONAL) BILL

**No:** 12 of 2026

**Date on List:** 19 February 2026

**Stage:** Gazette Supplement (GS)

**Principal Law / Subject:** Corporate and personal insolvency law reform

**Key Provisions:**

- Establishes a comprehensive legal framework for corporate restructuring, rehabilitation, and insolvency proceedings.
- Introduces procedures allowing financially distressed companies to enter rehabilitation or restructuring before liquidation.
- Provides legal mechanisms for personal insolvency resolution and debt settlement for individuals.
- Creates procedures governing administrators, insolvency practitioners, creditor rights, and court supervision of restructuring processes.

### 3. KANDYAN MARRIAGE AND DIVORCE (AMENDMENT) BILL

**No:** 16 of 2026

**Date on List:** 19 February 2026

**Stage:** Private Member's Bill (Gazette Supplement 08/2026, published 05 February 2026)

**Principal Law / Subject:** Kandyan Marriage and Divorce Act – personal law applicable to Kandyan community

**Key Provisions:**

- Proposes amendments to marriage and divorce provisions applicable to persons governed by Kandyan personal law.
- Updates legal provisions governing registration of Kandyan marriages and related procedural requirements.
- Introduces reforms concerning divorce procedures and grounds for dissolution of marriage.
- Aims to modernize aspects of Kandyan personal law to ensure greater consistency with contemporary family law principles.

### III. SELECTED CABINET DECISIONS

#### DEFENCE & PUBLIC SECURITY

- **Regulation of Private Security Agencies and Employees** (23 February 2026)  
Recognises that existing provisions under the Regulation of Private Security Agencies Act No. 45 of 1998 are insufficient to regulate approximately 150,000 security personnel across 1,050 agencies. Introduces new legal provisions to improve regulatory effectiveness. Key measures include classifying services, introducing NVQ-level training, establishing a code of ethics, regulating registration of agencies, authorising licence cancellation, and issuing firearms licences to improve service quality and compliance.

#### FINANCE, PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- **Revision of National Tariff Policy** (23 February 2026)  
Updates the National Tariff Policy to reflect current economic, fiscal, and trade conditions, addressing issues in policy implementation and compliance with tax-related laws. Based on recommendations from the National Tariff Policy Committee and the Committee on Public Finance, aims to simplify procedures, ensure statutory compliance, and maintain a transparent, predictable, and coherent trade and investment framework.
- **Submission of Repatriation of Export Proceeds into Sri Lanka Rules No. 01 of 2026 to Parliament** (23 February 2026)  
Approves amendments to facilitate exporters' investment in local dollar bonds and ensure repatriation of export proceeds, addressing limitations of previous rules. Aims to expand the investment base of local dollar bonds, certify competitive pricing, and strengthen foreign exchange classification and compliance. Rules presented to Parliament for concurrence.
- **Revision of Social Security Contribution Levy Act No. 25 of 2022** (23 February 2026)  
Approves draft bill to revise the Social Security Contribution Levy Act in line with 2026 Budget proposals. Legal Draftsman prepared the draft with Attorney General clearance; the Cabinet approved publishing in the Government Gazette and forwarding to Parliament to ensure alignment with fiscal policy and revenue collection objectives.
- **Obtaining World Bank Funds through Programmatic Reform Development Policy Operation** (16 February 2026)  
Approves obtaining US\$400 million from the World Bank (2026–2028) to support structural reforms, improve competitiveness, and strengthen economic governance in Sri Lanka. Funds support two pillars: enhancing competitiveness and improving economic good governance. Builds on prior US\$700 million RESET funding for reforms (2023–2024).
- **Sri Lanka Digital Transformation Project** (16 February 2026)  
Approves obtaining US\$50 million SDR fund from the World Bank to implement the Digital Transformation Project under the Digital Economy Strategy 2025–2030. Ministry of Finance oversees loan management; GovTec Sri Lanka implements; Ministry of Digital Economy supervises policy and inter-ministerial coordination; project aims to modernise public services efficiently and transparently.
- **Conducting Inaugural BIMSTEC Expert Committee Meeting on Fiscal and Monetary Policy** (16 February 2026)  
Approves hosting inaugural meeting of BIMSTEC Expert Committee to facilitate regional cooperation in fiscal and monetary policy formulation. Committee established under BIMSTEC framework; meeting enables preparation of Task Specifications and Action Plan for expert knowledge exchange among member countries.
- **Amendment of Inland Revenue Act No. 24 of 2017** (9 February 2026)  
Approves draft bill to amend the Inland Revenue Act, including tax revisions to strengthen revenue collection and financial integrity. Draft bill cleared by the Attorney General; to be gazetted and forwarded to Parliament for concurrence.

