



Dhammika Perera

Economic Growth Strategy and Action Plan

To Increase
GDP Per Capita from

**USD 4,000 to
USD 12,000**

SRI LANKA 2030
A DEVELOPED NATION

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MINISTRY OF NATIONAL SECURITY

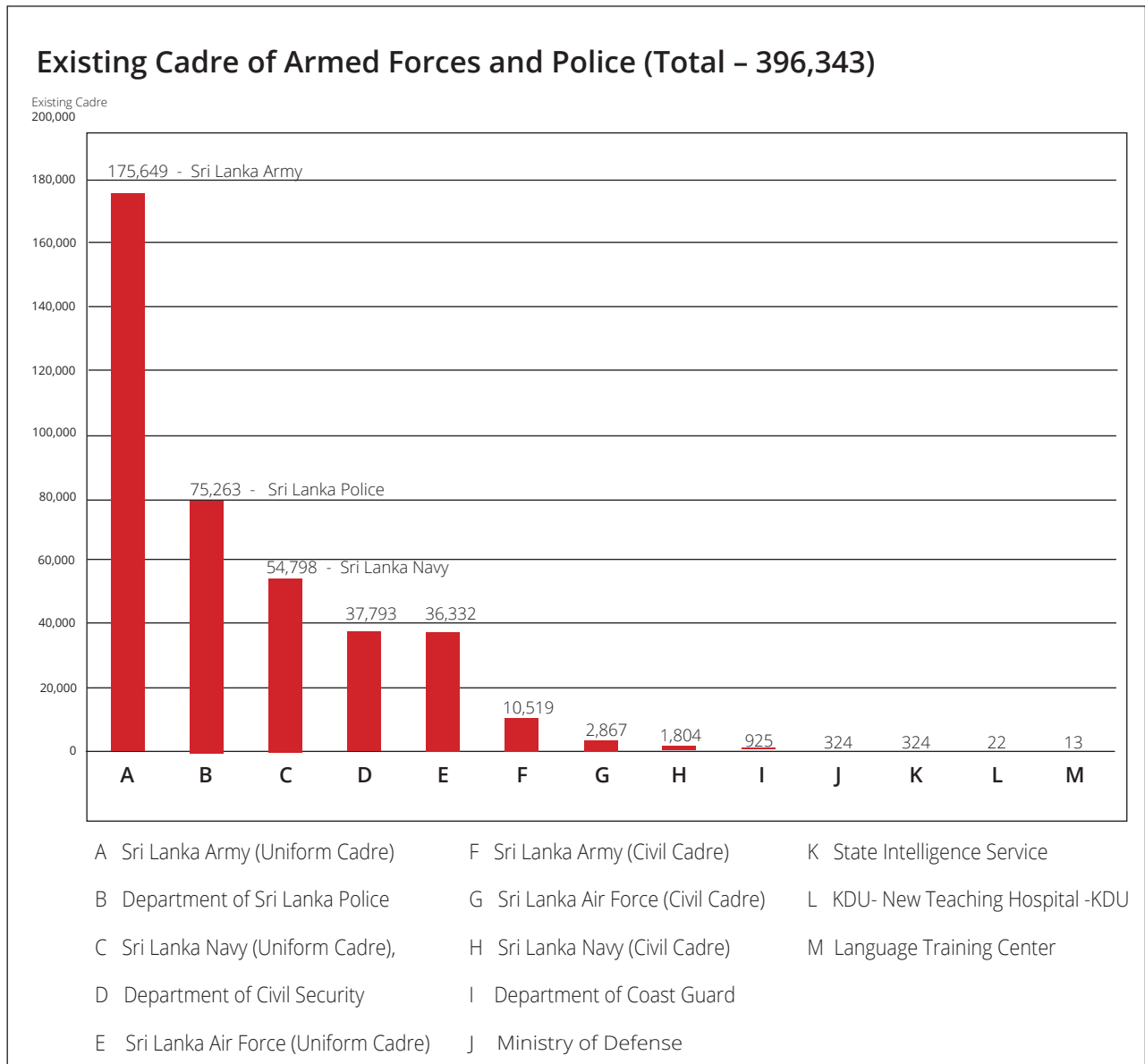
NATION RICH IN SAFETY AND FREEDOM

“Security and integrity are essential conditions for sustainable development and self-reliance of a nation”.

Dhammika Perera

GOALS

- Defend national sovereignty and strategic importance.
- Border management of land, maritime and air.
- Build international synergies and cooperation on matters in security domain.



(Source: Ministry of Finance)

ACTION PLAN

- 1 Enhance National Security.

- 2 Enforce “Zero Tolerance” policy against terrorism and extremism.

- 3 Appoint one authorised head responsible for the intelligence operations of the tri-forces and the Police, for effective communication among all units.

- 4 Treat “intelligence” as a professional service and recruit the best talent on an attractive salary scale to this service.

- 5 Introduce a legal framework to protect intelligence officers from political interference.

- 6 Connect intelligence officers with foreign intelligence services and provide them local and foreign training along with modern technological equipment.

- 7 Reinforce coastal safety and border protection.

- 8 Implement an effective framework for the welfare and resettlement of soldiers.

- 9 Digitalise the police with biometric technologies.

- 10 Implement facial recognition technology through surveillance cameras to identify criminals and terrorists at any given place.



MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND PLANNING

NATION RICH IN WEALTH

“Powerful economies flourish by deploying citizen centric fiscal policies that are both transparent and have clear accountability”.

Dhammika Perera

GOALS

Create a better Sri Lanka through finance

- **Sound fiscal management;** to ensure that the revenue to support investments in Sri Lanka's social and economic priorities is raised and spent in a fair, responsible and efficient way.
- **Precision poverty reduction;** allocation of modern technologies to identify poor households through 50 indicators evaluating key factors that contribute to poverty in these households; and allocate investments to reduce poverty levels to that of a developed nation.
- **Development of human capital;** prioritise upgrading of primary, secondary and tertiary education, and ensure enrolment of 50% of total 360,000 students per annum to public and private universities. Rebrand and upgrade the quality of Technical, Vocational and Educational Training (TVET) and ensure enrolment of 40% of total 360,000 students per annum to TVET education, thereby only 10% of total students per annum fall into the unskilled labour market.
- **Sound social policy framework;** to support the Government's efforts to promote equal opportunities for all citizens across the country and to meet the Government's priorities for promoting jobs, transforming the agricultural sector (inclusive of increasing agricultural productivity of farmers, farmers' household income, equitable consumption of a safe, affordable, nutritious diet year around and women's empowerment in agriculture) and economic growth.
- **Inclusive and sustainable economic growth;** to create the conditions necessary for a strong, long term and clean economic growth, thereby increasing the standard of living and well being of Sri Lankans.

Sri Lankan population growth per annum is an average of 190,000. Therefore, in order to maintain the current economy, it is necessary to create an additional 62,400 jobs per annum. *(Source : Jobless Growth, World Bank, 2018)*

Okun's law states that for every 1% decrease in the unemployment rate, gross domestic product increases by 3%.

Establish and implement a district-wise job generation plan to decrease unemployment. This is to be monitored monthly and Government to aid private sector investments.

The Laffer curve illustrates a relationship between rates of taxation and the resulting levels of Government revenue. It illustrates the concept of taxable income elasticity i.e., taxable income changes in response to changes in the rate of taxation.

ACTION PLAN

A key reason for the lack of investments into the country at present is due to incorrect tax rates as our current rates tax investors higher than our competitors, thereby discouraging investments into the country.

Therefore, it is required to maintain a tax rate at the revenue maximising point in order to attract the highest possible investments into the country.

Changing the tax and customs duty policies, to increase greenfield and brownfield, local investments and foreign direct investments, is necessary for economic growth, increased district-wise job generation and goods and service exports.

Year	Income Tax (Direct Tax) (Rs. million)	Total Government Revenue (Rs. million)	% of Direct Tax of Total Government Revenue	% of Indirect Tax of Total Government Revenue	Exchange Loss as a Result of Rupee Depreciation	Foreign Debt (Rs. million)
2005	52,535	379,747	13.80%	86.20%	117,785	956,620
2006	79,693	477,833	16.70%	83.30%	108,579	1,103,418
2007	107,169	565,051	19.00%	81.00%	71,646	1,326,487
2008	126,541	655,260	19.30%	80.70%	117,785	1,448,734
2009	139,558	699,644	19.90%	80.10%	23,114	1,760,467
2010	135,624	817,279	16.60%	83.40%	-10,028	2,024,583
2011	157,310	967,862	16.30%	83.70%	90,335	2,329,280
2012	172,594	1,051,462	16.40%	83.60%	230,642	2,767,299
2013	205,666	1,137,447	18.10%	81.90%	-15,361	2,960,424
2014	198,115	1,195,206	16.60%	83.40%	-89,335	3,113,116
2015	262,583	1,454,878	18.00%	82.00%	285,091	3,544,031
2016	258,857	1,686,061	15.40%	84.60%	186,650	4,045,796
2017	274,562	1,831,531	15.00%	85.00%	225,223	4,718,618
2018	310,450	1,919,974	16.20%	83.80%	1,063,218	5,959,547
Total	2,481,257				2,405,344	

(Source: Ministry of Finance)

* Income Tax (Direct Tax)

Income Tax (Direct Tax) = Corporate and Non-Corporate Tax + Pay As You Earn Tax (PAYE) + Economic Service Charge + Tax on Interest Income

ACTION PLAN

During the past 14 years direct Government tax revenue on a cumulative basis was Rs. 2,481 billion whereas Rs. 2,405 billion was incurred as an additional payment due to rupee depreciation to make foreign borrowings increase to Rs. 5,959 billion by last year. Therefore, to stop the rupee depreciating beyond 2% - 3% it is essential to bring in investments, especially foreign direct investments and enhance exports regardless of the direct tax revenue.

Policies relating to the Department of Inland Revenue

Total Government revenue in 2018 was Rs. 1,919 billion. Introduce an Artificial Intelligence (AI) based monitoring system to both Customs and the Department of Inland Revenue for the purpose of monitoring evasions (after introducing IBM Watson in Switzerland Customs revenue increased by 10%) after which, Government revenue will be increased by 15% generating an additional Rs. 287 billion.

- 1 Maintain the current rate of corporate tax for the following industries;
 - a. Financial services, except insurance and pension funding
 - b. Wholesale trade except of motor vehicle and motor cycles
 - c. Manufacture of tobacco products
 - d. Telecommunication
 - e. Gambling and betting activitieswhilst reducing the current rate of dividend tax and capital gain tax to 0% (which will help in additional job generation).

- 2 Reduce the current rate of corporate tax to 0% and provide a guarantee for new ventures through an agreement with the BOI, at the reduced rate for the next 25 years for the following industries;
 - a. Education
 - b. Information service activities
(Any type of BPO, KPO, provision of infrastructure for hosting, data processing services and related activities, web portals, news syndicates and news agency activities furnishing news, pictures and features to the media, computer based telephone information services, information search services on a contract or fee basis and news clipping services, press clipping services and other digital services)

- c. Human health activities
 - d. Air transport
 - e. Manufacture of motor vehicles, trailers and semi-trailers
 - f. Waste collection, treatment and disposal activities; materials recovery
 - g. Water collection, treatment and supply
 - h. Sewerage
 - i. Manufacture of other transport equipment
 - j. Fishing and aquaculture
 - k. Remediation activities and other waste management services
-

3 Reduce the current rate of corporate tax to 12% for existing ventures not mentioned in points 1 and 2.

4 Reduce the current rate of corporate tax to 12% for new ventures not mentioned in points 1 and 2 and provide a guarantee for the reduced rate for the next 25 years for all sectors (in the Western Province) and for the other eight provinces to be granted a discount of 80%, thereby charging an effective rate of 2.4% (which will help in additional rural district-wise job generation).

5 PAYE tax of 12% will only be charged starting from a monthly income bracket of Rs. 500,000.

6 Out of the prevailing 7,162 HS Codes in Customs, 90% of the Customs revenue is generated through 500 HS codes (6-digit). The tax structure of these 500 HS codes that generate 90% of the Customs revenue is to be restructured, benchmarking that of Malaysia, Thailand and India (that will help local industries and create additional jobs). As a result, Customs revenue can be increased by 10%.

ACTION PLAN

Government capital investments

- 7 Government capital investments, also known as the Public Investments Programme (PIP), where the benefits span many generations of Sri Lankans, paying for them through some borrowing is fairer and more efficient. Borrowings will be made in a responsible and sustainable manner to help instil financial discipline and distribute the share of funding more equitably across current and future generations.

Government recurrent spending

- 8 Recurrent spending needs in areas such as precision poverty reduction, primary, secondary, university, technical and vocational (TVET) education is to be recognised as necessary expenditures.

-
- 9 Currently Sri Lanka takes the easier route by funding some of these recurrent expenditures through borrowings. This is not ideal in the long-run, as such borrowings shift the burden of paying for today's needs onto future generations. A fairer and more robust approach is to meet recurrent spending with recurrent revenue. Hence, we must continually review our tax system to ensure its resilience.

Future policy and strategy planning for Sri Lanka

- 10 The Ministry of Finance and Planning should be responsible for future policies and strategic planning for Sri Lanka.

-
- 11 Any policy proposed in the budget is to have an economic analysis, that the Ministry of Finance can use to validate proposed policies.

-
- 12 Implement a Management Information System (MIS) to track the progress of budget promises.

-
- 13 Asset management systems to be implemented to monitor and ensure maximum utilisation of Government assets and resources.

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

NATION RICH IN HUMAN CAPITAL

“Education is a major contributor to develop human capital, increase GDP per capita and effectively face global challenges”.

Dhammika Perera

GOALS

To increase
GDP per capita from

USD 4,000 to USD 12,000

	Sri Lanka at present (As a percentage of students 19-23 years)		Goal for 2020-2025 (Student enrollment)		Times increase or decrease to reach goal
Number of students who graduated from Government Universities (2017)	7%	25,200	16.67%	60,000	Increase by 2.38 times
Number of students who graduated from local private universities (2017)	4.1%	15,000	29.23%	105,228	Increase by 7.1 times
Number of students who study abroad	4.1%	15,000	4.1%	15,000	
Number of students who completed the vocational training (2017)	22%	79,200	40%	144,000	Increase by 1.8 times
Unskilled labor contribution to the labor force (housemaids, day labourers, etc.)	62.8%	225,600	10%	36,000	Decrease by 6.28 times
Students per annum		360,000		360,000	

- **Increase the current number of students doing A/L from 218,191 to 300,000 and ensure majority of A/L students do STEM subjects.**
- **Ensure 360,000 students per annum sit for O/Ls.**
- **Develop 771 schools under provincial councils to match the standards of national schools with fully fledged facilities.**
- **Select schools with sufficient land and build new infrastructure in order to increase student capacity by 1,500.**

ACTION PLAN

- 1 Allocate an additional budget of Rs. 200 billion with a 10% annual increment for primary, university and technical and vocational education.

- 2 Introduce five new types of biscuits for the five days of the week which can be obtained free of charge by producing the coupon provided under the precision poverty reduction programme for school children who cannot afford breakfast. These new types of biscuits also to be made available for purchase through markets.

Continue the provision of free text books, and further provide, school uniforms, socks and shoes from preschool to secondary school level, through the precision poverty reduction programme.

- 3 Fund private sector to build, standardise and upgrade preschools.

- 4 Facilitate video-based and other necessary teacher training for preschools.

- 5 Develop 771 schools under provincial councils with fully-fledged facilities to match the standards of national schools.
 - a. 2 schools each from the 276 divisional councils (552 schools).
 - b. 3 schools each from the 41 urban councils (123 schools).
 - c. 4 schools each from 24 municipal councils (96 schools).
 Same national level popular school names and management to be followed at these 771 schools.

ACTION PLAN

Select schools with sufficient land and build infrastructure in order to increase student capacity by 1,500. As a result, in all 771 schools, capacity will increase by an average of 1,500 students resulting in a total increase by 1,156,500 students.

Following which, competition for grade 1 student entrance will be reduced from current 80,000 students to 0 students.

6 Ensure availability of branches of two popular schools in each district. In total, 50 schools will be built, each with a capacity of 6,000 students, increasing total capacity by 300,000 students.

7 Encourage establishment of international schools through 0% corporate tax and 0% VAT incentives to encourage professionals to serve outstation. At present English-speaking professionals are reluctant to work outstation due to the lack of English medium schools for their children.

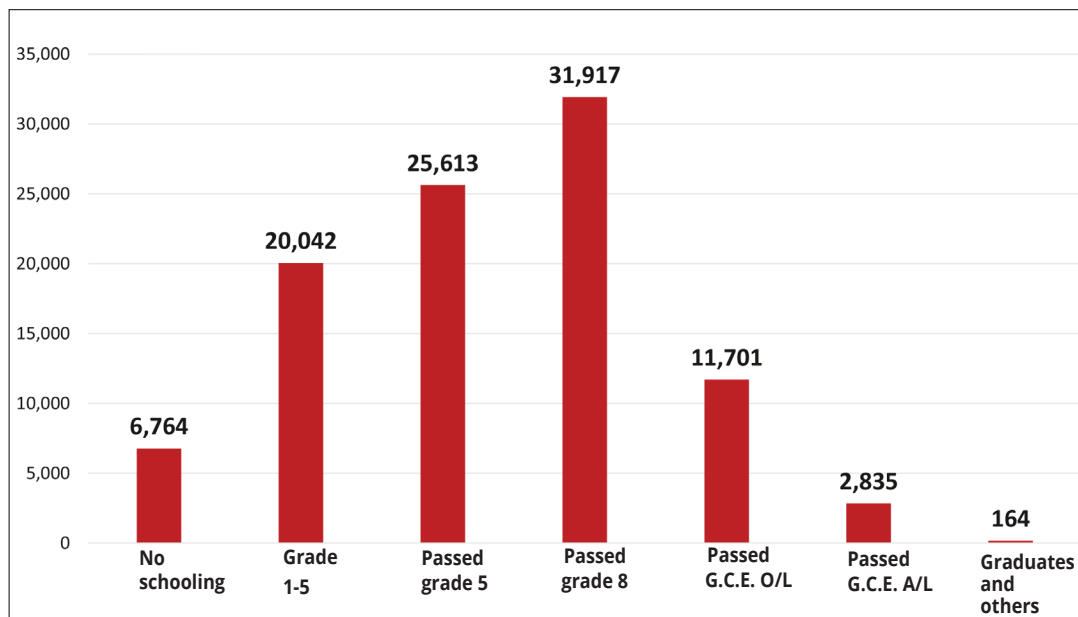
8 Encourage establishment of private universities, excluding medical colleges, through 0% corporate tax and 0% VAT incentives to achieve the goal of 50% university degree holders from total students per annum (Sri Lanka at present has 360,000 students per annum).

9 Introduce an online portal excluding data charges, which contains instructional videos for all school subjects.

10 Utilise video tutorials to teach students life and social interaction skills.

11 Provide career counselling for all A/L students.

DIRECT ADMISSIONS OF UNCONVINCED PRISONERS ACCORDING TO LITERACY 2017



(Source: Department of Police)

- 12 Geo-tag the 5,000 children who do not attend school and increase the income of their families through help desks under the precision poverty reduction programme, so that these children are able to go to school. Thereby reducing the number of students who do not attend school from 5,000 to 0.
- 13 Decrease school dropouts from 30,000 to 0 through precision poverty reduction and implementation of required social development initiatives.
- 14 Identify schools that require immediate refurbishment from the 10,194 Government schools across the Island.
- 15 Identify and closely monitor schools with low numbers of students and teachers.
 - a. 1,486 schools with less than 50 students
 - b. 1,560 schools with 50-100 students
 - c. 3,133 schools with fewer than 9 teachers

ACTION PLAN

- 16 Ensure all schools have access to clean water and toilet facilities.

- 17 Introduce 0% VAT and 0% corporate tax on private education.
This tax benefit scheme will be guaranteed for the next 25 years to build private schools and private international schools.

- 18 Open branches of popular schools in the 6 main corridors to Colombo – Galle, Piliyandala, Homagama, Kaduwela, Nittambuwa, and Negombo. This would reduce road traffic and raise standards of schools outside Colombo.

- 19 Double dose of Mathematics from Grade 6 for underperforming students by replacing time allocated for another subject.

- 20 From Grade 6 onwards, introduce the option of learning Science in English.

- 21 Encourage Grade 10 and 11 students to choose commerce subjects for personal financial management.

