



Ministry of Digital Economy

Progress Report

2024.12.31

1. Vision and Mission of the Institute : Ministry of Digital Economy

- **Vision**
Smart prosperous nation of Digital Excellence.
- **Mission**
Bringing prosperity to all sectors of Sri Lanka through an inclusive strategy for the Digitalization of Economy.

2. Subjects and Functions of the organization :

1. Formulation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of policies, strategies, programmes and projects, in relation to the subjects of digital economy, and those subjects that come under the purview of Departments, Statutory Institutions and Public Corporations listed Institutions based on the national policies implemented by the government.
2. Provision of public services under the purview of the Ministry in an efficient and people friendly manner
3. Reforming all systems and procedures using modern management techniques and technology, thus ensuring that the functions of the Ministry are fulfilled while eliminating corruption and waste.
4. Development of strategies to encourage and increase the use of information and communication technologies in all segments of the society, and coordinate and facilitate the information and communication technology initiatives in partnership with the private sector
5. Active intervention and prevention incidents related to cyber security
6. Provision of necessary technical support for digital forensic investigations
7. Matters relating to expansion of digital technology ventures
8. Registration of Persons
9. Matters relating to all other subjects assigned to Institutions listed Institutions
10. Supervision of all Institutions listed Institutions

3. Departments / Institutions under the Ministry :

1. Department for Registration of Persons (DRP)
2. Data Protection Authority (DPA)
3. Sri Lanka Computer Emergency Readiness Team (SL CERT)
4. Information and Communication Technology Agency (ICTA)
5. Telecommunications Regulatory Commission of Sri Lanka (TRCSL)
6. Sri Lanka Telecom (SLT)
7. IT Parks – Jaffna and Mannar

4. Progress and Forward Outlook: Ministry of Digital Economy

S/No	Project Name	Main Objective of the Project	Project Duration	Total Estimated Cost (TEC) (Rs. Mn)	Cumulative Expenditure (Rs. Mn) as at 31.12.2024	Physical Progress (%) as at 31.12.2024	Physical Progress
1	Government Digital Payment Platform (GovPay) - Pilot project	Enable efficient, secure and transparent online payment mechanism for citizens to pay using electronic means to government Institutions and thereby contribute to digital economy	2023-2024	200.00	0.08	85%	Piloted with 16 beneficiary institutions and 10 banks and 2 fintech on-boarded CBSL LankaPay and Mobitel serve as strategic partners enabling zero cost to the government. The Project was launched on 7th February 2025. It is expected to roll out up to 100 government institutions within 2025
2	Sri Lanka Unique Digital Identity (SLUDI)	to establish a trusted - unique, secure and accurate - digital identity system with full biometric capabilities(iris, facial and fingerprint recognition) for all Sri Lankans aged 15 and above	2021-2024	Rs.6,180 + INR 300crores	92.00	15%	Procurement of Master System Integrator (MSI) is in progress. Ministry has taken actions to fast track the implementation of SLUDI in collaboration with eNIC project under Cabinet approval.
3	Lanka Government Network (LGN) – 2.0	Implement a centrally managed secure government network (VPN) to link government institutions to a single digital infrastructure.	2016-2018 (Annual support and maintenance)	12,737.29	9,181.49	100%	860 Government organizations are connected (up to 100Mbps last mile connectivity and Wi-Fi facilities) by August 2018. Operation and maintenance activities are continuing.

S/No	Project Name	Main Objective of the Project	Project Duration	Total Estimated Cost (TEC) (Rs. Mn)	Cumulative Expenditure (Rs. Mn) as at 31.12.2024	Physical Progress (%) as at 31.12.2024	Physical Progress
4	Lanka Government Cloud (LGC) – 2.0	Enhance communication across the government through establishing improved cloud infrastructure	2016-2018 (Support and maintenance annually)	2,449.50	976.47	100%	Lanka Government Cloud 2.0 (LGC 2.0) has been established and operational from August 2018. Total number of tenants is 219. Actions have been taken to enhance the LGC's scope, service model and pricing model.
5	DigiEcon International Conference and Exhibition	To showcase innovative IT related products and services locally and internationally, and also demonstrate how modern technologies can support other key sectors to boost the economy in Sri Lanka.	2024	20.00	17.80	100%	Global Digital Investment Summit was held on 25 th June 2024. It showcased Sri Lanka's potential as an innovation hub and highlighted our commitment to fostering a conducive environment for sustainable development steering the country towards an inclusive digital future.