- **Submission of Draft Financial Transactions Reporting (Amendment) Act and Prevention of Money Laundering (Amendment) Act to Parliament** (9 February 2026)  
Approves publication of final drafts in the government gazette and submission to Parliament for approval. Legal Draftsman prepared final drafts; updates improve financial monitoring and anti-money laundering legal framework.
- **Revisions to Colombo Port City (Development Control) Regulations No. 1 of 2023** (9 February 2026)  
Approves revised regulations for building features, vertical development limits, and land use categorisation within Colombo Port City. Amendments published 29 December 2025; forwarded to Parliament under section 71(4) of the Colombo Port City Economic Commission Act No. 11 of 2021 for approval.

## INDUSTRIES & ENTREPRENEURSHIP DEVELOPMENT

- **Signing of Cooperation Agreement between the Sri Lanka Export Development Board and the German Import Promotion Bureau** (23 February 2026)  
Approves a cooperation agreement to facilitate exports from Sri Lanka to Germany and Europe, especially for SMEs, women-led businesses, IT outsourcing, and natural raw materials sectors. The agreement seeks to enhance market access, support sustainable exports, and provide capacity-building for Sri Lankan exporters, promoting international competitiveness.
- **National Mineral Policy – 2026** (9 February 2026)  
Approves implementation of updated National Mineral Policy to sustainably utilise mineral resources, encourage industrialisation, and add value to mineral exports. Policy aligned with government manifesto 'A Sustainable Resource Utilisation – Generation of the Highest Benefit' under 'A Thriving Nation – A Beautiful Life'; includes updated data systems and environmental safeguards.

## HOUSING, CONSTRUCTION & WATER SUPPLY

- **Establishment of National Housing Operational Committee** (23 February 2026)  
Establishes a committee to coordinate national housing programs, addressing homelessness among low-income earners, estate communities, disabled persons, fishing communities, and displaced populations. The committee provides guidance, technical support, monitoring, and follow-up to integrate fragmented housing initiatives from ministries, provincial councils, local authorities, NGOs, and private sector organisations; optimises the Rs. 100 billion housing allocation for 2026.
- **Project to Construct Permanent Houses for Families Displaced in Northern and Eastern Provinces** (16 February 2026)  
Approves construction of permanent houses for 13,069 displaced families identified as of 1 January 2026. Aid for 550 sq. ft. houses increased to LKR 2 million from 2026; ensures standard quality construction amid increased material and labour costs.
- **Substitution of 'Fine Aggregate' for 'River Sand' in Construction Industry** (16 February 2026)  
Approves substitution of the term 'River Sand' with 'Fine Aggregate' in construction specifications to address river sand scarcity. Enables use of manufactured sand, crushed rock fines, offshore sand, and other suitable materials (<4mm sieve) under the Construction Industry Development Act No. 33 of 2014.
- **Obtaining Technical Assistance from Mahaweli Consultation Bureau for Rural Community Water Supply Project** (2 February 2026)  
Approves technical assistance for 48 incomplete rural community water supply projects (out of 175 pending) for 2026–2027, including feasibility studies, engineering plans, procurement documents, and project supervision. Enables expeditious completion of projects initiated under the 'Community Water Abhimani' programme; addresses staff shortage at the Department of National Community Water Supply.