- 22 Recognise English as the “link language” of Sri Lanka.
E.g. Provide Sinhalese students studying Tamil language the option of studying English language during that period. Likewise, provide Tamil students studying Sinhala language the option of studying English language during that period.

- 23 Ensure availability of teacher training and learning videos for students for all subjects taught from Grade 1 to 13.

- 24 Encourage the selection of Science, Mathematics, Commerce, Biology and Engineering streams for A/L to match job market trends.

ACTION PLAN

- 25 Increase student enrolment in Grade 12 and 13 from 210,000 to 300,000, while increasing capacity at schools with Science and Technology labs.

- 26 Create a portal to monitor the quality of the district level school education system.
The portal includes general school statistics (no. of schools, no. of teachers, and no. of students, both urban and rural) and a performance dashboard (dropout rate, schools with functional toilets, schools with drinking water, etc).

- 27 Form a committee to ensure quality of education across Government, private, international and other schools and pre-schools.

- 28 Integrate ICT into education, increase the number of computers, and ensure Internet connectivity in schools.

- 29 Ensure availability of ICT-related teaching materials through the online portal.

- 30 Share instructional videos among teachers on methods of teaching ICT.

- 31 Utilise video conferencing to conduct simultaneous live classes for rural schools which suffer from a shortage of teachers.

- 32 Develop an online application system for teachers featuring their qualifications and schools with job vacancies.

- 33 Launch a teacher training certification programme.

- 34 Update student vacancies from Grade 6 to Grade 13 in every school on an online portal.

ACTION PLAN

- 35 Create a website with athletic records from district, national, regional, and international level and update with the current status of each district's student athletes.

- 36 Establish an online academy with training videos, for students to train for sports and improve their performance to reach international levels.

- 37 Develop existing school cricket grounds.

- 38 Make supplementary Math classes compulsory after O/L, either in school or via online learning.

- 39 Allow students who have passed six subjects but failed Math in their O/L, to continue with their A/L studies while attending additional Math classes to re-sit the O/L Math exam.
Based on the pass rate for their O/L Math, students can attempt the final A/L exam.

- 40 Predict the dropout risk at school through the analysis of data such as attendance, performance and behaviour.

- 41 Allocate a period in the school timetable for student engagement programmes such as weekly arts and crafts programmes, sports, reading and storytelling to increase student enjoyment at school.

- 42 Provide after-school tutoring programmes in key subject areas to students at risk of dropping out.

- 43 Allocate funds for students at risk of dropping out, in the form of bursaries and scholarships.

- 44 Upgrade school library facilities.

ACTION PLAN

- 45 Introduce virtual libraries with free access.

- 46 Introduce project-based STREAM curriculum (Science, Technology, Reading, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics) in primary and secondary schools.
Students to learn in teams and Math, Science, Reading and Engineering are integrated into each lesson.

- 47 Implement mandatory health lessons where students, especially young girls, are taught about menstruation and proper menstrual hygiene.

- 48 Ensure availability of emergency sanitary products and proper toilet facilities with sanitary napkin disposal systems.

- 49 Promote education of students, teachers and parents about menstruation hygiene to reduce the stigma around menstruation.

- 50 Ensure all teachers have adequate first-aid training and include first-aid training in the school curriculum.

- 51 Prioritise establishment and upgrading of girls' schools. In addition, provide bursaries for girls to encourage education.

- 52 Introduce mandatory environmental education on being eco-friendly, reducing waste and recycling as part of the Geography and Science syllabi.

- 53 Allow children of Sri Lankan families who are living abroad to attend local schools and sit for local exams when they come to Sri Lanka.

- 54 Introduce curriculum resources for early learning, primary and secondary students to promote reconciliation and strengthen knowledge and understanding of history and culture.

ACTION PLAN

- 55 Ensure availability of science laboratories for schools that teach up to O/L.
-
- 56 Increase science stream schools by 1,000 from 1,029 to 2,029 schools.
-
- 57 Take part in Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) to evaluate the current standard of the education system.
-
- 58 Provide duty-free permits to owners of old school buses and vans that are over 15 years old.
-
- 59 Provide 2,000 mini-school buses to villages where children walk over 2 km to access the main road to reach their schools.
-
- 60 Reduce the waiting time for local O/L exam results to 2 months.
Introduce pre-A/L classes for all students awaiting their O/L results.
Current waiting time to obtain results in Sri Lanka is 4 months. An additional 2 months is spent at home until A/L schooling starts. Therefore, a total 6 months of student time is spent in an unproductive manner.
-
- 61 Reduce the waiting time for A/L exam results to 2 months.
Current waiting time in Sri Lanka is 4 months.
-
- 62 Reduce the waiting time for university entrance after A/Ls to 6 months.
Current the waiting time in Sri Lanka is 17 months, including 4 months waiting for results.

MINISTRY OF HIGHER EDUCATION

NATION RICH IN HUMAN CAPITAL

“Higher education assures the relevance of knowledge, help identify skill gaps and build the right skills to improve the economic prosperity of the nation”.

Dhammika Perera

GOALS

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Number of students who study abroad	4.1%	15,000	4.1%	15,000	
Number of students who completed the vocational training (2017)	22%	79,200	40%	144,000	Increase by 1.8 times
Unskilled labor contribution to the labor force (housemaids, day labourers, etc.)	62.8%	225,600	10%	36,000	Decrease by 6.28 times
Students per annum		360,000		360,000	

- **Increase the number of graduates from Government Universities from 25,200 to 60,000 and graduates from local private universities from 15,000 to 105,228.**
- **Increase the total number of university graduates to 180,000 from the total 360,000 students per annum.**

ACTION PLAN

- 1** Increase the intake capacity of students in Government universities from 30,000 to 60,000.

- 2** Improve existing university rankings by further working on development of low scored areas.
Benchmarking "Times Higher Education World University Ranking".
 - Improve teaching and learning environment.
 - Increase industry income.
 - Increase number of international students and staff.
 - Increase number of journal paper publications and citation.

- 3** Provide a job guarantee for all degree courses. Discontinue all Government university degree courses that do not have a demand in the job market.

- 4** Revise Government university courses to match the industry demand and future employability opportunities.

- 5** Increase Government medical college capacity from 1,300 to 2,000 medical students and increase intake of dental students. Prohibition of private medical universities.

- 6** Ensure availability of lectures through an online portal by Government and Semi-Government universities.

ACTION PLAN

- 7** Provide student loans for those who have enrolled and bursaries for those who perform well.

- 8** Provide language exam facilities such as IELTS at Government universities for students who want to pursue further higher education abroad.

- 9** Upgrade existing books in Government university libraries to an E-library platform.
Purchase international E-books and provide them free of charge to all students via the E-library.

- 10** Upgrade all labs at Government universities with the latest equipment.

- 11** Open Government university research facilities for outside parties through an online reservation system.

- 12** Upgrade all existing Government university hostels with proper sanitation facilities.

- 13** Follow a standardised hygiene guideline at all Government university canteens.

- 14** Ban all forms of ragging at Government universities.
1,980 students have left the Government universities due to ragging from 2016 to July 2018.

- 15** Implement 0% Corporate tax and 0% VAT on higher education.
Corporate tax and VAT rates to be guaranteed for the next 25 years to aid building private universities and private international universities, excluding medical colleges.

ACTION PLAN

- 16** Provide Government soft loans to build 5 internationally branded universities within a 30km radius from the Bandaranaike International Airport.

Encourage educational tourism with a target of 50,000 international students per year.

- 17** Encourage establishing of a private university or semi Government university in every district under the district branding initiative.

- 18** Introduce an education loan of Rs. 1.2 million without interest for every student who has passed Advanced Level to study at private universities with a target of 105,228 students per annum.

- 19** Create new STEM related departments and department-to-department partnerships with overseas universities.

- 20** Establish an incentive scheme for lecturers in addition to their salary, based on the quality of their research and number of journal papers they've published, to increase publication rate.

- 21** Establish partnerships with foreign universities and encourage exchange of students, lecturers, research findings and expertise.

- 22** Increase enrolment of international students in undergraduate and postgraduate programmes at private and public universities.

- 23** Translate all textbooks into Braille and provide hearing and visual aids free of charge.

- 24** Provide online language learning facilities to all citizens in the country to learn Sinhala/English/Tamil in addition to their mother tongue.

ACTION PLAN

- 25 Provide career guidance in each university.

- 26 Encourage tech/science students to become entrepreneurs through advice and incentives.

- 27 Assist in linking students with relevant industries based on their educational qualifications for internship programmes.

- 28 Provide mental health counselling in each university.

- 29 Launch a web portal with personal grooming and development videos for school and university students.

MINISTRY OF TECHNICAL, VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING (TVET)

NATION RICH IN HUMAN

“Education and training for productive employment is vital for economic and social development of a nation. TVET is a tool for productivity enhancement and poverty reduction”.

Dhammika Perera

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Students per annum		360,000		360,000	

- **Increase TVET certificate holders from 79,200 to 144,000, which will result in 40% of the 360,000 students per annum.**
- **Transform unskilled labour contribution of the labour force into skilled labour by reducing the current unskilled labour from 225,600 i.e. 62,8% of all students per annum to 36,000 i.e. 10% of all students per annum.**
- **Create opportunities for students and adult learners to acquire skills, knowledge and values for employability and lifelong learning.**
- **Develop and continuously revise training standards, skills training and the certification system.**

ACTION PLAN

- 1 Rebrand TVET as an attractive learning choice by producing a dedicated brand guideline.

- 2 Enhance the quality of programmes to improve graduate and foreign employability, by enabling industry professionals to lead curriculum development.

- 3 Implement 0% Corporate tax and 0% VAT on TVET education.
Corporate tax and VAT rates to be guaranteed for the next 25 years to aid building private TVET universities.

- 4 Introduce new TVET courses after evaluating those available in India, Germany and Malaysia to match job market demand.

- 5 Build a fully equipped TVET Centre in each district, with qualified lecturers for all NVQ certification levels, to increase TVET certificate holders from 79,200 to 144,000 which will result in 40% of the total 360,000 students per annum.

ACTION PLAN

- 6 Upgrade existing technical education centres in collaboration with world-class institutions.

- 7 Introduce short courses in the TVET curriculum based on 4 hours, 6 hours, 12 hours, 20 hours, one day, one week and one month.

- 8 Introduce additional TVET courses in logistics stream catering to the job market demand.

- 9 Increase the number of TVET courses available for women.
 - a. Courses in management, computer operator, programming assistant, tour and travel assistant, etc.
 - b. In addition, introduce short courses (1 to 2 weeks) in hair care, facials, nail art and sewing garments.

- 10 Introduce “Train the Trainer” courses for TVET instructors to enhance their skills.

- 11 Ensure availability of free online language courses to all citizens.

- 12 Implement an online skill assessment portal for individuals to assess their current skill levels and to identify areas for improvement.

- 13 Implement a job bank where unemployed citizens are geo-tagged and directed to jobs matching their skills. This would also monitor new students until they have been employed.

- 14 Initiate a dedicated plan on district-wise job creation.
 - a. Tourism related jobs.
Tour guide training courses, retail, homestay hotel operation, beach club operations, bartenders, waiters and receptionists, etc.

ACTION PLAN

- b. Hotel sector job creation through online hospitality courses.
 - c. Training videos for homestay hotel operators.
 - d. Nursing training courses.
 - e. Provide funds to conduct courses on handloom, traditional crafts and handicrafts, etc.
-

- 15** Launch a dedicated website for TVET students with information on:
- a. Technical colleges available in the area.
 - b. Courses available based on location
 - c. Career guidance.
 - d. Jobs availability in the area.
 - e. Video-based TVET course learning.
 - f. Video-based personal and soft-skill development with grooming tips.
-

- 16** Increase intake of students in nursing colleges.



MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

NATION RICH IN HAPPINESS

“Sri Lanka’s efforts of precision poverty reduction to focus mainly on education and skill development, income generation, employment creation and provision of access to basic needs with a special focus on enhancing the social protection system”.

Dhammika Perera

GOALS

- **No Poverty.**
- **Zero Hunger.**
- **Gender Equality.**
- **Decent Work and Economic Growth.**
- **Reducing Inequality.**

Social transfers

Social transfers for those living in poverty or in danger of falling into poverty

Social transfers are non-contributory, in the sense that the recipients are not required to pay for them through premiums or specific taxes. Social assistance will be provided by public and civic bodies to those living in poverty or in danger of falling into poverty. E.g. Non-contributory pensions, child benefits, school feedings, disability allowances and agricultural inputs.

No	Description	2014 (Rs. million)	2015 (Rs. million)	2016 (Rs. million)	2017 (Rs. million)	2018 (Rs. million)
1.	Healthcare	34,805	31,703	38,028	38,596	43,440
1.1	Pharmaceuticals	34,805	31,703	38,028	38,596	43,440
2.	Empowering the Vulnerable and Needy	18,314	49,189	51,612	50,862	51,319
2.1	Samurdhi	15,042	39,994	40,704	39,707	39,239
2.2	No. of Beneficiaries (Families in millions)	1.5	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.4
2.3	Assistance to Elderly (Over 70 years)	2,655	8,039	9,060	9,008	9,590
2.4	Daily Allowance for Differently Abled Students	138	220	247	195	31
2.5	Allowance for Disabled People	479	936	1,114	1,083	1,141
2.6	Financial Supports for Kidney Patients	-	-	487	869	1,318
3.	Empowering the Government Security Forces	18,290	23,433	26,772	27,808	45,901
3.1	Allowance for the Third Child of Soldiers	46	-	-	-	-

3.2	Death and Disabled Soldiers Compensation	18,244	23,433	26,772	27,808	45,901
4.	Agriculture Development	32,086	57,051	28,013	30,361	26,879
4.1	Fertilizer Subsidy	31,858	49,571	27,771	30,361	26,879
4.2	Paddy Purchasing (To Stabilise the Paddy Prices)	228	7,480	242	-	-
5.	Commercial Crop Development	1,873	11,029	2,391	2,136	2,317
	Crop Subsidy					
5.1	Tea	331	7,292	549	445	615
5.2	Rubber	763	2,871	713	703	542
5.3	Coconut	485	471	709	598	653
5.4	Cashew	40	35	40	54	67
5.5	Minor Crops - (Cinnamon, Cocoa, Coffee, Pepper)	254	360	380	336	440
6.	School Children and University Students	14,903	17,984	22,817	24,923	20,255
6.1	School Uniforms	3,574	2,261	2,157	2,479	1,073
6.2	Season Tickets	1,695	1,800	1,998	4,923	5,000
6.3	School and Dharma School Text Books	2,773	3,979	5,599	4,476	4,318
6.4	Grade v Scholarships, Mahapola and Bursary	852	1,390	1,914	1,344	2,136
6.5	Nutrition Programme	3,725	3,938	3,916	4,434	-
6.6	Thripasha for Children and Expectant Mothers	1,787	1,956	1,351	1,692	1,982
6.7	Poshana Malla for Expectant Mothers	279	2,422	5,746	5,408	5,490
6.8	Morning Milk for Pre-school and School Children	197	189	106	167	256
6.9	Poshana Manpetha and Lama Saviya	21	49	30	-	-
7.	Disaster Assistance	549	389	243	5,854	5,279
7.1	Flood and Drought Relief	521	271	132	5,854	5,279
7.2	Cooked Meals and Dry Rations	28	118	111	-	-
8.	Assistance to Religious Places	50	50	-	-	-
8.1	Water for Religious Places	50	50	-	-	-

9.	Losses of Public Enterprises	33,122	32,663	97,486	(35,777)	(131,436)
9.1	Petroleum (Ceylon Petroleum Corporation)	-	19,468	69,620	3,504	(104,037)
9.2	Kerosene	-	-	-	-	-
9.3	Electricity (Ceylon Electricity Board)	15,737	-	14,499	(49,231)	(29,000)
9.4	Water	-	252	2,977	738	(568)
9.5	Railway	11,034	7,714	6,773	7,595	-
9.6	Sri Lanka Transport Board	6,351	5,229	3,617	1,617	2,169
10.	Transport Facilities	5,046	5,275	5,288	5,321	5,223
10.1	SLTB Transport Facilities - Uneconomical Routes	4,770	4,975	4,999	5,000	5,004
10.2	Transportation Facilities for Armed Forces	276	300	289	321	219
11.	Common Facilities	-	-	-	-	-
11.1	Street Lighting	-	-	-	-	-
	Total (Except Losses on Public Enterprises)	125,916	196,103	175,164	185,861	200,613
	Total Social Transfers					106,049

(Source: Ministry of Finance)

Currently in Sri Lanka, the total value of social transfers as per the European Union (EU) definition, is Rs. 106 billion. Therefore, there is no precision poverty reduction programme but only assistance for survival in the backdrop of an increasing number of families in poverty.

ACTION PLAN

- 1 Allocate an additional budget of Rs. 100 billion with an annual 10% increment for social transfers and social development.

There are 1.5 million families under the current Samurdhi scheme. "Samurdhi 2" will be initiated for all families who cannot afford adequate living standards under the current Samurdhi scheme, focusing on the provision of education under the precision poverty reduction scheme to support them to move out of poverty.

ACTION PLAN

- 2 Complete eradication of poverty through the precision poverty reduction programme as the second phase of development projects under the Department of Samurdhi.
 - a. Identify 50 indicators that would assist in poverty reduction, such as stable income, access to healthcare, nutrition, safe homes, literacy, etc.
 - b. Geo-tag people below the poverty line and provide precision poverty alleviation.
 - c. Geo-tag differently-abled citizens with blindness, deafness, impaired movement and poor mental health and provide them with necessary technical assistance.
 - d. Geo-tag suicide survivors and maintain their profiles with reasons for attempting suicide. Identify the top causes and areas of attempted suicides in order to reduce the suicide rate by 50%.
Suicide hotline callers to be answered by a suicide survivor to better manage callers' feelings.
 - e. Geo-tag kidney patients and identify affected areas, including those prone to Chronic Kidney Disease (CKD) to construct deep-well (bore well) facilities with proper filtration. Already certain villages are equipped with the above mentioned water purification systems.
E.g. Saddiyawara project by Hayleys PLC.
Introduce soil health cards for agricultural purposes to reduce excess usage of fertiliser by 20%.
 - f. Geo-tag cancer patients and assign retired qualified doctors to provide necessary emotional and mental health advice, as there are 23,000 cancer patients per annum in Sri Lanka.
 - g. Maintain a database that categorises differently-abled people and hire professionals to advise, support and monitor their progress.
 - h. Child protection facilities:
 - i. Reduce incidents of wilful neglect and abandonment of infants by introducing "baby hatches" where mothers can leave their babies anonymously.
 - ii. Introduce fast-track courts that specialise in child rape cases.

ACTION PLAN

- 3 Women's protection
 - a. Establish a women's helpline.

To speak to a trained helpliner and receive support over the phone. The Helpline is run by women, for women and are able to assist callers with a variety of concerns and offer empathy, support, information and encouragement. It is also possible to make an appointment to speak to a counsellor or lawyer.
 - b. Establish a Sexual Assault Care Centre (SACC) to provide survivors with crucial services to help them deal with their trauma and make decisions about their next steps.
 - i. Drop-in centre – will provide a safe space for these survivors to immediately consult an on-site social worker and receive counselling, without any prior appointment.
 - ii. Helpline support –speak to a trained volunteer and receive support through the phone. In addition, an appointment can be made to see a social worker or counsellor for further help.
 - iii. Befriender Service – Trained befrienders will accompany these survivors to the police, the hospital or to the court to report and follow their sexual assault case, providing information and emotional support through the various legal and medical processes. A Befriender can be requested by contacting helpline or via email.
 - iv. Counselling and Case Management – Many sexual assault survivors find it helpful to talk to a counsellor. They will provide follow-up care counselling to victims of sexual assault. All support is provided on a strictly confidential basis. The first three counselling sessions are free. The cost of counselling from the fourth onwards is 1% of the survivors monthly salary per session, at a minimum charge of Rs. 50 per session for those who are not working.
 - v. Legal advice – An appointment can be made via phone with an experienced lawyer to explore the legal options available for these survivors.
 - c. Help anaemic women and girls across Sri Lanka through the usage of a digital haemoglobin-meter to test for anaemia, give IFA (Iron and Folic Acid) tablets to treat, and counsel beneficiaries on lifestyle measures to increase iron levels in the body, and on foods rich in

iron, protein and vitamin C. Anaemia is an iron deficiency in blood. During pregnancy, it can cause deaths of mother's and infants, still births etc. In India estimates of economic losses from iron deficiency is 6% of GDP.

