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The Gazette of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka

EXTRAORDINARY

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PART I : SECTION (I) — GENERAL

Proclamations & C., by the President

Seal

Anura Kumara Dissanayake.

Presidential Directive

ESTABLISHMENT of a Presidential Task Force for Rebuilding Sri Lanka, by virtue of the powers vested in me by Article 33 of the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka.

1. Hon. Harini Amarasuriya - Prime Minister and Minister of Education, Higher Education and Vocational Education
2. Hon. H.M. Vijitha Herath Esquire - Minister of Foreign Affairs, Foreign Employment and Tourism
3. Hon. A.H.M.H. Abayarathna Esquire - Minister of Public Administration, Provincial Councils and Local Government.
4. Hon. K.D. Lal Kantha Esquire - Minister of Agriculture, Livestock, Land and Irrigation
5. Hon. Upali Pannilage Esquire - Minister of Rural Development, Social Security and Community Empowerment
6. Hon. Sunil Handunneththi Esquire - Minister of Industry and Entrepreneurship Development
7. Hon. Bimal Rathnayaka Esquire - Minister of Transport, Highways and Urban Development
8. Hon. Nalinda Jayatissa Esquire - Minister of Health and Mass Media

9. Hon. Anil Jayantha Fernando Esquire - Minister of Labour and Deputy Minister of Finance and Planning
10. Hon. Patabendige Dammika Esquire - Minister of Environment
11. Hon. Susil Ranasinghe Esquire - Minister of Housing, Construction and Water Supply
12. Hon. Hanif Yusuf Esquire - Governor of the Western Province
13. Hon. Aruna Jayasekera Esquire - Deputy Minister of Defence
14. Dr. N.S. Kumanayake Esquire - Secretary to the President
15. Dr. Harshana Suriyapperuma Esquire - Secretary, Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development
16. H.S.S. Thuyacontha Esquire - Secretary, Ministry of Defence
17. B.K. Prabhath Chandrakeerthi Esquire - Commissioner General of Essential Services and Secretary, Ministry of Plantations and Community Infrastructure
18. Dr. Hans Wijayasuriya Esquire - Senior Advisor to the President
19. H.S.K.J. Bandara Esquire - Director General of Government Information
20. Rohana Hettiarachchi Esquire
21. Ms. Malarmathi Gangadaran
22. Upul Kumarapperuma Esquire, PC
23. Ms. Samantha de Silva
24. Ms. Mandana Ismail
25. Parakrama Dissanayake Esquire

Greetings !

WHEREAS, in the aftermath of the devastation caused by the cyclone Ditwah affecting all parts of Sri Lanka resulting in the loss and injury to human life and damage to private and public property, there is an immediate and urgent need to mobilize a high-Level and coordinated national recovery mechanism to respond to post–disaster rehabilitation and recovery efforts,

AND WHEREAS it is necessary to establish a governance and operational framework for the "Rebuilding Sri Lanka" initiative, with clearly defined leadership, evidence-based prioritization and a coordinated delivery mechanism across all agencies,

NOW THEREFORE, I, Anura Kumara Dissanayake, President of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka do hereby establish the "Presidential Task Force for Rebuilding Sri Lanka" to provide strategic leadership, Coordination, a unified approach towards and oversight of all post–disaster rehabilitation, recovery and reconstruction matters and, reposing grate trust and the confidence in your prudence, ability and fidelity, appoint you the said:-

1. Hon. Harini Amarasuriya - Prime Minister and Minister of Education, Higher Education and Vocational Education
2. Hon. H.M. Vijitha Herath Esquire - Minister of Foreign Affairs, Foreign Employment and Tourism
3. Hon. A.H.M.H. Abayarathna Esquire - Minister of Public Administration, Provincial Councils and Local Government.
4. Hon. K.D. Lal Kantha Esquire - Minister of Agriculture, Livestock, Land and Irrigation
5. Hon. Upali Pannilage Esquire - Minister of Rural Development, Social Security and Community Empowerment
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21. Ms. Malarmathi Gangadaran
22. Upul Kumarapperuma Esquire, PC
23. Ms. Samantha de Silva
24. Ms. Mandana Ismail
25. Parakrama Dissanayake Esquire

as the members of the said Presidential Task Force to execute below mentioned tasks subject to the provisions stipulated in the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka and any other written laws.