## TRANSPORT, HIGHWAYS & URBAN DEVELOPMENT

- **Procurement for Purchase of 75 Motor Graders** (23 February 2026)

Approves the procurement of 75 motor graders for government development programs via the National Competitive Bidding Procedure. Contract awarded to United Tractors & Equipment (Pvt) Ltd for Rs. 1,424.25 million (excluding VAT) following High-Level Standing Procurement Committee recommendations to ensure transparency and operational readiness.

- **Development of Highway from Kerawalapitiya Expressway Access Point to Elakanda Highway** (23 February 2026)  
Approves renovation of 2.2 km of highway through Kerawalapitiya Industrial Zone, which connects key industrial facilities to the expressway and had remained incomplete since 2021. Immediate renovation approved to restore transportation functionality, with a formal study to plan long-term expansion under mid-term budget allocations.
- **Providing Land in Kerawalapitiya, Wattala to Powertech Products (Pvt) Ltd on Long-Term Lease** (16 February 2026)  
Approves allocation of 3 acres, 1 rood, 0.95 perches of SL Land Development Corporation land for establishing a fibre cement manufacturing facility by Powertech Products (Pvt) Ltd. Lease period 30 years; one-time payment LKR 272.2 million; annual nominal rent LKR 83,500; investment US\$7 million; project approved under BOI provisions for private sector industrial development.
- **Providing Land in Kerawalapitiya, Wattala to MAS Freight Wave Terminal (Pvt) Ltd on Long-Term Lease** (16 February 2026)  
Approves allocation of 3 acres, 2 roods, 25.63 perches of SL Land Development Corporation land for MAS Freight Wave Terminal (Pvt) Ltd to establish a warehouse supply complex. Lease period 30 years; one-time payment LKR 305.99 million (two instalments); annual nominal rent LKR 90,000; project structured under BOI regulations for logistics development.
- **Engagement of 10 Air-Conditioned, Lower-Floor Buses with Facilities for People with Special Needs** (9 February 2026)  
Approves pilot project with 10 modern buses, to be initially operated by Metro Transit (Pvt) Ltd, as part of the modernisation of Colombo suburban transport. Buses procured under 'Clean Sri Lanka' project; arrival expected 15 March 2026; project plans for expansion to 100 buses with advanced technology and accessibility features.
- **Allocating Colombage Mawatha and Stadiumgama Condominium Units to Eligible Beneficiaries** (16 February 2026)  
Approves allocation of 4,074 housing units constructed under the Colombo Urban Regeneration Project (Phase 2) to eligible low-income residents. Units funded by USD 158 million from the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank; nominal contributions: LKR 350,000 capital + LKR 50,000 maintenance; government covers deed and lawyer charges.
- **Combined Regional Development Program in Northern and Eastern Provinces** (9 February 2026)  
Approves initial steps and negotiations with World Bank for infrastructure and regional development projects in Northern and Eastern Provinces. US\$100 million allocated from US\$1,000 million IDA funding (2026–2031); focuses on tourism, fisheries, employment, entrepreneurship, private investment, and institutional capacity building.

## DIGITAL ECONOMY

- **Accelerating the 'Communication to the Village (Gamata Sannivedanaya)' National Project** (16 February 2026)  
Expands 4G broadband access to underserved areas in Sri Lanka by accelerating the construction of communication towers under the cost-sharing national project initiated in 2021. New reimbursement guidelines issued: maximum LKR 35 million per tower or 75% of actual costs to service providers, addressing cost constraints and stalled construction to ensure rapid project benefits to rural communities.
- **Amendment to Regulations for Registration and Re-registration of Subscriber SIM Cards** (9 February 2026)

Approves new regulations to allow re-registration of SIM card subscribers prior to 2 August 2019, and introduces provisions for registration of 16–17-year-olds and foreign visitors. Addresses gaps in subscriber information impacting law enforcement; amends Subscriber SIM Card Regulations No. 01 of 2019 to align with current requirements.