(Source: Horton and Ross, 2003)

4 Senior Citizens

Create a one-stop online portal for all senior citizens in the country. The portal will provide the following services;

- a. Online training videos and courses for aged care providers.
- b. Information on Government-approved elders' homes.
- c. Information on local volunteering opportunities.
- d. A dedicated job section for senior citizens to be employed with an income.

5 Prisoner rehabilitation and crime reduction (refer to - "Ministry of Justice and Prisoner Reforms").

6 Drug prevention

- a. Establish an official YouTube channel to spread awareness on substance abuse and mental health services.
- b. Introduce a free app that empowers health care practitioners to provide effective, evidence-based care for opioid use disorders when providing medication-assisted treatment (MAT).
- c. Publish an online magazine for parents addressing teenage drug abuse and effects of alcohol and rehabilitation. Articles could cover the following areas;
 - i. Addiction and how to overpower this chronic illness.
 - ii. Hidden signs of drug addiction.
 - iii. Going to rehab and how each day leads to personal improvement
 - iv. Why Fentanyl is threatening Sri Lanka.
 - v. Why ignoring mental health and addiction can be a very costly mistake.
 - vi. Teens and cannabis.

ACTION PLAN

7 Child protection

- a. Protection of street children.
Establish dedicated day-care centres for street children and provide education opportunities through these centres.
- b. Introduce five types of biscuits for the five days of the week which can be obtained free of charge by producing the coupon provided under the precision poverty reduction programme for school children who cannot afford breakfast. This is also to be made available to purchase through markets.
- c. Geo-tag the 5,000 children who do not attend school and increase the income of their families through help desks under the precision poverty reduction programme, so that these children are able to go to school. Thereby reducing the number of students who do not attend school from 5,000 to 0.
- d. Decrease school dropouts from 30,000 to 0 through precision poverty reduction and implementation of required social development initiatives.
- e. Increase opportunities for physical activities in pre-schools and mainstream schools to make healthy living more accessible for students. Parents play an important role in helping their young children spend at least 2 - 3 hours everyday, outdoors during daytime.
 - i. Increase the minimum daily time for physical activities for full-day pre-school programmes to an hour daily, of which half-hour is to be conducted outdoors daily.
 - ii. Provide pre-school teachers with educational resources for outdoor classroom lessons.
 - iii. Increase opportunities for unstructured play in mainstream schools beyond formal curriculum time.
 - iv. School facilities and sports equipment to be made available to students during recess and/or after school.
- f. Encourage families to have Active and Healthy Weekends through schools and community.

Initiate entertainment activities in parks, recreational centres and open spaces in every district to encourage parent-child bonding through physical activity.

ACTION PLAN

- g. Provide services to Children with Disabilities (CWD) in regular schools by;
 - i. Assessment and screening of CWD.
 - ii. Functionalise all State and District Resource Centres.
 - iii. Providing in-service teacher training on inclusive education.
 - iv. Incorporate resource rooms in schools as per need.
 - v. Ensuring the availability of aids and appliances as per need.
 - vi. Co-ordination of Child Development Centres with multi-disciplinary trained professionals established by Ministry of Health.
-

8

Organising the unregulated sectors.

- a. Brand, uplift and dignify the three-wheeler community. Utilise training videos and other means for this purpose.
 - b. Establish a free online three-wheel booking portal and a queue management system.
 - c. Street Food Vendors.
 - i. Introduce soft loan schemes to support their businesses.
 - ii. Provide vocational training and capacity building to street vendors' through training videos to increase their income.
 - iii. Introduce a mobile application with information of street food vendors including location and directions via Google Maps, to attract and inform local and foreign visitors.
 - Ensuring availability of addresses of shops and stalls will be available in Sinhala, Tamil and English for users' convenience if they choose to travel via taxis or other modes of public transport.
-

9

Develop a resource centre for the differently-abled in each district with necessary equipment for screening and therapy of differently-abled persons.

ACTION PLAN

- 10 Run free online courses to support parenting and child-care.

- 11 Create an online Government portal with information to support and enrich the family unit, which includes;
 - a. Pre marriage counselling.
 - b. Maintaining a healthy marriage.
 - c. Financial management.
 - d. Managing divorce.
 - e. Family planning.

- 12 Reduce divorce cases.

Introduce a marriage preparation programme with online videos, to help lay the foundation for marriage, and equip couples with practical skills on conflict resolution and strengthening communication.

MINISTRY OF REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

NATION RICH IN CONVENIENCE

“Inspire the people and the Government of Sri Lanka to focus on the quality of life, wellbeing and happiness”.

Dhammika Perera

GOALS

- Create thriving districts with greater quality of life.
- Brand each district promoting its relevant significance.
- Expand services and facilities which are restricted only to Colombo in each district by opening up fully-fledged branches of Government offices.

DISTRICT DEVELOPMENT

To create thriving districts with greater quality of life, three main issues have to be addressed:

1. Distance from the particular district to Colombo.
2. Issues unique to each district.
 - a. Culture
 - b. Language
 - c. Infrastructure
3. "Distribution of Provincial Political Power"?

Issue 1: Distance from a particular district to Colombo.

Solution: Multi-Services to be provided from each district.

Services and facilities which are restricted only to Colombo will be expanded to each district by opening up fully-fledged branches of Government offices.

A "District Multi-Service Centre" to be established where the following services can be easily offered in each district:

1. All services of the Department of Immigration and Emigration including issue of passports.
2. All services of the Department for Registration of Persons including issue of National Identity Cards.
3. All services of the Department of Motor Traffic including the registration of Motor Vehicles and issue of driving licenses.

4. All services including consular services provided through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
5. All services of the Foreign Employment Bureau.
6. All services of the Police Department including police and forensic reports, that are currently being issued only from Colombo.
7. All services of the Department of Labour including withdrawal of EPF, ETF and other funds.
8. All services of the Ministry of Education and Department of Examinations.
9. All services of the Department of Law and Justice.
 - Reimbursement of costs incurred by citizens.

For any reason, should public officers delay in providing or fail to complete a service within a period of two years, the citizen who was inconvenienced will be compensated by the relevant government organisation after taking into account the transport costs incurred based on the distance and the time taken to travel.

Issue 2: Issues unique to each district on Culture, Language and Infrastructure

1. Culture

E.g. Jaffna district:

Female motorcyclists including pillion riders wearing flowers on their hair will be exempt when travelling at a speed under 30km/h from the mandatory helmet law which currently identifies this as dangerous driving.

Ladies wearing traditional attire (saree) while on a motorbike, seated with their legs to a side will be exempt when travelling at a speed under 30km/h from the dangerous driving law.

Identify and provide suitable solutions to similar issues in each district to enhance the wellbeing of society.

2. Language

E.g. Jaffna district:

The proposed “Home Police Programme” enables efficient communication by locating Police officers to serve within their native regions (e.g. Police Officer from Jaffna to be posted to a station in Jaffna). This can overcome

language barriers and provide door-to-door police services. This programme proposes the recruitment of 4,960 female police officers, (10 officers per station totalling to 496 police stations across the island) and provision of 5 motor bikes per station.

1,700 police officers retire every year and these officers could be recruited for the “Home Police Programme”, and this process will be completed within a period of 3 years. As a result of the “Home Police Programme”, the language barrier will be reduced.

In addition, introduce a Government initiated, freely accessible portal for language translation (between Sinhala, Tamil and English). Brand and market the portal with relevant training videos for the use of all citizens.

English language education will allow children from different ethnicities to understand and communicate with each other. Thereby, English shall be the language recognised as the “link language” of Sri Lanka.

E.g. Provide Sinhalese students studying Tamil language the option of studying English language during that period. Likewise, provide Tamil students studying Sinhala language the option of studying English language during that period.

3. Infrastructure

Expand facilities which are restricted only to Colombo in each district.

- 1 District branding –
 - a. Brand each district with signages promoting tourist attractions, heritage sites, historical sites, botanical gardens and parks, etc.

-
- 2 Public Education – Develop 771 schools under provincial councils with fully-fledged facilities to match the standards of national schools.
 - a. 2 schools each from the 276 divisional councils (552 schools).
 - b. 3 schools each from the 41 urban councils (123 schools).
 - c. 4 schools each from 24 municipal councils (96 schools).

To increase student capacity by 1,500, schools with adequate land will be selected. In all 771 schools, student capacity will increase to an average of 1,500 students resulting in a total increase to 1,156,500 students.

Following which, competition for grade 1 student entrance will be reduced from current 80,000 students to 0 students.

-
- 3 Private Education – Encourage establishment of international schools through 0% corporate tax and 0% VAT incentives to encourage professionals to serve outstation.

At present English-speaking professionals are reluctant to work outstation due to the lack of English medium schools for their children.

- a. Encourage establishment of private universities, excluding medical colleges, through 0% corporate tax and 0% VAT incentives to achieve the goal of 50% university degree holders from total students per annum (Sri Lanka at present has 360,000 students per annum).
- b. Build a fully equipped TVET centre in each district with qualified lecturers for all NVQ certification levels to increase TVET certificate holders from 79,200 to 144,000 which will result in 40% of the total 360,000 students per annum.

-
- 4 Propose low cost, high rise apartment complexes in every district with centralised facilities such as transport, water, sewage, electricity, day-care, pre-schools, schools, universities, technical colleges and healthcare, etc.

ACTION PLAN

- 5 Propose low rent, high rise office complexes in every district for new businesses bringing in new jobs, with an allocation of 70 sqft per employee who makes their initial registration with EPF/ETF.

- 6 Build an economic centre in each district.

- 7 Construct a wholesale fish market and storage units in the 14 districts with coastal areas.

- 8 Provide mobile cold storage containers to fishing villages with excess fish yield.

- 9 Initiate water supply and sanitation improvement projects in each district.

- 10 District wise job generation.
 - a. Parliament members of each district to take the responsibility of private sector job generation. This is to be monitored monthly.
 - b. All private sector ventures that set up new businesses in any district excluding Colombo, will be provided with an 80% corporate tax reduction guaranteed for the next 25 years, in agreement with the BOI.
 - c. Geo-tag all 380,000 unemployed citizens and match their skills with available private sector jobs. Upgrade their skills to suit the demand in the job market.

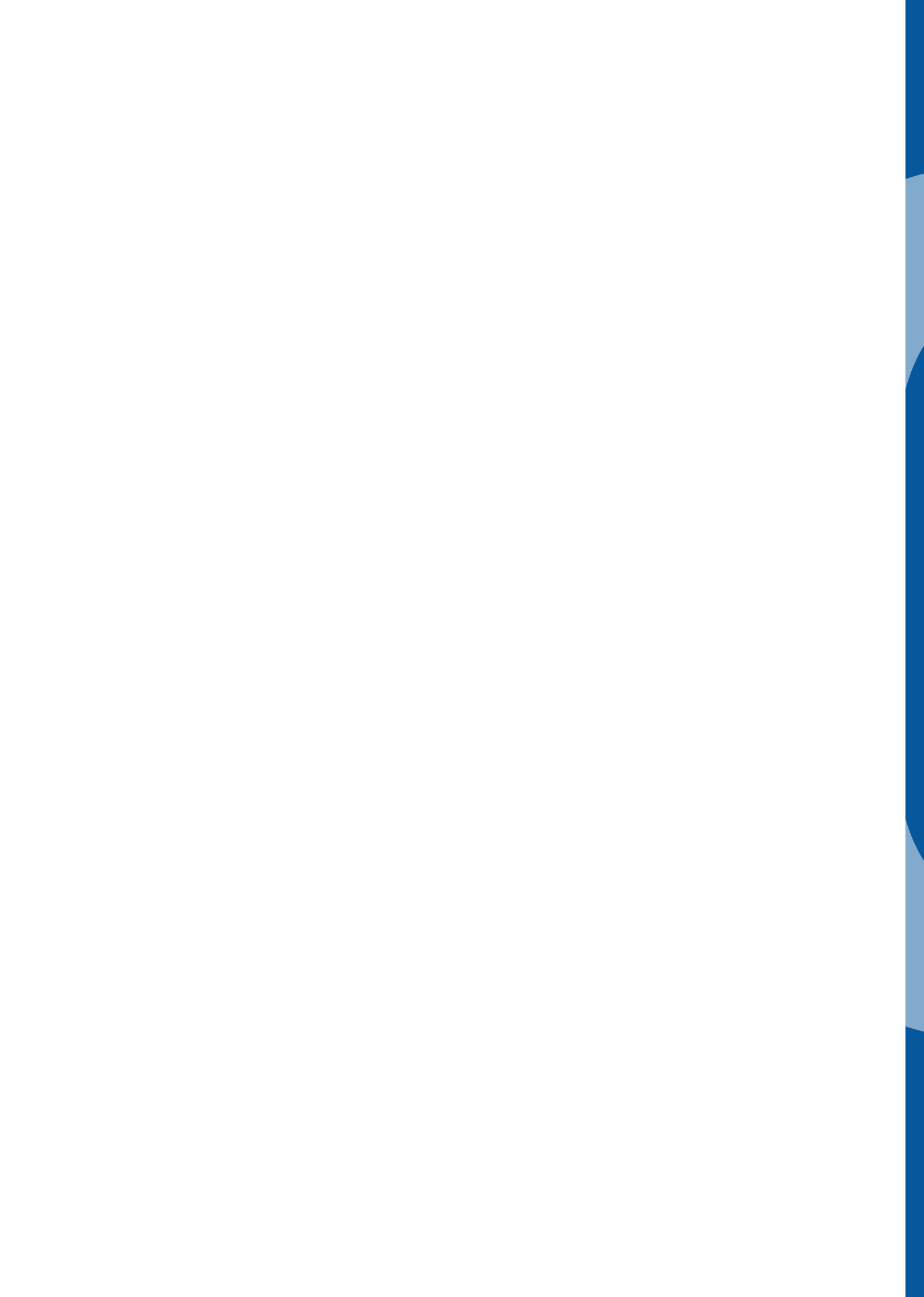
- 11 Healthcare
 - a. Increase operation hours from 8 to 12 hours per day in government surgical theatres which has a backlog of month long waiting queues.
 - b. Establish an Oncology (cancer) unit at a hospital in each district in association with Maharagama Cancer Hospital.
 - c. Establish a modern and fully equipped patient testing laboratory in each district.

ACTION PLAN

- d. Build fully equipped health centres for heart, lung, neurology, ophthalmology (eye) and paediatric illnesses in association with the respective specialised Colombo hospitals.
- e. Geo-tag kidney patients and identify affected areas, including those prone to Chronic Kidney Disease (CKD) and to construct deep-well (bore well) facilities with proper filtration. Already certain villages are equipped with the above mentioned water purification systems.
E.g. Saddiyawara project by Hayleys PLC.
- f. Distribute soil health cards and soil-test based fertiliser recommendations.
Currently, 35,000 containers of fertiliser are imported. With the introduction of soil health cards and fertiliser recommendations, 20% (7,000 containers) of imports can be reduced.
- g. Encourage the establishment of private hospitals through 0% corporate tax and 0% VAT incentives.
- h. Additional insurance schemes to provide medical care for public officers.
- i. Patients waiting in month-long queues for operations will be transferred to these new private hospitals.

12

Develop a Smart IT park and an Industrial park in each district for both local and foreign investors to fast-track the process of investments.



MINISTRY OF JUSTICE AND PRISON REFORMS

NATION RICH IN DISCIPLINE

“A judicial and legal system that protects individual rights and freedom and enforces good governance”.

Dhammika Perera

GOALS

- **Advancing access to justice, the rule of law, the economy and society through policy, law and services.**
- **Smart security.**
- **Prison rehabilitation.**
- **Reduce corruption.**

ACTION PLAN

Police Department

Smart Security

- a. Implement unique digital biometric identification for people under investigation by the police.
- b. Set up CCTV cameras in all major public and private establishments with facial recognition technology.
- c. Share criminal databases with world security agencies. Further, utilise facial recognition at airports to be alerted regarding any potential terrorists trying to enter the Country.
- d. Explore real-time facial recognition through smart glasses for the police.
- e. Predict potential criminal acts through the analysis of data science to monitor social media activities and predict potential criminal acts.

- 1 Provide all police services in each district, e.g. At present, police clearance certificate to seek employment abroad is issued only in Colombo.

- 2 Introduce a "Home Police" programme.

The proposed "Home Police Programme" provides door-to-door services to resolve any minor disputes within the community. Recruit 4,960 female police officers, (10 officers per station totalling to 496 police stations across the island) and provide 5 motor bikes per station.

1,700 police officers retire every year and these officers could be recruited and trained online and onsite for their tasks including policing domestic issues such as child abuse, domestic violence and school safety to reduce the current daily complaints from 3,000 to 2,000.

"Home Police Programme" to be monitored centrally and completed within a period of 3 years.

ACTION PLAN

- 3 Accelerate investigations through real time information exchange. This will happen through an electronic witness statement that consists of electronic suspect image, mobile digital case file with real-time sharing, digital evidence capture, mobile ID verification, multi system search in custody and crowd sourced investigation through social media.

- 4 Streamline and digitalise processes such as speeding tickets to increase efficiency.

- 5 Explore proactive policing – Utilise demand forecasting technology to reach potential crime scenes pre-emptively. Use predictive policing analytics to model future risks and evidence based intelligence analytics to drive deployment decisions.

- 6 Introduce spot fines through hand-held electronic or mobile payment systems to introduce spot fines.

- 7 Build dedicated drug testing labs and DNA testing labs in each district to assist finding evidence for police investigations.

- 8 Introduce the E-police application, which is an integrated platform to address the needs of all law enforcement units such as automated biometric identification systems, forensic analysis and case-management systems.

- 9 Introduce online training videos for police officers.

- 10 Launch an official YouTube channel to spread awareness on substance abuse and mental health services.

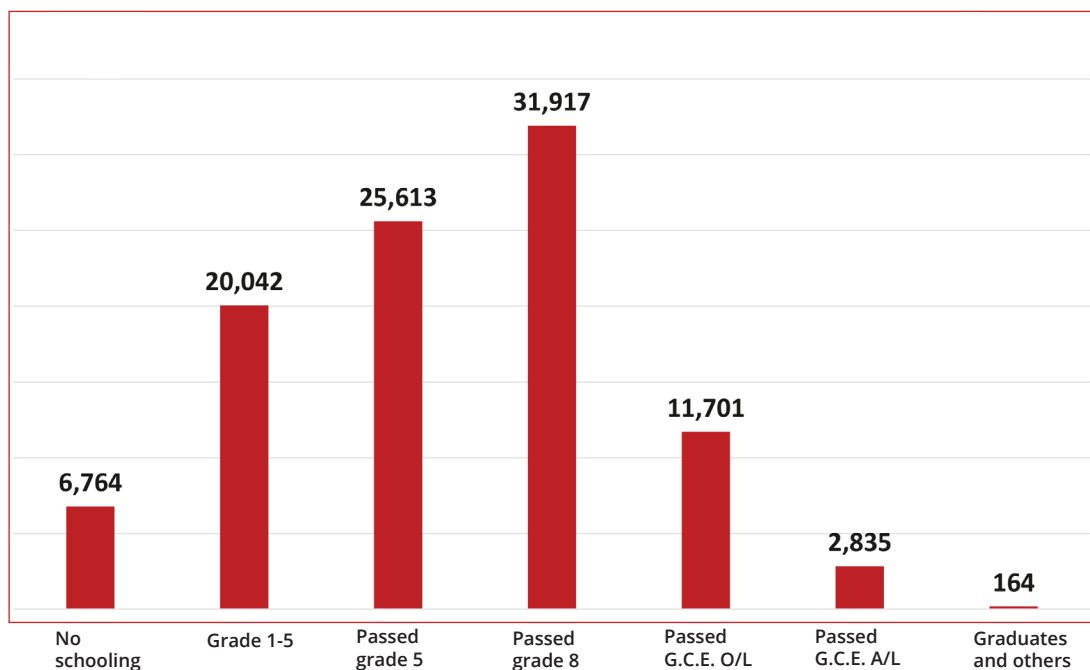
- 11 Launch a free app that empowers health care practitioners to provide effective, evidence-based care for opioid use disorders when providing Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT).

ACTION PLAN

- 12 Publish an online magazine for parents addressing teenage drug abuse and effects of alcohol and rehabilitation. Articles could cover the following areas;
- Addiction and how to overcome it.
 - Hidden signs of drug addiction.
 - How each day in rehabilitation leads to personal improvement.
 - Why Fentanyl is threatening Sri Lanka.
 - Why ignoring mental health and addiction can be a very costly mistake.
 - Teens and cannabis.