The said tasks are:

i. Provide overall direction, undertake strategic decisions, resolve cross-ministerial issues, guide major funding, recovery and reconstruction choices in the following key rebuilding activities:-
   a. Reinstate basic needs, sanitation and health care
   b. Rebuild basic infrastructure
   c. Scale up livelihood and assets
   d. Restore the local economy
   e. Establish digital data systems and decisions support mechanism
   f. Improve Communication and stakeholder engagement

ii. Appoint Sub Committees under the chairmanship of a Sector Minister for the purpose of operationalizing the decisions of the Core Committee, oversee implementation in rehabilitation, recovery, reconstruction and fundraising initiatives in their respective domains, and monitor progress.

Accordingly, the Task Force is hereby empowered and authorized to set up necessary Sub Committees, including the following, as it deems appropriate:

1. **Committee on Post-Disaster Needs Assessment**
   This Committee shall be responsible for collecting, analyzing and evaluating data on the physical damage, economic losses and social impacts of the natural disaster, and any other related task.

2. **Committee on Restoration of Public Infrastructure**
   This Committee shall oversee rehabilitation and reconstruction of affected public infrastructure systems, including transport, electricity, water, irrigation, health, education and telecommunications through coordinated delivery of resources, ensuring timely implementation, adherence to improved technical and disaster resiliency standards, and any other related matter.

3. **Committee on Restoration of Housing for Affected Communities**
   This Committee shall provide support to rebuild damaged houses or construct new housing for affected

communities in safe zones and in areas where social services and public facilities are available, based on a housing recovery plan by mobilizing resources and technical assistance, and any other related matter.

4. **Committee on Revival of Local Economies and Livelihoods**
This Committee shall provide guidance and support to rapidly stabilize disaster-impacted livelihoods, businesses, rebuild and restore key supply chains, improve access to financial services, develop economic opportunities and guide businesses, industry, and community members to develop and implement comprehensive economic recovery strategies to promote economically resilient communities.

5. **Committee on Restoration of Social Infrastructure**
This Committee shall coordinate restoration of essential social services, including access to education, health, water, sanitation and welfare support. The Committee shall also monitor and provide direction to prevent spread of diseases and maintain relief camps in appropriate conditions.

6. **Committee on Finance and Funding**
The "Rebuilding Sri Lanka Fund Governing Committee" appointed by the Cabinet of Ministers in terms of Cabinet Decision No. 25/2260/801/028 shall be formalized as a statutory fund. Until such time this Committee is empowered to formulate criteria for proper and smooth management of fund mobilization, allocation and oversight of financial resources, including fundraising, budgeting, donor coordination and transparent utilization of the "Rebuilding Sri Lanka Fund" within the existing Fiscal Policy framework.

7. **Committee on Data and Information Systems**
This Committee is tasked with the responsibility for determining and establishing data and information systems necessary to identify and prioritize post-disaster rehabilitation and recovery needs, guide strategies for recovery planning, monitor implementation, as well as promote data sharing and coordination among related agencies and stakeholders. This will entail adoption of advanced analytical tools, predictive models and innovative technologies to support evidence-based decision making and optimize resource allocation.

8. **Committee on Public Communication**
This Committee shall be responsible for introducing an effective communication strategy to coordinate public communication, awareness and stakeholder engagement, ensuring timely dissemination of accurate information on rehabilitation and recovery projects and programs.

AND I appoint Hon. Harini Amarasuriya, Prime Minister as the Chairman of the aforesaid Presidential Task Force and G. M. R. D. Aponsu Esquire as the Convener/ Secretary of the said task.

AND, I do hereby authorized you, members of the Presidential Task Force to make inquiries and issue instructions as required for the purpose of executing the tasks so entrusted, and also to obtain the assistance of the public officers from whom such assistance is intended by the Presidential Task Force for rebuilding Sri Lanka, subject to provisions stipulated in the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka and any other written laws.

FURTHERMORE, I do hereby inform you, members of the said "Presidential Task Force for Rebuilding Sri Lanka", to submit reports to me, from time to time, in respect of the execution of the aforesaid tasks by you.

Given at Colombo under the seal of Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka on the 26th day of December, Two Thousand and Twenty Five.

By Order of the Honourable President

Dr. N.S. KUMANAYAKE,
Secretary to the President.

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