## HEALTH

- **Health and Medical Service Improvement Project with JICA Funds** (16 February 2026)  
Re-approves enhancement of cardiovascular medical services, including cardiac catheterisation units, in 5 tertiary hospitals using JICA funds. Original project (2018) delayed due to the 2022 economic crisis; total cost escalated by JPY 2,833 million; project period extended to 31 December 2029.
- **Relocation of Deniyaya Base Hospital with 300 Beds** (16 February 2026)  
Approves construction of a new 300-bed hospital at Handford Estate to replace Deniyaya Base Hospital (137 beds), due to landslide risks. Estimated cost LKR 6,000 million; construction in 2 phases; serves Matara, Galle, and Ratnapura districts; ensures continuity of specialist and primary healthcare services.
- **Procurement of Electric/Cranial Drills for Neurosurgeries** (16 February 2026)  
Approves purchase of 10 electric cranial drills for neurosurgical procedures in Sri Lanka. Contract awarded to Aesculap AG (Germany) as minimum substantially responsive bidder following international competitive bidding.
- **Procurement of Intraocular Lenses** (9 February 2026)  
Approves purchase of 16 types of intraocular lenses for cataract and myopia treatments following international competitive bidding. Five bids received; award to Jayasuriya Associates (Kandy) and Elshaddai Enterprises (Pvt) Ltd; based on higher-level procurement committee and Procurement Appeal Board recommendations.
- **Completion of Renal Treatment Unit and Establishment of Professorial Unit at Badulla Teaching Hospital** (9 February 2026)  
Approves contract to complete a 10-floor Renal Treatment Unit and approximately 80% of professorial units and teaching facilities for clinical training. Contract awarded to Central Engineering Services (Pvt) Ltd.; ensures hospital meets teaching and healthcare standards as a clinical training centre of Uva-Wellassa University.

## PORTS & CIVIL AVIATION

- **Ground Handling Service Supply Contract for Sri Lankan Airlines at Paris-Charles de Gaulle Airport** (23 February 2026)  
Approves contracts for passenger, cargo, and luggage handling services for Sri Lankan Airlines at Paris-CDG Airport under limited competitive international bidding. Passenger handling contract awarded to Groupe Europe Handling (€7.73 million, 3 years) and cargo handling to France Handling Cargo (€1.90 million, 3 years), based on recommendations of the Higher-Level Standing Procurement Committee.
- **Awarding Contract for Passenger and Ground Services for Sri Lankan Airlines at Bangalore Airport, India** (16 February 2026)  
Approves awarding of service contract for Sri Lankan Airlines at Bangalore (BLR) Airport through limited international competitive bidding. Contract awarded to GlobeGround India Pvt. Ltd.; bid value USD 3.093 million; period 3 years (1 April 2026 to 31 March 2029); minimum substantially responsive bidder.

## LABOUR

- **Liquidation of Shrama Vasana Fund** (16 February 2026)  
Approves liquidation of the Shrama Vasana Fund (Act No. 12 of 1998), while maintaining its welfare services and transferring unaddressed functions to the Ministry of Labour. Action plan formulated with stakeholder input; liquidation effective 30 June 2026; ensures continuity of financial support and services for private and semi-government employees.

## **BUDDHASASANA, RELIGIOUS & CULTURAL AFFAIRS / HOUSING**

- **'Yathiwara Mapiya Niwahana' National Program** (16 February 2026)  
Implements a housing project for economically disadvantaged parents who have dedicated children to Buddhist monastic life. Initial stage: 1,000 homes in 2026; beneficiaries receive LKR 1.5 million plus divisional-level contributions; programme linked to 'A Place of One's Own – A Beautiful Life' national housing initiative.

## **PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION, PROVINCIAL COUNCILS & LOCAL GOVERNMENTS**

- **Construction of an Adjacent Building to Expand the Sabaragamuwa Provincial Council Complex** (2 February 2026)  
**Ministry:** Ministry of Public Administration, Provincial Council, and Local Government  
Approves construction of a new three-storey building adjacent to the existing complex to provide adequate space and facilities for staff and departments. Total cost estimate Rs. 196.8 million; responds to increased staff and division numbers; funded through Provincial Council resources.

## **EDUCATION, HIGHER EDUCATION & VOCATIONAL EDUCATION**

- **Providing Aesthetic Equipment for the Promotion of School Aesthetic Education** (2 February 2026)  
Approves project to supply modern aesthetic equipment (music, dance, art, and acting) to schools at an estimated cost of Rs. 1,215 million during 2026–2028. Addresses shortage of modern and functional equipment; improves quality of aesthetic education and overall personality development of students.