13 Prison Rehabilitation - Disciplined Citizens

DIRECT ADMISSIONS OF UNCONVINCED PRISONERS ACCORDING TO LITERACY 2017



(Source: Department of Police)

- 14 Use biometric technology such as Pronto to record offenders' details at the point of arrest. This information is then stored in an online database that all police personnel can access. Uses and benefits include police being able to identify offenders in real time using their thumbprint, the ability to instantly access the national police database while in the field, and streamline and digitalise processes such as speeding tickets to increase efficiency.

ACTION PLAN

- 15 Introduce a debt relief programme to prisons, where prisoners can engage in community service to obtain relief from fines and court fees.
-
- 16 Reduce the prison sentence by four days for every pre-approved book on science, literature, religion and history that is read and reviewed.

Ministry of Justice

- 17 Reduce corruption by carrying out the following;
- Each ministry should have a member from the commission to investigate allegations of Bribery and Corruption.
 - Each ministry should have a member from the Auditor General's Department.
 - Introduce an e-procurement system for all procurement processes.
 - Introduce new legislation on governing political funding and discourage lobbying.
 - Introduce a proper asset declaration system for members of parliament.
 - Introduce standard clauses in project procurements, undertakings in order to protect Government interests in all projects/contracts involving Government, statutory bodies and state-owned enterprises (SOEs).
 - In the case of any breach of contract(s), the Government can at any given time, terminate or/and file a civil suit against the party who breaches the contract.
-
- 18 Improve infrastructure of court houses, ensure they have basic amenities, seating and lighting.
-
- 19 Provide or replace computers in courtrooms, sound equipment, multimedia equipment, essential software and a fast internet connection.

ACTION PLAN

- 20 Employ an adequate number of trained non-judicial staff to ensure efficient running of the court house.
-
- 21 Establish an institute to train personnel to provide court services such as translation, transcription, stenography and computer systems management.
-
- 22 Introduce a digital court information system.
-
- 23 Introduce fast-track courts that specialise in rape cases.
Courts will hear rape trials daily and investigations of rape cases must be completed within 4 months, and the trial must be completed within a year.
This will be accomplished by;
- Having manpower dedicated to investigate cases of rape.
 - Each district will have a dedicated forensic lab to process evidence.
 - Special forensic kits for cases of rape will be provided to all hospitals and police station.
-
- 24 Create an online database that allows;
- The public to read every draft law submitted. It should be possible to see who submitted the legislation, its current status and changes made to it during the parliament process.
 - Citizens to follow council sessions live.
 - Provide city legislation and other documents online.
- This would reduce corruption and encourage citizens to take an interest in legislative affairs.
-
- 25 Introduce drug courts with online video conferencing facilities connected to police stations, where people who have been arrested while using drugs are sent to rehabilitation directly instead of being sent to prison.
Current laws to be maintained for those arrested for the possession or sale of drugs.
After serving the rest of their detention in the community; convicts stay at home with curfew and electronic monitoring, working/studying during the day and staying at supervision centres at night, or at a halfway house with a structured programme.

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND AGRO-BASED INDUSTRY

NATION RICH IN PROSPERITY

“Through the optimal utilisation of natural resources in a sustainable manner and the promotion of good agricultural practices the agricultural productivity in the economy can be increased”.

Dhammika Perera

GOALS

Drive inclusive agricultural transformation:

- Increase agricultural productivity for farmers.
- Increase farmers' household income.
- Increase equitable consumption of a safe, affordable and nutritious diet year around.
- Increase women's empowerment in agriculture.

ACTION PLAN

- 1 Distribute soil health cards and soil-test based fertiliser recommendations. Currently, 35,000 containers of fertiliser are imported. With the introduction of soil health cards and fertiliser recommendations, 20% (7,000 containers) of imports can be reduced.

- 2 Carry out preliminary agricultural land preparation for farmers by local authorities, using required machinery.

- 3 Improve irrigation infrastructure to support cultivation;
 - a. Rehabilitation and capacity improvement of 2,400 tanks.
 - b. Identify and develop the tank cascade system.
 - c. Develop and rehabilitate irrigation wells.

- 4 Ensure timely availability of quality seeds at affordable rates.

- 5 Provide a subsidy for liquid fertiliser and organic farming.

- 6 Pay the current fertiliser subsidy in cash during the drought season to cover farmers' living expenses.

ACTION PLAN

- 7 Develop a dedicated e-commerce portal to promote and increase profitability of organic farming, thereby increasing the availability of organic produce for consumers.

- 8 Implement SMART farming;
 - a. Farmer crop profiling and monitoring.
 - b. 7-day weather forecast.
 - c. Climate-based advisory and climate-smart irrigated agriculture programme.
 - d. Fertiliser application recommendation.
 - e. Crop stage monitoring.
 - f. Geo-tagging and mapping of plots.
 - g. Area surveys to guarantee minimum price of crops for farmers.
 - h. Harvest predictions.
 - i. Pest disease and advisory (timely crop advisory).
 - j. End-to-end traceability from nursery to trade.
 - k. Mobile crop advisory app for farmers.
 - l. Complete mapping of crops in Sri Lanka through satellite imagery to understand the extent of cultivation and estimate production.
 - m. Algorithm-based matchmaking between suppliers and buyers.
 - n. Reduce agriculture wastage by predicting crop yields across the country and providing optimal storage solutions.

- 9 Impose 50% of the current import duty at the beginning of the planting season and the remainder at a later stage, for all imported fresh produce that is locally grown.

- 10 Build an economic centre in every district.

- 11 Share technical videos on crop cultivation methods on YouTube in Sinhala and Tamil.

- 12 Provide daily information on crop production, input supply and marketing to farmers via the Internet.

ACTION PLAN

- 13 Utilise domestic marketing channels and carry out advertising campaigns to promote the consumption of agricultural produce, strengthen wholesale markets, develop farmers and agricultural cooperative markets, and promote contract farming.

- 14 Establish a national warehousing grid to ensure necessary logistical linkages for warehousing of agricultural produce to match district-wise requirements.

- 15 Launch a mobile app-based system to promote the availability and rental of agro-implements.

- 16 Assist the private sector to open ten large-scale hybrid isolated seed gardens by providing;
 - a. Hybrid (DXT) coconut seeds with a yield of 120 coconuts per tree, owned by Government farms.
 - b. Provide training for artificial pollination.

Agriculture exports

- 17 Provide free landing and parking facilities for all cargo airlines at BIA Katunayake, Palali, Trincomalee, Batticaloa, Koggala, Mattala and Digana in Kandy, in order to encourage agricultural exports.

- 18 Facilitate cargo airlines to fly internationally from Trincomalee, Batticaloa, Koggala and Digana (Kandy).

- 19 Reduce all agricultural imports and implement a predictable export and import policy.

- 20 Encourage public-private partnerships to reach a USD 300 million target for durian and mango exports, providing plants and technology to the private sector.

ACTION PLAN

- 21 Provide the private sector with sweet young coconut seeds imported from Thailand, enabling them to open isolated seed gardens and sell plants.

- 22 Encourage the processing of value added agro products for the local and export market by the provision of tax breaks.

- 23 Provide tax benefits for the production of value adding agri products in the local and export markets.

Sri Lanka Coconut Industry at a Glance

GOALS

- Coconut products contribute to 8.8% of total agriculture production in 2020.
- Every 6 years, the population increases by 1 million people. To serve the increasing local demand and consumption, an additional 200 million coconuts are required.
- Current 3 billion coconut production to increase by 40%, to achieve a nut production target of 4.2 billion per annum.

ACTION PLAN

Gross Domestic Product by Industrial Origin at Current Market Prices (a)

Economic Activity	Rs. Million					
	"2019 Annual (b) (c) "	"2020 Quarter 1 (b) (c) "	"2020 Quarter 2 (b) (c) "	"2020 Quarter 3 (b) (c) "	"2020 Quarter 4 (c) "	"2020 Annual (c) "
Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing	1,132,065	279,015	277,999	322,031	372,877	1,251,921
1. Growing of cereals (except rice)	19,616	7,848	7,218	8,330	14,104	37,501
2. Growing of rice	136,071	20,766	35,311	31,747	80,688	168,512
3. Growing of vegetables	100,535	36,113	29,820	33,993	33,391	133,317
4. Growing of sugar cane, tobacco and other non-perennial crops	3,473	1,067	1,302	1,223	975	4,567
5. Growing of fruits	109,541	28,220	28,153	29,707	30,056	116,135
6. Growing of oleaginous fruits (coconut, king coconut, oil palm)	81,481	22,523	25,104	28,763	33,222	109,612
7. Growing of tea (green leaves)	99,341	19,695	31,143	26,999	30,707	108,544
8. Growing of other beverage crops (coffee, cocoa etc.)	2,121	843	900	1,131	990	3,864
9. Growing of spices, aromatic, drug and pharmaceutical crops	84,718	25,035	22,257	23,114	24,486	94,892
10. Growing of rubber	15,772	4,467	3,567	3,871	5,517	17,422
11. Growing of other perennial crops	27,556	7,276	6,832	9,578	8,859	32,545
12. Animal production	134,295	32,679	25,991	40,304	40,987	139,961
13. Plant propagation and support activities to agriculture	13,356	3,185	3,308	3,419	3,266	13,178
14. Forestry and logging	107,202	22,986	19,579	32,054	31,142	105,760
15. Marine fishing and marine aquaculture	169,976	40,661	29,554	38,471	26,724	135,409
16. Fresh water fishing and fresh water aquaculture	27,013	5,652	7,960	9,327	7,764	30,702
Industries	4,114,102	1,080,484	735,174	1,121,034	993,351	3,930,042
17. Mining and quarrying	374,931	84,651	64,174	83,844	96,665	329,334
18. Manufacture of food, beverages & tobacco products	897,829	279,559	190,872	269,656	205,570	945,658
19. Manufacture of textiles, wearing apparel and leather related products	727,383	224,233	88,426	264,220	109,468	686,347
20. Manufacture of wood and of products of wood and cork, except furniture	27,699	9,343	2,096	5,525	8,830	25,794
21. Manufacture of paper products, printing and reproduction of media products	63,176	20,051	9,573	11,953	17,298	58,876
22. Manufacture of coke and refined petroleum products	83,917	20,671	14,820	11,233	16,335	63,060
23. Manufacture of chemical products and basic pharmaceutical products	115,077	24,171	29,608	29,529	31,121	114,430
24. Manufacture of rubber and plastic products	101,898	13,838	20,271	31,669	30,211	95,989
25. Manufacture of other non-metallic mineral products	166,363	40,069	31,082	35,400	49,030	155,581
26. Manufacture of basic metals and fabricated metal products	68,917	22,668	6,818	15,453	21,837	66,775
27. Manufacture of machinery and equipment i.e..	73,356	20,450	9,673	20,489	28,322	78,934
28. Manufacture of furniture	65,298	20,081	11,940	15,012	17,816	64,850
29. Other manufacturing, and repair and installation of machinery and equipment	65,924	18,315	13,560	20,354	17,852	70,080
30. Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply	118,653	27,114	28,669	31,156	29,771	116,710
31. Water collection, treatment and supply	19,675	4,377	5,150	5,191	4,570	19,288
32. Sewerage, waste, treatment and disposal activities	22,346	5,660	5,533	6,188	5,185	22,566
33. Construction	1,121,659	245,233	202,910	264,161	303,468	1,015,772
Services	8,723,236	2,255,258	1,864,427	2,342,509	2,471,543	8,933,737
34. Wholesale and retail trade	1,647,971	443,411	464,982	442,627	396,617	1,747,637
35. Transportation of goods and passengers including warehousing	1,715,466	385,143	243,092	481,906	506,720	1,616,861
36. Postal and courier activities	5,589	1,506	1,378	1,300	1,576	5,761
37. Accommodation, food and beverage service activities	227,231	60,065	19,979	32,880	30,914	143,839
38. Programming and broadcasting activities and audio video productions	4,099	966	1,062	973	1,035	4,036
39. Telecommunication	89,158	24,549	23,707	25,208	25,420	98,885
40. IT programming consultancy and related activities	26,215	6,610	7,558	7,637	8,342	30,147
41. Financial service activities and auxiliary financial services	622,398	167,262	157,936	182,463	214,230	721,891
42. Insurance, reinsurance and pension funding	166,314	49,158	51,105	40,330	65,695	206,288
43. Real estate activities, including ownership of dwelling	891,455	240,179	190,489	243,229	246,985	920,882
44. Professional services	260,735	66,980	56,980	69,494	71,770	265,223
45. Public administration and defense; compulsory social security	897,143	232,567	201,509	231,315	280,185	945,576
46. Education	336,126	88,350	77,327	91,925	113,754	371,356
47. Human health activities, residential care and social work activities	358,947	96,637	103,988	103,428	109,429	413,482
48. Other personal service activities	1,474,390	391,874	263,336	387,793	398,869	1,441,873
Equals Gross Value Added (GVA) at Basic Price	13,969,403	3,614,757	2,877,601	3,785,574	3,837,770	14,115,701
Taxes less subsidies on products	1,043,551	229,323	129,745	301,575	196,652	857,294
Equals Gross Domestic Product (GDP) at Market Price	15,012,953	3,844,079	3,007,345	4,087,148	4,034,422	14,972,995

(a) Based on the GDP estimates (base year 2010)

(b) Revised

(c) Provisional

Source: Department of Census and Statistics

ACTION PLAN

- 1 To gather knowledge on coconut sector development, conduct literature reviews on current global and local best practices.

- 2 The Coconut Research Board, Coconut Cultivation Board and Coconut Development Authority should act as one entity to develop the sector.

- 3 Location of regional offices to be closest to areas where coconuts are planted. If not, relocate/ increase the number of regional offices to cater to the requirements of these coconut plantations.

- 4 Expansion of coconut cultivation land by 20%, which will be an additional 200,000 acres of land allocated for growing coconut.

- 5 The current total land area used for coconut plantation is one million and ninety five thousand (1,095,000) acres. To increase the land area under coconut cultivation, initiate a program with 14,022 Grama Niladhari Divisions, along with agriculture development officers to identify land spaces available within existing lands, where 50 trees per acre can be increased to 60 trees per acre.

- 6 To train all agriculture development officers at each Grama Niladhari Division and create training videos in Sinhala and Tamil on,
 - a. How to identify free space at existing coconut cultivated lands (smallholders)
 - b. How to identify other small lands that can be used to plant coconut
 - c. Cultivation practices
 - d. Water management
 - e. Nutrient management
 - f. Pest and disease management
 - g. Farm implements (equipment) for coconut
 - h. Harvest and post-harvest technologies
 - i. Coconut processing
 - j. Schemes and services for coconuts
 - k. Marketing strategy for coconut
 - l. How to maintain farmer-officer relationship

ACTION PLAN

7 Coconut seedling production in 2020 was only 2 million seedlings. The target set for 2021 is to increase seedlings to 4 million per annum. If the same number of seedlings of 4 million will be continued for the coming 10 years, this will result in the cultivation of 40 million trees within a decade.

8 2,500 - 3,000 coconuts are cultivated per acre of land. On average, one acre has 50 coconut trees with nuts per tree ranging from 50 - 60. When compared with countries such as India and Indonesia, nuts per tree produced in Sri Lanka is low. To increase nuts from 60 to 90 per tree, hybrid coconut varieties should be introduced.

9 To address the seedling shortage of high yield coconut varieties such as the 3 most significant coconuts in Sri Lanka, namely,

- a. Kapruwana.
- b. Kapsuwaya.
- c. Kapsetha.

A policy decision should be taken to encourage people who have 100 acres or more by supplying them with 6,400 seedlings from any of the above 3 varieties to develop 10 large-scale private sector coconut seedling farms.

Achievement of this project would be the availability of 3 million coconut seedlings from Kapruwana, Kapsuwaya and Kapsetha varieties. These 10 coconut seedling farms will contribute to the development of the coconut industry by creating new jobs and by sharing their,

- a. Cultivation practices
- b. Water management techniques
- c. Nutrient management techniques
- d. Pest and disease management techniques
- e. Farm Implements (equipment) details
- f. Harvest and post-harvest technologies
- g. Coconut processing methods
- h. Schemes and services information
- i. Marketing assistance and seedling buyer linking for the new farmers

ACTION PLAN

The current process of buying Kapruwana, Kapsuwaya and Kapsetha requires a permit to purchase 10 plants out of any of the 3 varieties. The approval process for the permit takes 365 days, which is a hassle for potential growers.

10 All areas in Sri Lanka can be used to grow and cultivate coconut including Walapane, Kothmale and Hagurukanketha, except for other areas in Nuwara Eliya.

11 Constant supply and availability of fertilizer at each village.

12 Create awareness videos on water management in coconut cultivation on YouTube for farmers to watch and learn.

13 Introduce an app similar to Coconut Expert System developed by Tamil Nadu Agriculture University in India. The app will consist of,

- a. Cultivation practices for coconut
- b. Water management for coconut
- c. Nutrient management for coconut
- d. Pest and disease management for coconut
- e. Farm implements (equipment) for coconut
- f. Harvest and post-harvest technologies for coconut
- g. Coconut processing
- h. Schemes and services for coconut
- i. Marketing and institutions for coconut

14 Conduct a comparison study with Coconut Development Board in India and Indonesia to identify further areas of improvement in fields such as new technologies, land expansions, seedling nursery developments and any other new project initiatives.

15 Introduce coconut varieties that have a short stem and slow growth in height.

ACTION PLAN

16 Introduce a King coconut variety that has the same coconut water taste throughout.

17 For export purposes, introduce sweet young coconuts that have the same coconut water taste, similar to sweet young coconuts in Thailand.

18 Efficient inter-crop management

- a. Locate lands out of currently cultivated lands of one million and ninety-five thousand (1,095,000) that have already planted other crops such as Rambutan, Turmeric, Pepper, Vanilla, Banana, Pineapple and Katu Anoda to assist the farmers to get better harvests.
- b. Locate lands out of currently cultivated lands of one million and ninety-five thousand that have not planted other crops such as Rambutan, Turmeric, Pepper, Vanilla, Banana, Pineapple and Katu Anoda to introduce the above intercrop varieties to increase farmers' income.

19 Total exports of coconut kernel, fibre, shell, finished products (fibre), other products such as coconut ekels and coconut handicrafts/wood stood at USD 665 million in 2020. Whereas, tea export was USD 1,240 million and rubber was USD 816 million.

The coconut export industry can be doubled if an additional 1.2 billion coconuts are produced. USD 665 million export income will increase to USD 1,330 million. Coconut will surpass tea and rubber exports and will be the highest export income-generating product category.

20 Total households in Sri Lanka are 5.7 million. Out of that, 36% of households (2 million) have blenders. Only 50% of them (1 million) use blenders for coconut milk extraction. For the balance of 1 million families who are currently not using blenders for milk extraction, a video can be made on how to use blenders for coconut milk extraction.

21 Oil-free appliances such as air fryers can be introduced as a way to minimise the usage of oil in home cooking.

ACTION PLAN

22 Strategy to be made to disburse subsidies to 5% of total acres of coconuts planted (for 50,000 acres). Currently, only 3,000 acres are benefited from subsidies, which is only 0.3% of the total area under coconut.

23 Discourage selling of coconut oil as loose oil. Often sellers who are selling loose coconut oil, use palm oil to mix as a way of increasing the quantity of coconut oil sold, since the purchase of pure coconut oil is expensive.

To produce 1 tonne of refined coconut oil, 3 acres of coconut cultivation is required. On the other hand, to produce 1 tonne of palm oil, only 1 acre of oil palm cultivation is required.

As a result, costs associated with coconut production is 50% higher than palm oil production.

To cater imports of 200,000 tonnes of palm oil in Sri Lanka by supplying 200,000 tonnes of coconut oil, 1.7 billion additional coconuts are needed (for 1 tonne of coconut oil 8,500 nuts are needed).

Where the current practice is selling coconut oil as loose oil, consumer authority officers can check the levels of iodine to guarantee customer safety.

- a. Iodine levels of coconut oil range from 8-12.
- b. Iodine levels of palm oil range from 56-60.
- c. When coconut oil is mixed with palm oil, the iodine levels go up 25-30.



10

MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES

NATION RICH IN BIOMES

“The well-being of a nation is linked to the state of the natural environment and the opportunities it offers”.

Dhammika Perera

GOALS

- **Ensure a clean, safe and a healthy environment for present and future generations.**
- **Conserve the vitality and diversity of the nature.**
- **Build a liveable and endearing Sri Lanka.**

ACTION PLAN

- 1 Improve the rank of Sri Lanka in international environmental indices.

- 2 Encourage citizens to be more conscious of the environment through educational videos and factbooks on recycling in all three languages.

- 3 Generate jobs through planting of 200 million trees within 5 years: Employ people in each district to plant 100 million trees for re-forestation and 100 million trees for commercial use.

- 4 Educate children on environmental sensitivity and protection via Care for Earth awareness videos, and recycling factbooks.

- 5 Build breeding centres for endangered species in collaboration with zoos.

- 6 Improve 26 wildlife parks (of a total extent of 573,376 Ha) and increase the population of local wildlife;
 - a. Build additional water resources within wildlife parks.
 - b. Plant trees in deserted areas to preserve the natural habitat.
 - c. Install solar water pumps to provide drinking water for animals during droughts.
 - d. Grow nutritious grass varieties.
 - e. Introduce wildlife into 200 acres of new land close to the exits of the existing parks and ensure availability of adequate resources for their survival.

ACTION PLAN

- 7 Identify and breed animals that are not harmful to crops.

- 8 Introduce a platform where the public can geo-tag and send photos of areas where garbage is piled-up and mosquitoes breed. The Sri Lankan Army to initiate a campaign to clean the country within a year.

- 9 Organise canal clean-ups and identify canals suitable for waterfront attractions, canal cruises, etc.

- 10 Provide a 10% corporate tax incentive for all buildings with GBI (Green Building Initiative) or LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certification to minimise the carbon footprint.

- 11 Conduct vulnerability assessment and prepare an adaptation plan related to climate change.

- 12 Streamline the public transport system with convenient and reliable public transport methods to reduce traffic congestion (Colombo Happy Ride project).

- 13 Introduce energy efficient street lighting systems.

- 14 Construct power stations in every district, which utilise municipal solid waste. Construction to be carried out through public-private partnerships. Government to pay tipping fees for these power stations.

Coastal environment protection;

- 15 Coastal Management System
 - a. Identify high erosion areas of coastlines and best methods to preserve them. Obtain detailed topographical maps of the area to determine what structures to construct.
 - b. 90% of corals are dead in Sri Lanka, therefore, establish a "Coral Reef Task Force" to preserve and protect the coral reef ecosystems in Hikkaduwa, Kalpitiya, Silavathura, Pigeon Island in Trincomalee, Kayankerni Marine Sanctuary in Batticaloa, and Passikudah.

ACTION PLAN

- 16** Raise awareness amongst local fishing communities on methods to revive dead coral reefs.
E.g. Low cost coral restoration methods.

Biodiversity

- 17** Raise awareness on the importance of biodiversity through domestic focused eco-tourism and related activities;
- Formulate and implement the national biodiversity Communications, Education and Public Awareness (CEPA) action plan.
 - Raise awareness through citizen science by creating opportunities for members of the public to be involved in biodiversity research.
 - Enhance the website and social media presence of the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources and other biodiversity-related agencies.

-
- 18** Increase number of youth participating in nature-based activities;
- Strengthen environmental training for teachers, administrators and managers across all levels of public education, from pre-school to higher learning institutions.
 - Support and strengthen co-curricular school activities, including nature clubs, green camps and recreational sports, with a focus on outdoor learning in nature.
 - Develop or adopt standardised modules for nature camps to enable such camps to be replicated throughout the country.
 - Enable youth groups to carry out biodiversity conservation projects and internships with suitable organisations.

Flood Management

- 19** Conduct continuous river and river-mouth management, seasonal dredging and filling during the monsoon seasons to prevent flooding.

ACTION PLAN

- 20 Appoint the engineers of the Sri Lankan Navy as river mouth management officials to mitigate floods.

Disaster Management

- 21 Conduct a National Disaster Risk Profile study and identify potential disasters, disaster-prone areas and degree of severity.

-
- 22 Maintain a database of manmade and natural landslide-prone areas and continuously monitor them to understand which regions are at a higher risk.

Drought Management

- 23 Conduct a drought risk assessment to understand existing and potential risks and hazards.

-
- 24 Increase food access and protect rural livelihoods through cash-for-work and emergency livelihood packages for farmers, pastoralists and coastal communities.

-
- 25 Encourage adoption of water-saving technologies, such as sprinkler and drip irrigation systems, through provision of 50% subsidy to the farmers on the purchase of these systems.

-
- 26 Create storage and enable inter-basin transfer of water from surplus to deficit regions which could therefore be an option for achieving more equitable distribution and optimal utilization of water resources.

-
- 27 Protect livestock assets, through supplementary animal feeding, water trucking, supply of water bladders and countrywide supportive treatment.

-
- 28 Mitigate new shocks, by providing regional stocks of veterinary supplies, river embankment repair, and strengthening local preparation against food-chain threats.

ACTION PLAN

29 Introduce a District Contingency Plan including planting of alternate crops / crop varieties / better and smarter agronomic practices / other management options appropriate for drought scenarios.

30 Increase regional self-reliance and integrated water management across all levels of government through tax incentives to construction projects which practise water management systems.

31 Increase recycled water usage by adopting standard recycling regulations.

32 Protect and restore important ecosystems such as degraded streams, waterways and wetlands.

33 Restore forest health with ecologically sound forest management.

34 Solutions for Human-Elephant conflict.

The human-elephant conflict is an issue faced by the majority of those in the Dry zone. On average, the lives of 70 humans and 250 elephants are lost per annum due to the human-elephant conflict. For the past 70 years the attempt to resolve this issue was by fencing lands managed by the Department of Wildlife Conservation. However, the increasing human-elephant conflict only means that this method is unsuccessful. This is because only 30% of the elephant population inhabit land managed by the Department of Wildlife Conservation where as 70% of the elephants population inhabit land managed by the Department of Forest Conservation.

Build fencing around villages prone to human-elephant conflicts (this method has proven to be successful in over 50 villages). Introduce bio fencing and virtual fencing, operating through sensors that warn the presence of intruding elephants to prevent human – elephant conflict, as there have been several instances where elephants have got electrocuted because of electric fencing.

The Sri Lankan Air Force to geo-tag existing electric fences via Google Maps to identify areas with elephants on both sides of the electric fence.

ACTION PLAN

- 35 Improve channels, tanks and drinking facilities for animals by obtaining contour plans of the currently existing 26 wildlife parks with a total extent of 573,376 Ha to eliminate the rate of wild animal deaths during the drought season.

- 36 Ensure availability of rehabilitation centres for injured animals in all 26 wildlife parks.

- 37 Implement surveillance at wildlife parks to catch trespassing hunters and poachers.

- 38 Conduct a feedback survey for rangers to express their requirements and needs.

- 39 Allocate designated routes for off-road experiences.

- 40 Standardise specific types of vehicles for use in wildlife safari parks.

- 41 Provide financial assistance for tour guides to buy safari vehicles.

- 42 Brand safari guides and train them through video tutorials.

- 43 Promote safari packages to visitors and enable online purchasing of tickets.

- 44 Establish signature experiences unique to each park and make these central to their marketing.

- 45 Improve signage and visibility for wildlife parks, on motorways and entry signs.

ACTION PLAN

- 46 Improve visitor centres with integrated open cafes and dedicated retail spaces.

- 47 Create a curriculum-based education package together with the Ministry of Education for school children.

MINISTRY OF HEALTH

NATION RICH IN WELLBEING

“A strong and healthy population lives longer and is more productive. This makes an important contribution to the economic progress of a nation”.

Dhammika Perera

GOALS

- Access to good and affordable healthcare.
 - Pursue medical excellence.
 - Facilitate people to reach their fullest potential in health.
-

50 million patients visit OPDs annually.

15,000 daily admissions.

5 million patients admitted annually for treatments.

1,085 hospitals in the Country.

83,275 total hospital bed count.

- 1 Increase the average life expectancy by an additional 3 years through improvements in healthcare facilities.
-

- 2 Identify the top 10 reasons for deaths in Sri Lanka and take the necessary preventative measures.

The top 10 causes of death are;

- a. Coronary heart disease
 - b. Stroke
 - c. Diabetes
 - d. Wheezing or asthma
 - e. Alzheimer's disease
 - f. Lung illnesses
 - g. Chronic lung diseases
 - h. Suicide
 - i. Chronic kidney disease
 - j. Cirrhosis
-

- 3 Develop fully-fledged hospitals in the 7 main corridors to Colombo (Moratuwa, Piliyandala, Kottawa, Battaramulla, Kadawatha, Ragama and Negombo).

- a. Public outskirts of Colombo will get access to high quality healthcare.
 - b. This will reduce the number of people coming into Colombo City for healthcare.
-

- 4 Establish an Oncology (cancer) unit at a hospital in each district in association with Maharagama Cancer Hospital.
-

- 5 Establish a modern and fully equipped patient testing laboratory in each district.
-

- 6 Build fully equipped health centres for heart, lung, neurology, Ophthalmology (eye) and paediatric illnesses in association with the respective specialised Colombo hospitals.

ACTION PLAN

- 7** Introduce a new overtime payment scheme for doctors and medical staff to reduce the waiting time of patients for surgeries.
 - a. Currently, patients are listed on the waiting list for 1 week to 10 months.
 - b. With the new payment scheme, theatres which are used for 8 hours of work can be extended to 12 hours, including Saturdays and Sundays.

- 8** Apply the overtime payment scheme to all medical staff in order to make use of underutilised theatres, test and scan rooms to reduce the waiting time for patients.

- 9** Increase the intake of medical students from 1,300 to 2,000 at Government universities to address the shortage of qualified doctors in the country. Increase other relevant healthcare staff.

- 10** Increase the intake of students in Nursing Colleges. Sponsor foreign scholarships for senior level nurses to upgrade their skills.

- 11** Encourage the establishment of private hospitals through 0% corporate tax and 0% VAT incentives.
 - a. Additional insurance schemes will be provided to Government servants to receive medical care.
 - b. Patients waiting in month-long queues for operations will be transferred to these hospitals.

- 12** Introduce a “Digital Health Hub” (DHH) which will be available both online and via a mobile app.

DHH can be accessed with the Digital National Identity Card.

Services of the DHH include;

 - a. Access to patient’s health history for the past 10 years.
 - b. View time slots available for scans, doctors’ appointments at all hospitals/clinics.
 - c. Alerts on scheduled appointments.

ACTION PLAN

- 13** Develop an online portal to monitor stock availability of medicines in each hospital.
- This can track medicine stocks available in other hospitals in a stock out situation
 - Hospitals can order stocks in advance to avoid stock out situations by checking current stock counts digitally
-
- 14** Digitalise the hospital bed distribution at wards to ensure the maximum utilisation of hospital beds.
-
- 15** Digitalize all test lab reports of patients in collaboration with the blood bank and use these reports to forecast the patterns of the patient's medical conditions.
- Patients can take necessary preventive steps to control any medical condition.
-
- 16** Develop and maintain toilets according to the following standards:
- 1 toilet for every 20 inpatient users.
 - At least 4 toilets per outpatient setting.
 - Separate toilets for medical and general staff.
-
- 17** Introduce and maintain an affordable pricing policy for essential drugs and equipment.
-
- 18** Maintain an agreed quality standard on medicines when released to markets. Introduce labels with the content of medicine and details on any side effects.
-
- 19** Provide easy access to needed medical facilities for families who cannot have children due to medical reasons.

ACTION PLAN

- 20** Geo-tag kidney patients and identify affected areas, including those prone to Chronic Kidney Disease (CKD) and construct deep-well (bore well) facilities with proper filtration. Already certain villages are equipped with the above-mentioned water purification systems.
E.g. Saddiyawara project by Hayleys PLC.
-
- 21** Distribute soil health cards and soil-test base fertiliser recommendations. Currently, 35,000 containers of fertiliser are imported. With the introduction of soil health cards and fertiliser recommendations, 20% (7,000 containers) of imports can be reduced.
-
- 22** Introduce Tele-medicine services to provide information and diagnosis by healthcare professionals, especially for rural areas through an online call or through preloaded data.
-
- 23** Develop videos to promote physical activity among adults and children to reduce the risk of non-communicable diseases.
-
- 24** Implement proper waste disposal methods at all hospitals.
-
- 25** To attract professional medical staff to rural postings;
- Build international schools for their children.
 - Fully renovate rural hospitals with necessary healthcare facilities.
 - Encourage building of private hospitals for private practice.
 - Facilitate Doctors' quarters with all essential items.
-
- 26** Accelerate reforms in the paramedical education sector to increase the availability of nurses, pharmacists and other paramedical personnel.
-
- 27** Introduce an accident-free house planning guide for senior citizens above 65 years of age.

ACTION PLAN

- 28 Develop Ayurveda treatment segment;
- Provide training and access to new methods used in Ayurveda for practitioners.
 - Plant more herb farms to strengthen Ayurveda medicine production.
 - Introduce income and pension schemes for Ayurveda practitioners similar to Western medicine doctors.
 - Assist top Ayurveda practitioners in the country to establish treatment centres at tourist hubs.
-
- 29 Introduce a “Low Risk Drinking Guideline” to reduce health risks associated with drinking.
-
- 30 Introduce a guideline on recommended sleeping habits for all age levels to promote a healthy lifestyle among citizens.
-
- 31 Raise awareness on mental health issues and establish centers with the necessary professional staff and equipment for counselling and treatments.
-
- 32 Introduce an application with behavioural analytics technology to identify individuals with depression and anxiety.
-
- 33 Develop online video-based training programmes to teach basic first aid techniques for the public in emergency situations.
-
- 34 Conduct good health habit workshops at schools, workplaces, hospitals and religious institutions.
-
- 35 Address the issue of absenteeism of girls due to menstruation, following steps to be taken;
- Conduct awareness programmes at schools, communities and families covering areas such as:
 - The process of menstruation.
 - The importance of washing menstrual cloth.

ACTION PLAN

- iii. Types of absorbents that can be used during menstruation.
 - iv. Build the confidence of adolescent girls and educate them to accept the changes which happen during menstruation.
 - v. Prepare adolescent girls and their families on what to expect during menstruation and how to take care of their hygiene during that period.
- b. Develop online awareness videos on Menstrual Hygiene.
 - c. Establish disposal mechanisms.
 - d. Develop water, sanitation and hygiene-related facilities supporting Menstrual Hygiene management (one toilet for every 40 girls, with water and soap).
 - e. Promote production of Sanitary Napkins at village level.
 - f. Counsel and support adolescent girls on how to improve their diets.
 - g. Conduct training programmes for social development officers and teachers.

Objectives of this training programme are;

- a. To understand the importance of Menstrual Hygiene Management.
- b. To develop skills and capacities to address Menstrual Hygiene Management in schools and the community level.

36 Establish active health labs around the country for health and wellness, especially of sportspersons, by giving them a free reading of their health parameters.

37 Launch a website and an app with essential information for new and expecting mothers with details about what to expect, when to get vaccinations, when to see the doctor, and book appointments with doctors.

38 Allocate free air time and print space for health promotion, particularly for non-communicable disease risk factors in Sinhala, Tamil and English.

MINISTRY OF INVESTMENT PROMOTION AND JOB CREATION

NATION RICH IN INDUSTRIES

“The impact of local and foreign direct investments have in a mixed economy is vast, in helping link global value chains in key sectors”.

Dhammika Perera

GOALS

- **Generate 200,000 new jobs per annum by 2025.**
- **Ensure USD 7 billion local investments per annum by 2025.**
- **Ensure USD 7 billion Foreign Direct Investments per annum by 2025.**
- **Improve Sri Lanka's rank in Ease of Doing Business Index from 100 to 50 by 2022.**
- **Improve Sri Lanka's rank in Global Competitiveness Index from 85 to 45 by 2022.**

ACTION PLAN

- 1** Streamline the investment approval process by reducing the number of pages in the Investment Application from 14 to 3, and provide a preliminary approval within 24 hours.

Simplify the rules and regulations of the investment approval process to overcome red tape.

- 2** Showcase the competitive advantage of investing in Sri Lanka with 25 year guaranteed tax benefits in agreement with the BOI.

0% corporate tax, 0% VAT and 0% dividend tax for 25 years for the following sectors;

- a. Education.
- b. Information Service activities
(Any type of BPO, KPO, provision of infrastructure for hosting, data processing services and related activities, web portals, news syndicates and news agency activities furnishing news, pictures and features to the media, computer based telephone information services, information search services on a contract or fee basis and news clipping services, press clipping services and other digital services).
- c. Human health activities.
- d. Air transport.
- e. Manufacture of motor vehicles, trailers and semi-trailers.
- f. Waste collection, treatment and disposal activities; materials recovery.
- g. Water collection, treatment and supply.

ACTION PLAN

- h. Sewerage.
 - i. Manufacture of other transport equipment.
 - j. Fishing and aquaculture.
 - k. Remediation activities and other waste management services.
12% employee PAYE tax for income levels over Rs. 500,000.
-

3 Facilitate an IT park and an industrial park in all 25 districts for local and foreign investors to fast-track their investments.

4 Introduce a Nation Branding Strategy for Sri Lanka.
(Nation Branding Hexagon - refer page 120)

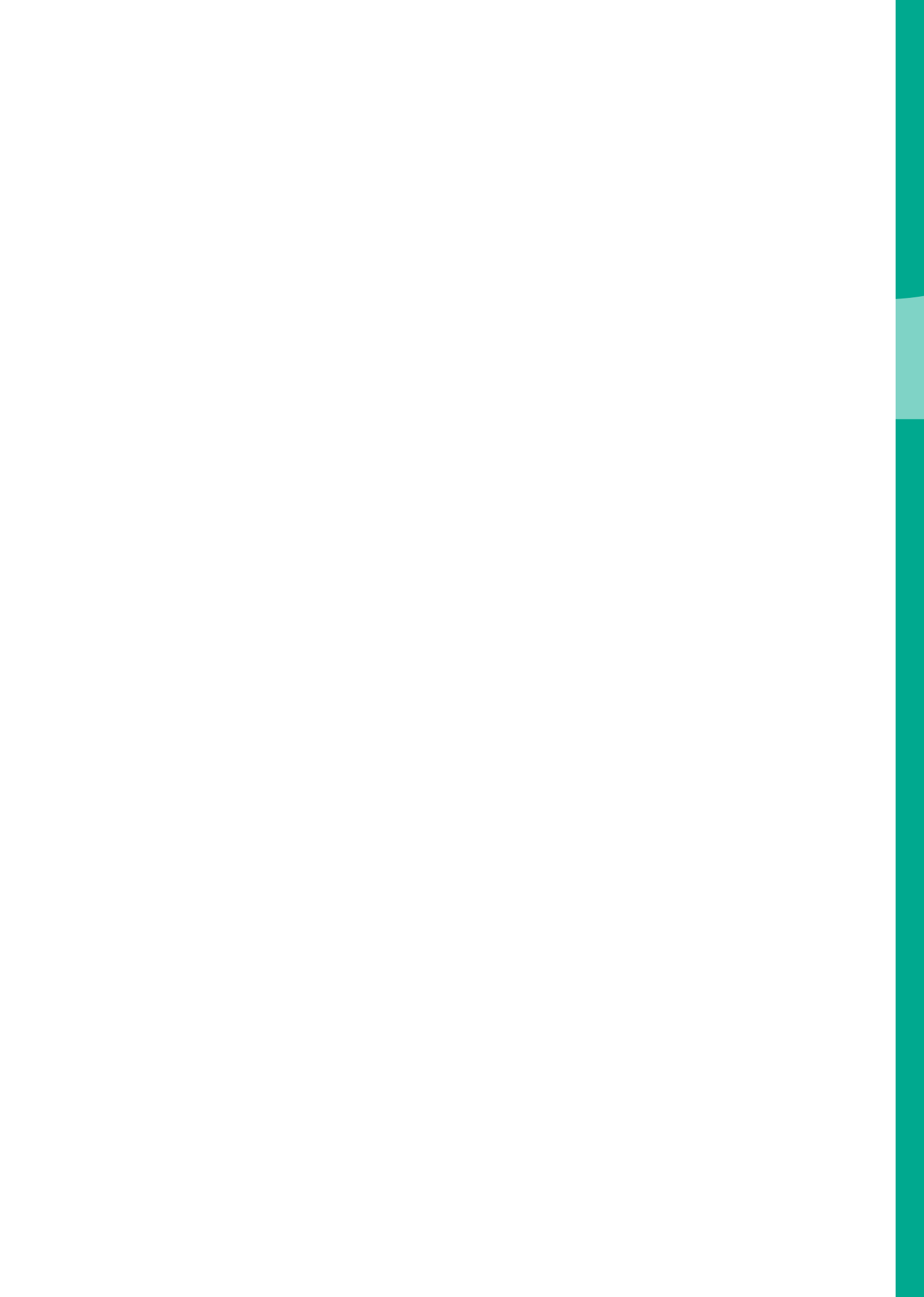
5 Create and Showcase a business-friendly environment, through fully-fledged product and investment offerings.