## **DEFENCE**

- **MoU between General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University and Maldives Ministry of Defence** (9 February 2026)  
Approves signing of a renewed MoU with the Maldives for staff exchanges, joint research, academic collaboration, and cultural/athletic exchange programmes. Original MoU: 2012–2017, renewed in 2018; new agreement follows expiry in 2023; strengthens bilateral defence and academic cooperation.

## **TRADE, COMMERCE, FOOD SECURITY AND COOPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT**

- **Agreement of Cooperation on Economic Policy Dialogue between Sri Lanka and Japan** (9 February 2026)  
Approves bilateral agreement to strengthen economic relations, trade, investment, and development cooperation between Sri Lanka and Japan. Aims to establish Sri Lanka as an economic corridor linking South Asian markets; enhances long-term strategic economic cooperation.

## **FOREIGN AFFAIRS, FOREIGN EMPLOYMENT, AND TOURISM**

- **MoU on Establishment of Political Consultation Mechanism between Sri Lanka and Finland** (2 February 2026)  
Approves signing of a Memorandum of Understanding to establish a political consultation mechanism between Sri Lanka and Finland, aimed at strengthening political, economic, educational, environmental, consular, and cultural ties. Marks 72 years of diplomatic relations; promotes exchange of ideas on regional and multilateral matters.

## **POWER AND ENERGY**

- **Awarding Long-Term Contract for Procurement of 5 Shipments of Petrol 92 Unl (15 March 2026 to 14 September 2026)** (2 February 2026)  
Approves awarding contract for five shipments of 300,000 ± 5% barrels of Petrol 92 Unl to M/s Epdesa Pte. Ltd., the minimum substantially responsive bidder. Procurement through registered suppliers of Ceylon Petroleum Corporation; evaluated by higher-level standing procurement committee.

- **Renewable Energy Resources Development Plan 2025–2030** (2 February 2026)  
Approves the National Renewable Energy Resources Development Plan to achieve 70% electricity demand from renewable sources by 2030 and carbon neutrality by 2050. Plan prepared by Sri Lanka Sustainable Energy Authority; includes Renewable Energy Map, Renewable Energy Gardens, and Floating Solar Panel projects; refers to alignment with national policy on renewable energy.
- **Procurement and Distribution of Lubricants to Sapugaskanda Electricity Power Plant (2026–2027)** (9 February 2026)  
Approves national competitive bidding to supply lubricants for 12 diesel generators at Sapugaskanda Electricity Power Plant for one year. Current supplier contract expires 9 May 2026; ensures continuous base-load electricity generation.

## **RURAL DEVELOPMENT, SOCIAL SECURITY & COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT**

- **Legally Empowering the 'Praja Shakthi' Poverty Alleviation National Movement** (16 February 2026)  
Approves drafting a Parliamentary bill to provide legal basis for the implementation of the 'Praja Shakthi' national poverty alleviation movement. Ensures programme execution across ministries, provincial/district/divisional secretariats, and community contributions; strengthens governance, supervision, social auditing, and nationwide coordination.

## IV. EXTRAORDINARY GAZETTES (SELECTED)

### NATIONAL SECURITY & PUBLIC ORDER

Gazette 2477/46 (28 February 2026) - *Public Security Ordinance*

- President proclaimed a nationwide public emergency, enabling the government to secure public order and maintain essential services.

Gazette 2477/47 (28 February 2026) - *Essential Public Services Act*

- Declares specified services as 'essential public services' due to the post-disaster situation caused by Cyclone Ditwah. Includes services: electricity supply, fuel and gas distribution, hospital and nursing services, public transport, road/rail/air/tourism infrastructure, water supply and drainage, food and essential commodities, field officers of government divisions, ambulance services, state banking and insurance, irrigation, telecommunication and media, land reclamation, and agriculture/insurance services.