6 Monitor district-wise job generation monthly. Necessary actions to be taken by the Cabinet where jobs are lacking.

7 Reduce the current rate of corporate tax to 12% for new ventures not mentioned in point 2 and provide a guarantee for the reduced rate for the next 25 years for all sectors (in the Western Province) and for the other eight other provinces to be granted a discount of 80%, thereby charging an effective rate of 2.4% (which will help in additional rural district-wise job generation).

8 Foster a flexible and globally employable workforce:

- a. Identify the top 50 globally demanded jobs for the year.
- b. Improve productivity and skill development at vocational training institutes, benchmarking the best practices at vocational training institutes in Singapore, Thailand, Australia and Malaysia.
- c. Establish career-developing institutes and training centres to match the global workforce demand.



MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

NATION RICH IN DIPLOMACY

“Effective implementation of policies poses sovereignty, regional engagement and most importantly connection of Sri Lankans both near and far”.

Dhammika Perera

GOALS

- Improve Sri Lanka's rank in the Ease of Doing Business Index from 100 to 50 by 2022.
 - Improve Sri Lanka's rank in the Global Competitiveness Index from 85 to 45 by 2022.
 - Uphold Sri Lanka's sovereignty by promoting a peaceful regional environment.
 - Establish a strong link with Sri Lankans in foreign land.
-

38 embassies in Non-Commonwealth countries.

13 High Commissions in Commonwealth countries.

13 Consulate Generals.

2 permanent missions to the United Nations.

- 1 Evaluate all Sri Lankan embassies and high commissions on the basis of:
 - a. Diplomatic importance, impact and geopolitical support.
 - b. Bilateral trade, economic, cultural and social benefits.
 - c. Consular services for expatriates, number of foreign tourists, revenue generated by the missions and maintenance cost of each mission.
 - d. Enhance and improve services of existing missions.
 - e. Establish new missions and shut down unproductive missions.
-

- 2 Introduce mandatory Ambassador Executive Training Programme (AETP) for aspiring diplomats.
 - a. Political appointment-based officials to follow AETP.
 - b. Courses included in the programme:
 - i. Diplomatic protocol and etiquette.
 - ii. United Nations system.
 - iii. Emotional intelligence.
 - iv. Future foresight.
 - v. Public speaking and media handling affairs.
 - vi. Consular and humanitarian diplomacy.
 - vii. Leadership.
 - c. Improve the diploma course in international relations to one year at BCIS and ensure that it is mandatory for all aspiring diplomats.

Introduce Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) for Ambassadors. Main KPIs include;

- a. Value of Foreign Direct Investments brought to Sri Lanka.
- b. Number of foreign companies brought to Sri Lanka.
- c. Number of tourists and visitors brought to Sri Lanka.
- d. Number of export opportunities created for Sri Lanka.
- e. Media value generated in the country of operation to increase awareness of Sri Lanka's nation brand.

ACTION PLAN

Ensure mandatory language courses are followed by diplomats. Fluency is expected in the following languages;

- a. English
 - b. Chinese
 - c. Hindi
 - d. Spanish
 - e. Arabic
 - f. French
 - g. Russian
-

3 Organise “Get to Know Sri Lanka Programme”

- a. An engagement programme for Diasporic youth (between the ages of 18 to 30) of Sri Lankan origin, that would introduce them to Sri Lanka and promote awareness about different facets of Sri Lankan history and traditions.
 - b. Introduce an online platform for migrant workers to regulate overseas employment, through which workers can find authorised recruiting agents, employers and project exporters. The platform will also provide all necessary documents and guidance for migrant workers.
-

4 Initiate a “Youth Ambassador Programme” for Sri Lankan university students studying abroad;

- a. To promote Sri Lankan culture and tourism.
- b. To provide accurate news, especially in a tense situation.
- c. To foster relationships among youth from different countries.

Relevant embassies to train selected students using video material and workshops.

5 Initiate programmes with decision makers, think tanks, academia, media and civil society organisations.

- a. Organise diplomatic leadership incubators.
- b. Organise policy test labs.
- c. Conduct simulation rooms.

ACTION PLAN

- 6 Introduce a friendly borders policy to accelerate regional coordination and economic cooperation with bordering countries in the neighbourhood to improve multilateral cooperation.

- 7 Strengthen connections with foreign countries through foreign economic forums such as ASEAN summit, etc.

- 8 To attract foreign investors:
 - a. Introduce a quarterly magazine with information on the economy, opportunities in different sectors and initiatives by the Government to improve ranking in the Ease of Doing Business Index from 100 to 50; and in the Global Competitiveness Index from 85 to 45, by 2022.
 - b. Design a yearly handbook with information on the economy, taxes, incentives and regulations, sector information, information technology, energy and power, etc.

- 9 Establish a unit consisting of experts in forming policies in relation to the foreign investment industry to focus on foreign policy research, geopolitical issues and national capacity building.

- 10 Maintain a strong connection especially between front-line law-enforcement and security agencies in countries from ASEAN, Commonwealth, etc. in order to strengthen international counterterrorism efforts.

- 11 Initiate a promotional programme, "Sri Lanka, My Second Home", where foreigners with investments of USD 120,000 and monthly income of USD 2,400 would receive the following benefits:
 - a. Duty free allowance for vehicles.
 - b. Concessionary packages for residences.
 - c. Improved access for families and children below 21 years of age.
 - d. A social visit pass.

ACTION PLAN

- 12** Promote Sri Lanka's political, economic and strategic interests by:
- a. Enhancing bilateral relations.
 - b. Promoting exchange visits.
 - c. Preparing status reports on various issues raised at meetings/discussions.
 - d. Discussing issues during bilateral visits and meetings in addition to during international meetings.
 - e. Raising issues during visits undertaken by secretaries.
 - f. Enhancing relations with other countries through outreach programmes.
-
- 13** Cultivate Sri Lanka's international profile in the multilateral system by enhancing cooperation with United Nations (UN) agencies and other regional and international bodies.

MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY

NATION RICH IN TECHNOLOGY

“The economic competitiveness of a country depends on the productivity and sustainability of its ICT sector”.

Dhammika Perera

GOALS

- **Increase ICT revenue from USD 1.2 billion to USD 5 billion by 2025.**
- **Increase ICT jobs from 80,000 employees to 400,000 employees by 2025.**
- **Transform developed Sri Lanka to a Smart Sri Lanka in 2030.**

Sri Lanka is currently at the stage of shifting from an emerging market to a developed market and Smart Solutions are seen as the key towards growth. This developed market-goal is to be reached by 2030 and external resources are essential to transform developed Sri Lanka into a Smart Sri Lanka in further 3 years.

The focus areas are:

1. Smart Security.
2. Smart Education.
3. Smart Health.
4. Smart Agriculture.
5. Smart Transport.
6. Smart Tourism.
7. Smart Sports.
8. Smart Utilities.
9. Smart Finance.
10. Smart Infrastructure.

VISION

To make Sri Lanka among the Top 10 happiest countries in the world.

MISSION

To develop smart services for people's happiness.

TECHNOLOGY ENABLER

AI (Artificial Intelligence) – driven unified ICT platform for all public services.

1 Smart Security

- a. Implement unique digital biometric identification for people under investigation by the police.
 - b. Set up CCTV cameras in all major public and private establishments with facial recognition technology.
 - c. Share criminal databases with world security agencies. Also utilise facial recognition at airports to be alerted regarding any potential terrorists trying to enter the Country.
 - d. Explore real-time facial recognition through smart glasses for the police.
 - e. Use data science to monitor social media activities and predict potential criminal acts.
-

2 Smart Education

- a. Online video-based classes for all school subjects in Sinhalese, Tamil and English for teaching and E-learning.
 - b. Develop all new classrooms as Smart Classrooms to provide wider access to students.
 - c. Create a unified online platform with all available job opportunities and these to be matched with peoples' skills, preferences and locations.
-

3 Smart Health

- a. Introduce a "Digital Health Hub" (DHH) which will be available both online and via a mobile app. DHH can be accessed with the Digital National Identity Card. Services of the DHH include:
 - i. Access to patient's health history for the past 10 years.
 - ii. View time slots available for scans and doctors' appointments at all hospitals and clinics.
 - iii. Alerts on scheduled appointments.
- b. Provide tele-diagnosis services for patients to overcome problems related to hospital reach, affordability, waiting time and availability of space.
- c. Diagnose the stage of cancer and recommend treatments through health record analytics.
- d. Geo-tag patients through the Dengue App to predict the direction and the rate of increase to proactively tackle the spread.

ACTION PLAN

4 Smart Agriculture

- a. Farmer crop profiling and monitoring.
- b. 7-day weather forecast.
- c. Climate-based advisory and climate-smart irrigated agriculture programme.
- d. Fertiliser application recommendation.
- e. Crop stage monitoring.
- f. Geo-tagging and mapping of plots.
- g. Area surveys to guarantee minimum price of crops for farmers.
- h. Harvest predictions.
- i. Pest disease and advisory (timely crop advisory).
- j. End-to-end traceability from nursery to trade.
- k. Mobile crop advisory app for farmers.
- l. Complete mapping of crops in Sri Lanka through satellite imagery to understand the extent of cultivation and estimate production.
- m. Algorithm-based matchmaking between suppliers and buyers.
- n. Reduce agriculture wastage by predicting crop yields across the country and providing optimal storage solutions.

5 Smart Transport

- a. Introduce a mobile app for public transport, through which the general public can access real-time locations of buses and trains.
- b. Implement a Smart Time and Queue Management system for three-wheelers and taxis to minimise waiting time for passengers.
- c. Provide an online platform with real-time information on available parking spots and collect parking charges with a 10% discount for online payments.
- d. Increase landing capacity at airports using ultra high definition cameras and an integrated data platform that would minimise idle time and increase runway capacity.
- e. Introduce an online platform to file Road Watch and Traffic Complaints. Complaints can be filed against all vehicles, including Government vehicles, for breaking road rules and indisciplined parking.
- f. Introduce a smart traffic system to automate traffic lights according to the flow of traffic.

ACTION PLAN

- g. Geo-tag locations with the highest record of face-to-face accidents and provide engineering solutions coupled with advisory signage and notifications.
 - h. Introduce handheld spot fine systems.
 - i. Introduce discreet traffic light and road cameras to monitor adherence to road rules.
 - j. Integrate all E-transport applications into an all-in-one mobile app.
 - k. Introduce an electronic payment system for public transport fare collection, with special day or week passes for tourists.
 - l. Create and upload awareness videos on road rules.
-

6 Smart Tourism

- a. Develop an analytics platform to get visibility of daily hotel occupancy and future bookings across the country to manage associated services for tourists.
 - b. Digitalise all physical assets (e.g sites, monuments, temples, etc.) and provide important information about these to tourists under one platform.
 - c. Introduce augmented reality for tourism to obtain information about tourist sites.
 - d. Develop a platform to create itinerary for tourists based on their dates, preferences, places they want to visit and connect with service providers to provide a seamless experience.
-

7 Smart Sports

- a. Develop a platform to digitalise all sports records and manage each player directly from school level.
- b. Use AI to choose winning combinations of players to represent the sport at National and International level.
- c. Use smart wearables among high calibre players and track their vital statistics during practice sessions and matches to predict future performances.
- d. Use AI to predict rate of attendance at events and optimise ticket pricing and sales to improve monetisation of sports.
- e. Provide online video-based training and courses for coaches.

ACTION PLAN

8 Smart Utilities

- a. Digitalise records of all utility services provided to citizens and link them under one platform with the Digital National Identity Card, which includes the following services:
 - i. E-identity.
 - ii. Security and safety.
 - iii. E-governance.
 - iv. Interoperability services (E-Land register, etc.).
 - v. Mobility services (intelligent transportation system, mobile parking, border queue management, etc.).
 - vi. Healthcare.
 - vii. E-Education.
 - viii. Business and Finance (E-tax, E-business register, etc.).
 - b. Preventive maintenance by forecasting the breakdown of machinery involved in production of utilities using IoT sensors.
 - c. Allow online payments for all utilities or any other services provided, through one website. All these payments could be enabled through digital wallets integration.
-

9 Smart Finance

- a. Monitor tax payments and transactions using AI and automate alerts in case of any inconsistencies.
 - b. Digitalise all Government banking processes with paperless banking, opening FDs online, etc.
 - c. Remove hurdles for payment gateways, minimise transaction costs for payments and popularise mobile wallets.
 - d. Enable mobile and online payment for all public services, income tax filing, etc.
-

10 Smart Infrastructure

- a. Initiate a programme to install fibre optic cables to bring high speed broadband connectivity in rural areas to create local employment opportunities and drive socio-economic growth in the area.
This will enable Government services such as Tele-medicine, Tele-education, E-health, E-entertainment, etc.

ACTION PLAN

- b. Use Blockchain to digitalise all property records and each transaction to ascertain property rights.
- c. Develop Smart IT parks in free trade zones with best in-class architecture to attract FDIs and best companies focused on ICT start-ups and outsourcing.
- d. Introduce a real-time sewage and drainage management system.

Targets for the Private sector

- a. 4-fold increase in ICT revenue from USD 1.2 billion to USD 5 billion by 2025.
- b. 5-fold increase in ICT jobs from 80,000 employees to 400,000 employees by 2025.
- c. Provide 30.2 million sqft in office buildings and IT Parks to accommodate the additional 320,000 employees.
- d. 0% corporate tax guaranteed for the next 25 years for office buildings and IT Parks through the BOI.
- e. Target for 2030 will be USD 10 billion with a total of 800,000 employees.

Enabling steps

- a. Eliminate all taxes related to Internet data.
- b. Introduce a child-friendly limited screen time Internet package with parental controls for children of ages 3 years and above. This will include services such as:
 - i. Improve hand-eye coordination.
 - ii. Improve hand-eye coordination.
 - iii. Enhance language skills.
 - iv. Enhance problem solving.
 - v. Access high quality content.
- c. Improve Mathematics, ICT and the English language beginning from primary education.
- d. Introduce an online portal excluding data charges, which contains instructional videos for all school subjects.
- e. Introduce IT and AI courses from Grade 9.
- f. Offer IT and AI courses with diplomas and certifications at technical and vocational institutes (in future, 40% of students will enter vocational training institutes).

ACTION PLAN

- g. Offer IT and AI bachelor degrees, masters programmes and PhDs at all universities (in future, 50% of students will qualify for universities).
 - i. Develop courses in high demand in collaboration with top ranked universities in the world at all Government and private universities.
 - ii. Adapt and deploy open source simulation packages like ORCAD, Silab, MATLAB, AUTOCAD, etc.
- h. Improve the ranking of Sri Lanka in the Ease of Doing Business index from 100th to 50th position.
- i. Improve the ranking of Sri Lanka in the Global Competitiveness index from 85th of 45th position.
- j. Introduce 0% corporate tax, 0% VAT and 0% dividend tax on information service activities and infrastructure guaranteed for 25 years (IT parks, any type of BPO, KPO, provision of infrastructure for hosting, data processing services and related activities, web portals, news syndicates and news agency activities furnishing news, pictures and features to the media, computer-based telephone information services, information search services on a contract or fee basis and news clipping services, press clipping services and other digital services).
- k. Introduce 0% customs duty and 0% PAL on imports of computers and other hardware units guaranteed for the next 10 years.
- l. Invite the top 100 multi-national information technology companies such as IBM, Intel and Microsoft to setup their global delivery centres in Sri Lanka.
- m. Introduce 0% corporate tax, 0% VAT and 0% dividend tax on establishment of headquarters of non-resident corporations in Sri Lanka guaranteed for the next 25 years.
- n. Establish global delivery centres of Sri Lankan companies across the world.
- o. Provide subsidised cloud infrastructure to various start-ups to support them during the early stages of the company.
- p. Create a unified online platform with all available job opportunities and these to be matched with peoples' skills, preferences and locations.

MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT

NATION RICH IN MOBILITY

“Quality transport contributes to the daily convenience and productivity of citizens, which leads to the development of the country’s economy”.

Dhammika Perera

GOALS

- **Strengthen Sri Lanka's transportation connectivity.**
- **Streamline the existing transport network.**
- **Minimise traffic violations to minimum.**
- **Mitigate traffic congestion at the 7 main corridors to Colombo.**

ACTION PLAN

Smart Transport

- 1** Introduce a mobile app for public transport, through which the general public can access real-time locations of buses and trains.

- 2** Implement a Smart Time and Queue Management system for three-wheelers and taxis to minimise waiting time for passengers.

- 3** Provide an online platform to provide real-time information on available parking slots and collect parking charges with a 10% discount if paid online.

- 4** Increase landing capacity at airports using ultra high definition cameras and an integrated data platform that would minimise idle time and increase runway capacity.

- 5** Introduce an online platform to file "Road Watch and Traffic Complaints". Complaints can be filed against all vehicles, including Government vehicles, for breaking road rules and undisciplined parking.

- 6** Introduce a smart traffic system to automate traffic lights according to the flow of traffic.

- 7** Geo-tag locations with the highest record of face-to-face accidents and provide engineering solutions coupled with advisory signage and notifications.

ACTION PLAN

- 8 Introduce handheld spot fine systems.

- 9 Introduce discreet traffic light and road cameras to monitor adherence to road rules.

- 10 Integrate all E-transport applications into an all-in-one mobile app.

- 11 Introduce an electronic payment system for public transport fare collection, with special day or week passes for tourists.

- 12 Create and upload awareness videos on road rules.

Infrastructure

- 13 Implement a multi-modal transport system with slow and express buses with connections to trains at Moratuwa, Kottawa, Ragama and Negombo.

- 14 Implement a multi-modal transport system with slow and express buses at Piliyandala, Battaramulla and Kadawatha.

- 15 Ensure all new buses coming to the city from multi-modal hubs are low-floor buses with disabled access.

- 16 Ensure availability of branches of best schools, hospitals and all other Colombo-based facilities to mitigate traffic in the 7 main corridors to Colombo (Moratuwa, Kottawa, Ragama, Negombo, Piliyandala, Battaramulla and Kadawatha) and other districts.

- 17 Build 100,000 apartments in central Colombo to minimise traffic congestions during peak hours as the traffic flow will be directed outwards.

ACTION PLAN

- 18 Replace roundabouts at all junctions with traffic lights to reduce costs and travel time.

- 19 Ensure all pedestrian crossings are maintaining proper lighting.

- 20 Implement overhead crossing bridges at crowded crossings.

- 21 Introduce minibus services to the 1,400 villages situated over 2km from a main road.

- 22 Build 1,500 charging stations for electric vehicles.

- 23 Develop road infrastructure for proposed new economic centres and fish markets at each district.

- 24 Develop a National Logistics Network for faster movement of goods.

- 25 Modernise overcrowded railway stations with necessary utilities such as canteens, clean public washrooms and comfortable seating.

- 26 Equip all railway crossings with warning signals and gates.

- 27 Increase number of coaches from 6 to 15 and increase seating for commuters in high-demand overcrowded trains.

- 28 Establish designated tourist train coaches with luxury services.

MINISTRY OF PORTS AND SHIPPING

NATION RICH IN MARITIME LOGISTICS

“Develop and promote Sri Lanka as a premier global naval hub and an international maritime centre to advance and safeguard Sri Lanka’s strategic maritime interests”.

Dhammika Perera

GOALS

- **Increase the total capacity of Colombo port to 21.1 million TEUs.**
- **Develop cruise destination hubs.**
- **Improve efficiency in the ports.**

ACTION PLAN

- 1** Colombo Port Development;
The Port currently accommodates 7.5 million Twenty-foot Equivalent Units (TEUs).
 - a. New South Port quay length is 4.8 km, with 1.3 km currently fully occupied by Colombo International Container Terminals (LTD).
 - b. Three terminals to be built in the remaining 3.5 km area within 3 years.
As a result, an additional capacity of 7 million TEUs can be created.
 - c. Breakwaters and two terminals of the proposed North Port, of quay length 3.3 km, will be built within 6 years. As a result, a capacity of 6.6 million TEUs can be created.
 - d. As a result of these developments, the total capacity of Colombo Port can be increased to 21.1 million TEUs.

Existing capacity of the Colombo Port	7.5 million TEUs
Additional capacity of the remaining South Port	7 million TEUs
Capacity of the proposed North Port	6.6 million TEUs
Total capacity of the Colombo Port	21.1 million TEUs

- 2** Hambantota Port Development;
Awaiting the new proposal for the Hambantota Port Development.

- 3** Charge 0% corporate tax and 0% dividend tax from international companies who establish their head offices in the Country.

ACTION PLAN

- 4 Develop cruise destination hubs in Colombo, Galle, Hambantota and Trincomalee. Cruise routes are Colombo-Galle-Hambantota-Trincomalee-Kankasanthurai.

- 5 Develop a passenger terminal with adequate berthing space (where ships are anchored) including a modern building with sufficient passenger space. The preferred location for this development is on the Bandaranaike Quay (once the container freight stations activities have been relocated to the South Harbour).

- 6 Establish a National Shipping Council to implement, monitor and review a unified shipping strategy, which would incorporate the following:
 - a. Enhance Sri Lanka's attractiveness to shipping business.
 - b. Facilitate access to capital and financing.
 - c. Promote innovation and sustainable growth of ancillary maritime services.
(Support activities: Refuelling, resupplying with perishables, E.g. food, water, etc.).

- 7 Promote Sri Lankan shipbuilding engineering capabilities to other Government bodies and international buyers such as cruise operators.

- 8 Promote employment of Sri Lankan seafarers;
 - a. Fund apprenticeships, specialisations and seafarers up-skilling.
 - b. Improve seafarer employment security, conditions and opportunities.

- 9 Develop a Maritime Education and Training blueprint.

- 10 Alleviate the current port-road congestion by:
 - a. Optimising the gate process: Automation of the gate process will substantially reduce waiting time for trucks. Additionally, a flexible gate system, which enables most gates to function as entry or exit gates when substantial truck inflows or outflows occur, could further reduce waiting time for trucks.

ACTION PLAN

- b. Widening of the port access road: The port access road to be widened from 4 to 6 lanes to increase capacity. The section underneath the Aluthmawatha road cross-over will be widened to a 6-lane road.
- c. Signalling should improve the use of the six lanes, for example two lanes for the gates and one lane for inter-terminal traffic.
- d. Ensuring sufficient space at gated in ramps that end near Fort to align trucks.
- e. Eliminating cross over traffic at ramps near Ingurukade junction through an over-pass.

-
- 11** Digitalise the following processes to improve efficiency in the Port:
- a. Terminal handling at Jaya Container Terminal (JCT) Port Community Systems.
 - b. Gate processes.
 - c. Warehouse management.
 - d. Warehouse cargo clearing.
 - e. Cargo import and export.
 - f. Costs and revenue management systems.

-
- 12** Digitalise import duty payments to improve the flow of goods.

-
- 13** Introduce scanning facilities to inspect containers, to reduce physical inspections while maintaining an acceptable level of risk.

-
- 14** Increase the depth in the Prince Vijaya Quay (PVQ) basin to allow deeper draft grain and cement carriers, with a draft of up to 13m.

-
- 15** Introduce a rail-track reservation at the Port of Colombo with extension to South Port to enable direct rail handling near the terminals, particularly to accommodate newly developed inland dry ports.

MINISTRY OF POWER AND ENERGY

NATION RICH IN ENERGY

“Sustainable energy ensures productive use of resources and minimizes waste that will lead to effective management of costs in the future”.

Dhammika Perera

GOALS

- Ensure 100% electricity for every house.
- Improve the national energy efficiency.
- Improve the efficiency and transparency of the energy market to ensure the best tariffs for energy consumers.

CEYLON ELECTRICITY BOARD

Number of power stations with Private Power Plants (PPP) :258

Installed Capacity with

PPP: 4,046 MW

Net Generation with

PPP: 15,374 GWh

	No of power stations	Installed capacity (MW)	Generation (GWh)
Ceylon Electricity Board (CEB) Total	25	2,903	11,803
Hydro	17	1,399	5,149
Thermal (Oil)	7	604	1,886
Thermal (Coal)	1	900	4,764
Other Renewable energies (Wind)	0	0	1.3
Small Island			2.4
PPP: Total	233	1,143	3,571
Other Renewable energies (Mini hydro)	195	394	1,232
Thermal (Oil)	3	533	1740
Other Renewable energies (Wind)	15	128	325
Other Renewable energies (Wind)	20	88	185
Rooftop solar			88
Total	258	4,046	15,374

(Source: 2018 CEB annual report)

The main costs of CEB are the power purchases and operating costs of existing power plants.

CEB should use a minimum price when purchasing green energy, independent of production cost variations.

Ceylon Electricity Board

- 1** Use the accrual accounting method to calculate power cost of existing government owned power plants.

- 2** Use the estimated levelised cost of energy to select the electricity generating technology when investing in new power plants.

- 3** Use affordable clean energy when investing in new power plants.
E.g. CEB will account for a loss of Rs. 30 billion.
(Rs. 2 x 15 billion units) if the electricity unit cost increases by Rs. 2.

- 4** Construct power stations using municipal solid waste to generate energy in every district.
Build power plants with public and private partner ships. Government to pay tipping fees for the above plants.

- 5** Exempt VAT and PAL when importing LED bulbs. Introduce an additional 30% CESS for traditional and CFL bulbs.

- 6** Promote minimum energy performance standards and promote efficient lighting.
E.g. Giving away LED lamps at cost price. The customer base of CEB for households was 5.5 million in 2018. Each household will replace at least one 40W bulb per year. Promoting an energy efficient bulb of 30W will save 10W.
Annual savings would be 100 GWh, assuming 1,825 hours for a year.

- 7** Carry out energy audits free of charge by the Government for large commercial buildings and 95% of the first year energy savings to be given back to the customer.

ACTION PLAN

- 8 Install Smart Meters in houses which consume more than 500 KWh monthly power consumption. Benefits from this programmed would include:
- Real – time information about energy usage.
 - Better management of electricity consumption.
 - Enhanced billing efficiency.
 - Avoid meter reading costs.
 - Reduction in monthly electricity bill.
 - Shorter outage durations.
 - Ability to monitor Aggregate Technical and Commercial Loss (AT&CL).
-

- 9 Develop and share short awareness videos to promote energy efficient habits for electricity, water on all social media platforms.
-

CEYLON PETROLEUM CORPORATION

- 10 The existing crude oil refinery was built in 1967 (53 year old technology without hydrocracker) and has a capacity of 40,000 barrels per day.
- Build a new plant with hydrocracker and a capacity of 100,000 barrels per day, on the same premises in addition to the current refinery, with 51% ownership and management by the Government.

MINISTRY OF TOURISM

NATION RICH IN HOSPITALITY

“The main benefits of tourism are income creation and generation of jobs. The ability of the national economy to benefit from tourism depends on the availability of investments to develop the necessary infrastructure and on its ability to supply the needs of tourists”.

Dhammika Perera

GOALS

- 10 million visitors.
- USD 18 billion earnings from tourism.

ACTION PLAN

1 Introduce a Nation Branding Strategy for Sri Lanka focusing on;

1. Tourism
2. Exports
3. Governance
4. Culture
5. People
6. Airport, Immigration and Investment



2 Airport Development and Flight Connectivity

1. Expand of Bandaranaike International Airport (BIA) with increased apron space and 16 additional aero-bridges.
2. Enhance terminal space at BIA to meet increased passenger movement. (Check-in counters, immigration counters, lounge facilities, improved dining and retail experiences, leisure activity and transit hotel at the airport etc.)
3. Convert the VIP lounge and its boarding gates at BIA to budget airline operations.
4. Develop Ratmalana, Palali and Mattala airports to an international budget airline hub.
5. Lengthen the runway at the Ratmalana Airport from the current 1773m to 2400m to the east side. This will enable landing of type-D aircrafts i.e. aircrafts with 120 seat capacities." International airports with runway lengths similar to ratmalana airport are;
 - a. London City International airport- UK- Runway length 1500m.
 - b. Antwerp International Airport- Belgium - Runway length 1500m.
 - c. Bocas Del Toro Isla Colon International Airport – Panama- Runway length 1500m.
6. Replace the current Ratmalana airport terminal with a larger prefabricated steel building built within one year, which will provide an improved layout for passenger handling and movement.
7. Establish a Private Jet Operation facility in Ratmalana. International private jets to land at Ratmalana with full concierge services.
8. Resume operations at Mattala International Airport.
9. Develop airports at Koggala, Batticaloa and Trincomalee for domestic flight operations and construct a new airport for domestic flights in Digana, Kandy.
10. Convert a section of Lotus Tower retail area into an express international flight check-in zone, with luggage drop-in services.
11. Match the prices of fuel, landing, parking, airport taxes, aerobridge and luggage handling charges to that of Malaysia.
12. Reduce the current Aircraft Turnaround Time at BIA of 60 minutes to 25 minutes for Budget Carriers, to increase the budget carriers.

ACTION PLAN

13. Increase the number of self check-in kiosks from 8 to 20 at BIA.
14. Introduce dedicated fast track immigration service lines for VIP, first and business class passengers.
15. Classify all airport charges as peak and off peak and maintain a lower fee during off peak hours.
16. Introduce minimum 50 seater aircraft for travellers to move within Sri Lanka.
17. Attract more budget airlines (low cost carriers) to operate to Sri Lanka, to accommodate low cost carrier passengers as there are 55,335 budget rooms available in the country.
18. Introduce automated immigration gates (E-gates) to aid and increase the speed of clearance and enhance efficiencies.
19. Increase the number of direct flights to the top 20 European destinations that bring large volumes of tourists to Sri Lanka, such as:
 - a. United Kingdom
 - b. Germany
 - c. France
 - d. Netherlands
 - e. Italy
 - f. Switzerland
 - g. Scandinavian countries
20. Synchronise domestic flights at airports and their schedules with the respective international connective flights.
21. Approve visa within 24-hours for pre-approved nationalities.
22. Establish a regulated and well-organised taxi service at Bandaranaike International Airport by providing the following;
 - a. Maintain 2 types of taxis i.e.cars and vans.
 - b. Issue duty-free vehicle permits for 900 taxi owners with special vehicle registration plates.
 - c. Regulate the taxi services to ensure compliance and safety.

3 Infrastructure enablers

1. Construct a national multi-purpose stadium with a capacity of 80,000 - 100,000 for local and international performances.
2. Establish Tourist Information Centres in each main city or district.
3. Build Resting Centres with restaurants and clean toilet facilities along all main roads leading to attractions.
4. Ensure proper public seating, washrooms and cafeterias at all train stations.
5. Ensure proper toilet facilities, proper garbage disposal, proper car and bus parking and Wi-Fi zones at major attractions.
6. Grow trees along walking paths to provide shade during hot conditions.
7. Encourage fishing boat owners at Weligama and Mirissa harbours, to operate speedboats of lower noise exclusively for whale watching tours as an additional business opportunity to their current fishing activities.
8. Introduce a mobile application with information on street food vendors including the location and directions via Google Maps, to attract and inform local and foreign visitors.
9. Create a standard guideline for maintaining rental spaces and apartments and to encourage people to list properties via online rental platforms such as Airbnb.
10. Conserve heritage sites such as Sigiriya, Anuradhapura, Polonnaruwa, Sri Pada and Kandy, and improve the visitor experience by:
 - a. Restore and maintain the landscape, improving and maintaining public toilets and providing clean drinking water facilities.
 - b. Improve visitor centres with integrated open cafes and dedicated retail spaces.
11. Restore and develop of heritage and religious sites
 - a. Sacred city of Kandy.
 - b. Ancient city of Sigiriya.
 - c. Sacred city of Anuradhapura.
 - d. Old town of Galle and its fortifications.
 - e. Jaffna Nallur Kovil.
 - f. Embekke Devalaya, and others as necessary.

ACTION PLAN

12. Initiate flood prevention and mitigation measures to ensure a smooth continuation of the tourism industry. Engineers of the Sri Lanka Navy to take the responsibility for river mouth/estuary and river management including seasonal dredging and filling.
13. Map the potential heritage cycle routes and introduce cycle tracks.
14. Build new aquariums and bird parks near Colombo.
15. Develop the Dehiwala Zoo with private sector participation.
 - a. Private sector to provide new animal cages that can be branded under the sponsoring private company for 15 years.
 - b. Carry out a total design revamp and infrastructure upgrade.
 - c. Rebrand as "Sri Lanka Zoo".
 - d. Operate a tourist bus service from popular city hotels, dedicated to zoo visits.
 - e. Introduce educational programmes for school children, university students and international students.
 - f. Introduce a variety of dining and souvenir stores.
16. Develop 26 wildlife parks extending up to 573,376 Ha, to increase revenues.
17. Build 3 new zoos at Dikkapitiya in Badulla, and in Vavuniya and Piliyandala.
18. Build 2 new elephant orphanages at Lahugala in Ampara District and one at Minneriya.
19. Develop botanical, herb and spice gardens around the country.
20. Create tropical rainforest experiences by opening up forest reserves to travelers.
21. Improve whale watching in Mirissa, Kalpitiya, Trincomalee and Galle by;
 - a. Fishery Harbour improvement including proper maintenance of pavements, street lights, drinking water, public toilets, waiting areas and car or coach parking.
 - b. Using improvised boats that can seat 200 passengers with a full snack bar and four restrooms.
 - c. Operate speedboats that reach speeds of 20 knots, to lessen travel-time to locations of sightings. Currently, a location that takes 5-7 hours to reach, could be reached in 1-2 hours using the suggested boats.

ACTION PLAN

22. Revive coral reefs around the country through coral propagation projects.
23. Improve beach activities, such as para motoring, sky diving, kite surfing and underwater scooter tours.
24. Improve sea turtle hatcheries around the country.
25. Provide training and increase the number of certified surf instructors.
26. Provide training and increase number of licenced lifeguards.
27. Improve the livelihood standards of beach boys by providing suitable soft skills and language training.
28. Encourage and assist the major hospitals in Sri Lanka to obtain the Medical Tourism Certificate.
29. Build new city parks with attractions for kids and families within Colombo.
30. Invest in entertainment parks similar to “Disneyland”.
31. Popularise “homestay” tourism concept by introducing 100 beach clubs as additional leisure activities in coastal areas.
32. Upgrade trains on Hill Country and Down South tracks to luxury levels.
33. Develop Kinniya, Madunagala and Maha oya hot water springs.
34. Provide Government support and workshops to improve hotel rooms and restaurants.
35. Identify and develop villages that produce traditional crafts, to enhance the quality of products and generate an income for the craftsmen.
36. Provide online training videos for tourist police officers in managing tourist complaints and issues.
37. Introduce training videos on language, communication skills and proper emergency situation management.

4 Experiences

1. Introduce a calendar of events.
2. Develop 10 districts as main tourist destinations based on arts and crafts, history and heritage, architecture, culture, recreation and leisure, nature and wildlife, adventure, culinary experience and wellness.

ACTION PLAN

3. To attract tourists during traditional festivals.
 - a. Cater itineraries based on traditional festivities such as Sinhala and Tamil New Year, Vesak, Esala and Deepavali.
 - b. Brand the Paada Yatra pilgrimage tour from Jaffna to Kataragama (52 days covering June 8 to July 24).
 - c. Brand the Kataragama pilgrimage.
 - d. Brand the Anuradhapura city pilgrimage.
4. MICE Tourism (Meetings, Incentives, Conferences and Exhibitions).
 - a. Construct two exhibition centres at Ja-Ela and Sri Jayewardenepura Kotte with an area of 30,000 sqm and all modern facilities to host conferences and exhibitions.
 - b. Convert 85,000 sqft of retail space to a convention center at the Lotus Tower.
 - c. Build a convention center with an area of 10,000 sqm at Port City in Colombo.
 - d. Produce interactive promotional videos to attract business travellers to the country, including “10 reasons to meet in Sri Lanka” showcasing all the facilities available.
 - e. Market Hambantota convention center for conferences and exhibitions.
 - f. Simplify business visas for MICE travellers.
 - i. Offer fast-track visa processing services for MICE attendees at immigration counters at airports by having dedicated lanes.
 - ii. Waive visa fee requirements for all MICE attendees, from recognised destinations. This will encourage MICE travellers to choose Sri Lanka as a location for their event.
 - iii. Simplify business event licences for MICE events by introducing a fast-track licensing process for MICE attendees.
 - g. Provide MICE organiser assistance through experienced professionals such as event planners, audio-visual equipment suppliers, freight forwarders, gifts and souvenirs, printers, translators and interpreters, etc.

MINISTRY OF YOUTH AND SPORTS

NATION RICH IN SPIRIT

“Empower the youth of Sri Lanka through skills, modern technology, financial stability and physical well being”.

Dhammika Perera

GOALS

- Ensure the participation of 20 sportsmen in Olympics every year.
- Create an enabling environment and act as a catalyst and facilitator for the promotion and development of youth and sports at regional, national and international levels.
- Be responsive to the aspirations and needs of youth, empowering them for a better future and fostering a culture of sports among the citizens.

ACTION PLAN

Youth

- 1 Promote youth employment through training programmes at youth centres on:
 - a. Programmable logic control
 - b. Computer-aided design (CAD)
 - c. Computer-aided manufacturing (CAM)
 - d. Computer-aided engineering (CAE)

- 2 Introduce an online portal to educate youth on personal financial management.

- 3 Introduce a talent identification and development programme through access to resources, mentorship and industry connections for art, music, media, dance, entrepreneurship and sport.

- 4 Introduce a co-working space to pilot businesses and ideas with professional help from successful businessmen and low start-up risks for youth.

- 5 Introduce a 6-month fellowship programme for 21 selected teams with 22 alternating sessions of workshops and dedicated mentorship (1-to-1 sessions) to take their startup ideas to the next level.

ACTION PLAN

- 6 Initiate a series of talks where industry veterans, thought leaders and entrepreneurs will be invited to share their experiences with aspiring youth entrepreneurs.
-

- 7 Introduce new courses that match job-market demands, through the National Youth Council.

Recommended courses:

- a. Fitness instructors
 - b. Retail sales
 - c. Gardening
 - d. Receptionist
 - e. Café workers
 - f. Waiters
 - g. Child-care
 - h. Hospital attendants
 - i. Cleaning professionals
-

- 8 Introduce job search assistance and career counselling at the National Youth Council.
-

- 9 Facilitate personal and soft-skill development through digital resources.
-

Initiatives for rural youth employment

- 10 Geo-tag unemployed youth in each district and allocate them with suitable jobs based on their qualifications.
-

- 11 Introduce job search assistance and career counselling at the National Youth Council.

ACTION PLAN

- 12 Organize a youth-connect hub to support youth aged 13 to 19, who have left school without completing Grade 12 or are currently unemployed.
 - a. Through the programme, provide guidance tailored to individual education and training needs.
 - b. Provide a pre-vocational training platform for unemployed youth with poor academic performance.
 - i. Additionally, the youth connection programme will provide services for the differently-abled, identifying unique talents, capabilities and potential.
 - ii. The programme will be designed to develop independence, life skills and corporate drive.

Assistance to startups

- 13 Introduce a web portal containing the best start-up magazines from around the world in Sinhala, Tamil and English, where the magazines will be uploaded on a weekly basis.

-
- 14 Allocate Rs. 5 billion (Rs. 1 billion x 5 TV channels) for TV channels (3 Sinhala TV channels, 1 Tamil channel and 1 English channel) with the best proposal for a start-up reality show which will cover 5 industries on 5 different days on a weekly basis.

-
- 15 Develop a start-up portal including free resources such as business guides, online courses, market research and partnered services.

-
- 16 Establish an angel-investor tax concessionary scheme to boost investment activity in the country and attract qualified angel investors.

An approved angel investor, who invests a minimum of Rs. 1 million of qualifying investment in a qualifying start-up, is eligible to claim a tax deduction of 50% of his investment amount at the end of a two-year holding period.

ACTION PLAN

- 17 Initiate startup incubators in universities where students are provided with services such as mentoring, business lab facilities, financial advice, student patent programmes, IP commercialization, etc.
-

- 18 Provide capital for unemployed youth entrepreneurs (from age 18-37) up to Rs. 750,000 as a one-time interest free loan.