Gazette 2477/41 (27 February 2026) – *Public Security Ordinance*

- Call-out order for all members of the Armed Forces, effective 27 February 2026, for maintenance of public order all Districts.

### FINANCE & TAXATION

Gazette 2474/66 (8 February 2026) – *Strategic Development Projects Act*

- Prescribes eligibility criteria for projects as Strategic Development Projects. Tax concessions: Corporate Income Tax holidays of 5–10 years depending on investment, with CID/VAT/PAL/CESS exemptions. Sectors include infrastructure, tourism and leisure (excluding casinos), manufacturing, agriculture, education, and ICT.

Gazette 2475/28 (13 February 2026) – *Colombo Port City Economic Commission Act, No. 11 of 2021*

- Amends regulations on duty-free allowances and strategic business exemptions. Clarifies commencement, validity, frequency of duty-free purchases, and overseas arrival rules.

Gazette 2473/32 (1 February 2026) – *Post Office Ordinance*

- Revises postal rates effective 1 February 2026 for stamps, letters, postcards, printed materials, newspapers, mail bags, advertising mail, and telemail.

Gazette 2473/34 (1 February 2026) – *Ceylon Petroleum Corporation Act, No. 28 of 1961*

- Revises fuel prices effective 31 January 2026 at midnight, reducing Lanka Auto Diesel to Rs. 277/l and Lanka Petrol 92 Octane to Rs. 292/l.

### ELECTIONS

Gazette 2477/40 (27 February 2026) – *Order under Article 98(8) of the Constitution*

- Election Commission order published pursuant to Article 98(8) of the Constitution.

### ENVIRONMENT & PLANNING

Gazette 2477/44 (27 February 2026) – National Physical Planning Department

- Declared the updated Anuradhapura Sacred Area Development Plan for implementation.

Gazette 2474/02 (2 February 2026) – *National Environmental Act, No. 47 of 1980*

- Declares 1.775 ha at Veragama Rajamaha Viharaya in Anuradhapura as the Gonameriyawa Environmental Protection Area. Restricts projects not listed in Schedule II while allowing regulated maintenance, research, and conservation activities.

Gazette 2475/06 (10 February 2026) – *Town and Country Planning Ordinance*

- Declares 'Sri Bodhirukkarama Vihara Area' in Ipalogama, Kurunegala as an urban development area. Directs preparation of outline physical plan. Total land: 1.2513 hectares (Lots A–F) with detailed boundaries.

Gazette 2474/22 (3 February 2026) – *Coast Conservation & Coastal Resource Management Act*

- Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) for proposed Mud Crab Culture Farm, Karainagar Island, Jaffna. Public inspection at relevant offices for 30 days. Comments may be submitted to the Director General.

## LABOUR

Gazette 2474/50 (6 February 2026) – *Wages Boards Ordinance (Chapter 136)*

- Special allowance payable to workers in the Cocoa, Cardamom & Pepper trade. November 2025: Rs. 1,852.39 per day; December 2025: Rs. 1,920.58 per day.

## NATIONAL SECURITY & EMERGENCY POWERS

Gazette 2475/11 (10 February 2026) – *Public Security Ordinance*

- Confirms Parliament's approval (6 February 2026) of the Presidential Proclamation activating Part II of the Ordinance nationwide from 28 January 2026.

## DRUG REHABILITATION

Gazette 2477/43 (27 February 2026) – *Drug Dependent Person (Treatment and Rehabilitation) Act*

- Regulations issued under the Drug Dependent Person (Treatment and Rehabilitation) Act relating to treatment and rehabilitation of drug-dependent persons.

## ENERGY REGULATION

Gazette 2474/17 (2 February 2026) – *Public Utilities Commission of Sri Lanka Act*

- Directs Ceylon Electricity Board and Lanka Electricity Company to implement measures including solar inverter compliance, frequency response improvements, auxiliary power reliability, adaptive load shedding, digital disturbance recorder deployment, protection relay testing, and system restoration readiness following the 2025 total system failure.

## STATISTICS

Gazette 2477/23 (24 February 2026) – *National Consumer Price Index*

- Index for January 2026: 211.4 (Base: 2021 = 100). Published for general information.

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