Action Plan on sports

Smart Sports

- 19 Develop a platform for digitalising all sports records and manage each player directly from school level.
-

- 20 Use AI to choose winning combinations of players to represent the sport at national and international level.
-

- 21 Use smart wearables with high calibre players to track their vital statistics during practice sessions and matches to predict future performance.
-

- 22 Use AI to predict event attendance rates and optimise ticket pricing and sales to improve monetisation of sports.
-

- 23 Provide online video-based training and courses for coaches.
-

Athletics

- 24 Introduce a “National Sports Talent Portal” for school athletics
- Track events: 100m to Marathon.
 - Field events: All field events including high jump, javelin, etc.

The portal will ensure the availability of athletic records at school, circuit, zonal, provincial and all-island levels for all schools.

Select and create a pool of the top performing 1,000 athletes who have the capability to reach Olympic level and provide them with training in Colombo with education, accommodation and expenses.

ACTION PLAN

- 25 Introduce an online portal that utilises videos to teach sports techniques for all main sports.
-
- 26 Improve and expand the National Institute of Sports Science for the training of coaches.
- Introduce sports education courses, and make them available to trainers and sports team managers, for development of coaching skills, sports medicine and associated skill-sets such as physiotherapy, recovery management, etc.
 - Create online courses and training videos for coaches.
-
- 27 Recruit sports persons with international experience as assistant coaches. Engage the best performers in Coaching Diploma courses from various disciplines on a contract basis.
-
- 28 Provide tax incentives for companies that sponsor sports teams.
-
- 29 Develop a stadium with a synthetic rubber athletic track in each province.
-
- 30 Provide public access to facilities at Department of Sports Development (fitness centre, pools) by charging a nominal fee. All facilities to be used under supervision of a trained coach.
-
- 31 Establish a sports centre for the differently-abled to assist them to train and participate in sports activities.
-
- 32 Develop existing sports complexes.
- Rebrand complexes as “sports clubs” and every district to have one fully equipped sports club with all the main facilities including a pool, gym, playground, etc.
 - Introduce recreational activities such as dining spaces and sports camps at these sports clubs.
 - Build a sports city including an academy, recreation area and various sports activities, within 15 km of Colombo.

ACTION PLAN

- 33** Establish a sports infrastructure development strategy in partnership with the private sector.

Government to lease out an existing underutilised infrastructure facility for a fixed period of 50 years to the private entity to renovate the facility and maintain the premises.

- 34** Launch an app to find the nearest sports facility such as swimming pools, cycling routes, cricket or football grounds, etc.
-

- 35** Hold sports league events for cricket, hockey, basketball, volleyball, netball and football with participation of foreign players.
-

- 36** Attract international triathlon events to Sri Lanka by improving necessary infrastructure and facilities that will conveniently accommodate organisers and participants.

Suggested areas for triathlons are Hambantota, Colombo, Nuwara Eliya, and Trincomalee.

- 37** Develop existing golf courses and facilities to attract international golf tournaments to Sri Lanka.
-

- 38** Maintain an event calendar for sports.
-

- 39** Develop and strengthen traditional sports and recreational activities such as Angampora, Kabaddi and Elle.

ACTION PLAN

Cricket

- 40 Include Cricket in the “National Talent Portal” and identify individual performance levels of each player across the country.

- 41 Utilise AI for the early identification of skill-sets in individual sportspersons, particularly for sports such as cricket.
Include smart bats and smart balls that collect data from players and school level cricketers, helping decision makers analyse and select the most talented players.

- 42 Develop a cricket ground in each district with domestic level standards.

- 43 Develop Radella cricket ground as an international ground.

MINISTRY OF RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS AND INTERFAITH HARMONY

NATION RICH IN UNITY

“Expressing true solidarity across multi-religious communities is paramount in ensuring harmony and co existence among one another”.

Dhammika Perera

GOALS

- Empower and create an enabling environment to strengthen the multi-racial, multi-ethnic, multi-cultural, multi-lingual and multi-religious character of our nation.

ACTION PLAN

- 1 While embracing Buddhism as the main religion of Sri Lanka, consciously define ourselves as a multicultural country that not only tolerates but welcomes various minority cultures.

- 2 Recognise multiculturalism as a defining aspect of our national identity and develop a true understanding for each other's religious foundations, history of their race, cultural events, social needs, languages and traditions, and affirm the diversity of our society and articulate a commitment to not allow religious extremism to disturb the multicultural nature of the country.

- 3 Engage and build trust between communities on issues such as education, charity, personal and dietary laws before engaging with them on security issues.

- 4 Establish a *Religious and Multiculturalism Act* which will cover the following:
 - a. Raise awareness among Sri Lankans about the beauty of religious and multicultural diversity of the country.
 - b. Celebrate both religious and ethnic diversity.
 - c. Enforce "Zero-tolerance" on hate crimes and acts of extremism.
 - 4.1 Pass a *Religious Harmony Act* which will cover the following:
 - a. A mechanism to monitor potential and actual incidents related to promotion of animosity or hatred among religious groups.
 - b. Promptly address these identified issues before they culminate into long-term discord between religious and ethnic minorities.
 - c. Ban religious groups or organisations belonging to any faith or ideology which incites the public towards violence and manifestly disturbs the peace through hate speech.

ACTION PLAN

- d. Address incidents of religious extremism. Should an act of religious extremism occur, decision makers will need to clearly articulate and communicate the difference between individual responsibility and blanket criminalisation of an entire community.
 - e. Immediately ban any organisation that engage in, support, or are associated with terrorist activities, or are found to have links with foreign terror groups.
 - f. Ensure that the media does not sensationalise news that may create unwarranted prejudices against minorities in the country. There has to be a delicate balance between freedom of expression and “responsible expression”, which needs to be practised by all media outlets for news publications, both online and offline.
 - g. Create a cross-cultural round table on religious and multicultural security. It will be imperative that leaders of all religious and ethnic minority groups are represented. This would essentially be a forum where any issues that come to light are effectively discussed and the method by which they could be resolved is decided.
- 4.2 Issue restraining orders against individuals (monk, priest, pastor, imam, elder, office-bearer) or any other person who is in a position of authority in any religious group, institution or any member thereof who has committed or is attempting to commit any of the following acts:
- a. Causing feelings of enmity, hatred, animosity, or hostility between different religious groups.
 - b. Carrying out activities to promote a political cause, or a cause of any political party while, or under the guise of propagating or practising any religious belief.
 - c. Carrying out subversive activities under the guise of propagating or practising any religious belief.
 - d. Exciting disaffection against the President or the Government while, or under the guise of propagating or practising any religious belief. Inciting, instigating, encouraging any religious group or religious institution, or any person to commit any of the aforementioned terror acts.

ACTION PLAN

- 5 Organise a “Peace Committee” comprised of all religious leaders and ensure weekly meetings of relevant communities to avoid conflict and ensure harmony.

- 6 Establish and publicise a Code of Conduct in consultation with leaders of different communities for the observance of various festivals, to ensure that festivals are observed in an amicable atmosphere without causing annoyance to the society.

- 7 Use video/audio coverage and cameras to record the proceedings of religious processions and gatherings, to be considered in case of communal disturbances for identification and prosecution of the offenders and, in the process, could also act as a deterrent.

- 8 Take effective and meaningful actions to curb and check rumours. Establish channels of communications with leaders of all communities, and take strict action against anyone inflaming passions and stoking communal tension by intemperate and inflammatory speeches/utterances. Utilise media and other channels to clear out any false rumours and keep the public informed.

- 9 Distribute inspiring literature among Government and private sector students, and encourage competitions and discussions on the subject of communal harmony. Include religious and ethnic diversity and multiculturalism as part of school curriculum.

- 10 Monitor and brief the media to avoid exaggerated perceptions about incidents that may provoke sentiments and passions, especially in a communal situation.

Appoint a Chief Minister and four state ministers for Buddhism, Hinduism, Islam and Christianity. Double the current allocated budget and distribute the budget at the ratio of the respective population in each religion.

11 Establish a “Home Police” programme.

The proposed “Home Police Programme” provides door-to-door services to resolve any minor disputes within the community. Recruit 4,960 female police officers, (10 officers per station totalling to 496 police stations across the island) and provide 5 motor bikes per station.

1,700 police officers retire every year and these officers could be recruited and trained online and onsite for their tasks including policing domestic issues to reduce the current daily complaints from 3,000 to 2,000.

“Home Police Programme” to be monitored centrally and completed within a period of 3 years.



MINISTRY OF ARTS AND CULTURE

NATION RICH IN HERITAGE

“The creative industries constitute one of the nation’s most powerful resources which adds value to both our economy and our collective soul”.

Dhammika Perera

GOALS

- **Strengthen the local tourism and culture towards empowering the nation's economy.**
- **Promote Sri Lanka's unique in arts, culture and heritage as the main catalyst for the growth in local tourism and culture.**
- **Develop knowledgeable, skilled, creative and innovative human capital in local tourism and culture.**

ACTION PLAN

Strategic plan to improve Arts

- 1 Develop art markets in all tourist hubs in Sri Lanka.

- 2 Support local artists to access affordable drawing storage tubes that enable foreigners to carry canvases.

- 3 Launch a website to promote traditional arts with the assistance of non-profit organizations. Also, advise local artists to use colours from best selling artworks across the globe.

- 4 Develop an online platform funded by the Government for local artists to sell their artwork.

- 5 Publish an online art magazine.

- 6 Organize an art expo which includes paintings, sculptures, installations and photographs from internationally acclaimed art galleries and collectives.

- 7 Co-host the World Summit on Arts and Culture.

- 8 Provide tax incentives for sponsorship of arts, culture and heritage activities approved by the Ministry of Arts and Culture.

Strategic plan for Culture

- 9 Launch a YouTube channel to showcase Sri Lanka's diverse cultural, religious and traditional heritage.

- 10 Organise festivals and events of different cultures, to raise awareness amongst tourists and locals.

- 11 Promote tourism by organising local cultural performances in foreign countries.

- 12 Organise a five-day free-for-all arts festival featuring local and international talent.

- 13 Establish a cultural economic development agency to act as a connector between creators, private investors or businesses, consumers, regulating bodies, and policymakers.

- 14 Carry out culture mapping, which includes regional information on the following categories:
 - a. Performing arts.
 - b. Traditional cuisines.
 - c. Traditional games.
 - d. Traditional customs.
 - e. Traditional clothing.
 - f. Prominent figures in local arts and culture.
 - g. Art infrastructure.

- 15 Create a cultural activity calendar.

- 16 Organise folk performances in all districts.

ACTION PLAN

- 17 Promote awareness of cultural traditions through educational programmes.

- 18 Conduct training, community outreach and workshops for children and teenagers.

- 19 Encourage publishers to convert hard copies into E-books or audio books.

- 20 Support local authors, to help them develop their global appeal.

- 21 Provide virtual tours of museums.

- 22 Improve the standards and security of local museums.

MINISTRY OF FISHERIES

NATION RICH IN FISH TRADE

“Sustainable, productive fisheries and aquaculture improve food and nutrition security, increase income, improve livelihoods and promote economic growth”.

Dhammika Perera

GOALS

- **Double fisherman's household income.**
- **Double the current fish yield of 0.9 tonne/sqkm per annum to 1.8 tonne/sqkm per annum (fish yield of India from the exclusive economic zone of 2.02mn sqkm is 2 tonne/sqkm per annum).**
- **Develop quality of fishery products and aquaculture production.**
- **Manage fishery resources to ensure sustainability and diversity.**

ACTION PLAN

- 1 Develop social and physical infrastructure such as education, toilets, water and electricity of the 1,337 fishing villages under the precision poverty reduction programme.

- 2 Establish Sri Lanka National Centre for Ocean Information for potential fishing zone identification with geospatial technology for real time data.
Advise on potential fishing zones (PFZ) where many fish are found, by studying satellite images of sea temperature, chlorophyll patterns, wave speed and direction.
Provide, high wave and wind alerts for potential disaster zones/ impacted areas through this centre.

- 3 Establish a real-time weather forecast system.

- 4 Modernise and increase the capacity of all fishing harbours/jetties/fish landing centres along the coast with ongoing/new schemes.

- 5 Introduce fish wholesale markets for all 14 districts which have fishing villages.

- 6 Provide stackable seafood mobile chests for inland transportation purposes to preserve the freshness of fish.

ACTION PLAN

Exclude duty and CESS on stackable seafood mobile chests until the local industry is sustainable.

Typically such chests should be capable of keeping fish frozen up to 165 hours.

-
- 7 Introduce mobile cold storage containers to freeze fish in vessels.

 - 8 Provide an application inclusive of real time information of fish price and stock availability in each fishing village.

 - 9 Exclude import duty on fish equipment.

 - 10 Provide an insurance scheme for fishermen and fishing boats.

 - 11 Establish an initiative to increase welfare facilities to fishermen.
Provide financial assistance to the families of deceased fishermen and missing fishermen through this initiative.

 - 12 Provide free rural financial counselling services.

 - 13 Establish and improve additional rural markets with fish products section through a nationwide programme for developing market infrastructure, facilities and farm-to-market roads through public-private partnerships.

 - 14 Define roles of the support institutions – NGOs and working with dedicated professionals within these organizations to facilitate the required changes.

 - 15 Introduce an application to trace fish quantities and traceability for fishermen.

 - 16 Expand oyster cultivation as a community income generation project.

ACTION PLAN

17 Increase open ocean aquaculture in Sri Lanka, an example of which is the currently caged Modha farming in Trincomalee.

18 Provide waterlogged areas/dead rivers' on long term lease agreements with incentives to farmers/entrepreneurs for aquaculture.

19 Develop additional fish farms and intensify existing fish farms which are built on fresh and brackish water.

Establish technical assistance and credit programmes to new fish farmers.

20 Introduce technical, vocational and entrepreneurship training courses on aquaculture in existing vocational colleges.

In addition:

Introduce vocational training courses in following areas to those involved in the fishing sector:

- a. Fish farmer training – freshwater aquaculture.
 - b. Small engines principles training – technical services.
 - c. Financial literacy (money management) for community based sprat farmers and women vendors.
 - d. Training on Post-Harvest Fisheries including on research.
 - e. Training on Deepwater “fish aggregation device”.
 - f. Seaweed farmer training.
-

21 Implement basic training courses for fishermen by the government. Training videos to be uploaded and e-learning platform to be made.

22 Introduce a mobile application, where fish farm owners can identify diseases, and find causes and remedies for the diseases of the fish by uploading and passing on such images to the relevant authorities.

ACTION PLAN

23 Establish new freshwater hatcheries in all districts and upgrade all existing freshwater aquaculture hatcheries.

Ongoing projects are,

- a. Establishment of Aquaculture Development Centre, Sevanapitiya, Polonnaruwa.
- b. Establishment of Aquaculture Development Centre, Muruthawela.
- c. Establishment of Crab City Phase I, Galmulla, Hambantota.
- d. Establishment of Crab City Phase II, Rakawa, Hambantota.
- e. Establishment of Crab City Phase III, Mankerni, Batticaloa.
- f. Establishment of Ornamental Fish Breeding Centre, Sevanapitiya.
- g. Establishment of Marine Ornamental Fish Breeding Centre, Bangadeniya.
- h. Establishment of Genetic Improvement Centre, Dambulla.
- i. Establishment of Aquaculture Development Centre, Muruthawela.
- j. Establishment of Freshwater Prawn Hatchery, Trincomalee.
- k. Establishment of Aquaculture Development Centre, Udawalawe.
- l. Establishment of Sea Cucumber Hatchery, Mannar.
- m. Renovation and expansion of facilities in existing centres (Inginiyagala, Dambulla, Kalawewa and Udawalawe- Tilapia).

24 Initiate a farmer-friendly policy under the broad name “social fishery” where farmers will grow species of small fish along with “other” traditional carps without having to incur substantial investments for their economic as well as nutritional benefits.

25 Popularized freshwater ornamental fish breeding and rearing in backyard hatcheries as a cottage industry for the rural community.

26 Expand ornamental fish breeding and training centres. Introduce training videos for fish breeding and management similar to the Ornamental Fish Breeding and Training Center currently at Rambadagalla.



MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION

NATION RICH IN CONNECTIVITY

“Aviation provides worldwide network, which makes it essential for global business and tourism, thus playing a vital role in economic growth”.

Dhammika Perera

GOALS

- **Increase runway movement from 11 to 17 departures per hour at BIA.**
- **Facilitate an optimum structure to ensure strong network of airports.**

ACTION PLAN

Bandaranaike International Airport

- 1 Convert a section of the Lotus Tower retail area into an express international flight check-in zone, with luggage drop-in services.
- 2 Introduce automated immigration gates (e-gates) enhanced with facial and fingerprint biometrics for fast check-in.
- 3 Increase the number of self-service check-in kiosks at the BIA from 8 to 20 to issue boarding passes for passengers without luggage.
- 4 Introduce 30 additional check-in-counters at BIA immigration to the current 57 check-in-counters in order to mitigate the bottleneck created at check-in-counters.
- 5 Convert the VIP lounge and its boarding gates at BIA to handle budget airline operations.
- 6 Implement BIA app to have real-time flight details, terminal maps, taxi details and booking, restaurants, and airport hotel details.
- 7 Expand BIA with 16 additional aero-bridges.
- 8 For the buses that travel between the boarding gate and the airplane at boarding gates without aerobridges, allow institutions such as banks to provide Cobus low flow buses without a cost in return for branding those buses by the institution for a long-term period of 15 years.

ACTION PLAN

- 9 Reduce the current Aircraft Turnaround Time at BIA of 60 minutes to 25 minutes for Budget Carriers, to increase the runway movement from the current 11 to 17 departures per hour, during peak hours.
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- 10 BIA at present has a mesh fence surrounding its premises and is the only airport in the world at present to do so. Landscape and build and electric fence enabled with sensus technology for enhanced security.
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- 11 Establish a regulated and a well-organised taxi service at BIA by issuing duty free vehicle permits for taxi owners with special vehicle registration plates and allocate the operation and technology to an established taxi service company.
- Maintain 2 types of taxis i.e. cars and vans.
- Issue duty-free vehicle permits for 900 taxi owners with special vehicle registration plates. Regulate the taxi services to ensure compliance and safety.

Infrastructure

- 12 Transform Ratmalana, Palali, and Mattala airports to international budget airline hubs.
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- 13 Transform Ratmalana, Palali, and Mattala airports to international budget airline hubs,
- Palali
 - Trincomalee
 - Baticaloa
 - Koggala
 - Mattala
 - Digana, Kandy
-
- 14 Replace the current Ratmalana airport terminal with a larger prefabricated steel building built within one year, which will provide an improved layout for passenger handling and movement.

ACTION PLAN

- 15 Lengthen the runway at the Ratmalana Airport from the current 1773m to 2400m to the east side. This will enable landing of type-D aircrafts i.e. aircrafts with 120 seat capacities. International airports with runway lengths similar to ratmalana airport are,
 - a. London City International airport- UK- Runway length 1500m.
 - b. Antwerp International Airport- Belgium - Runway length 1500m.
 - c. Bocas Del Toro Isla Colon International Airport – Panama- Runway length 1500m.

- 16 Resume operations at the Mattala International Airport.

- 17 Develop airports at Koggala, Batticaloa, and Trincomalee for domestic flight operations.

- 18 Construct a domestic budget airport at Digana, Kandy within 3 years.

- 19 Introduce minimum 50-seater aircrafts for travellers to move within Sri Lanka.

- 20 Attract more budget airlines (low cost carriers) to operate to Sri Lanka, to accommodate low cost carrier passengers as there are 55,335 budget rooms available in the country.

- 21 Facilitate cargo airlines to fly internationally from Trincomalee, Batticaloa, Koggala, and Digana (Kandy).

- 22 Remove the luggage handling monopoly in budget airlines and allow budget airlines to execute their own luggage handling.

- 23 Match the prices of fuel, landing, parking, airport taxes, aerobridges, and luggage handling charges to that of Malaysia.

ACTION PLAN

- 24 Provide free landing and parking facilities to all cargo airlines to increase exports.

- 25 Classify all airport charges as peak and off-peak and maintain a lower fee during off-peak hours.

- 26 Increase the number of direct flights to the top 20 European destinations that bring large volumes of tourists to Sri Lanka, such as United Kingdom, Germany, France, Netherlands and Italy.

- 27 Synchronise domestic flights at airports and their schedules with the respective international connective flights.

- 28 Introduce dedicated fast track immigration service lines for VIP, first and business class passengers.