5. Policies and Strategic initiatives

The Government of Sri Lanka has articulated a comprehensive policy framework to advance digitalization, foster a digital economy and cultivate the AI industry, aiming to position the country as a competitive regional and global hub for digital innovation and entrepreneurship notwithstanding the country's recent economic drawbacks.

National Digital Economy Strategy

The "National Digital Economy Strategy " serves as a roadmap for embedding digital transformation across all sectors. It emphasizes developing a robust digital ecosystem to drive economic competitiveness, employment creation, sustainable development, and efficient service delivery. The strategy outlines key areas such as infrastructure development, digital skills enhancement, governance, cyber security, financial inclusion and sectoral innovation. Cabinet has granted approval on 25.03.2024.

By integrating emerging technologies such as artificial intelligence (AI), machine learning (ML), and the Internet of Things (IoT), Sri Lanka aims to boost economic competitiveness while promoting social equity and environmental sustainability. This is aligned with the Government's Digital Strategy where the Election Manifesto, Digital Economy Strategy and the 'DoIT 5.0 Digital Economy Policy of the ruling National People's Power (NPP). All these documents have identified the key gaps in the industry, workforce and other enabling factors.

The NPP's digital policy for Sri Lanka, "DOIT 5.0", which led to the digital policy of the Government, focuses on four main goals:

1. Develop the Digital Industry
2. Transparent and Efficient Governance
3. Drive the Digital Economy
4. Supporting the Development of Strategic Industries and Sports

It is also understood that Capacity Building is an important area to be focused on in addressing the above goals. Furthermore, it is important to underscore that adopting digitalization would make it efficient and effective in delivering many of the NPP's manifesto promises.

Therefore, it should be noted that digitalization under the new government has a much broader scope than previous attempts and its successful implementation is pivotal for the government to deliver on its manifesto promises.

Four key areas of Digital Economy will focus on will be making the IT industry a US \$5 billion industry in six years, implementing e-Governance to reduce corruption, increasing cashless transactions from nearly \$3.5 billion to \$15 billion in six years, and increasing the IT workforce from 85,000 annually to 200,000 in six years.

Strategic action items associated with these thrust areas would be driven by the Ministry of Digital Economy and the institutes under its purview and in collaboration with a range of state and non-state stakeholders, and the required legal and institutional framework is now underway to fast track results.

National Strategy on Artificial Intelligence (AI)

Complementing the digital economy strategy, Sri Lanka has introduced a "National Strategy on Artificial Intelligence" to harness AI for inclusive growth and societal benefit. This strategy focuses on:

1. Establishing data-sharing mechanisms, open data platforms, and guidelines for data management and protection to enable effective and secure data utilization for AI development.
2. Equipping students and professionals with competencies to thrive in an AI-driven economy by updating academic curricula and offering targeted training.
3. Investing in secure, scalable and sustainable digital and data infrastructure to support advanced AI applications, including expanding high-speed connectivity and developing shared AI platforms.
4. Promoting needs-driven AI R&D through strategic funding, collaborative platforms and capacity-building initiatives, particularly in sectors such as healthcare, education, agriculture and public service delivery.
5. Raising public awareness and understanding of AI through strategic communication and education initiatives to demystify AI and build trust.

The strategy also emphasizes responsible public sector transformation and private sector AI stimulation to drive innovation and economic growth.

Other Policy Initiatives

The following policies have been drafted during 2024 and will be finalized in consultation with stakeholders soon.

- E mail Policy
- Cloud Policy
- Data Sharing Policy

6. Recent Developments

It has been assessed that 64% of Sri Lankans are digitally literate, so that the demand for digital solutions and supportive infrastructure is growing exponentially. So that, a foundational infrastructure ranging from digital identity from high speed broadband connectivity. Sri Lanka has taken significant steps to enhance its digital infrastructure and human resources capacity building for sustaining investments made on digital infrastructure.

SLUDI/eNIC: A comprehensive policy and technical approach has been introduced by the government to fast track Sri Lanka's Unique Digital Identity initiative along with the electronic national identity card (e-NIC) project using the MOSIP platform, which is also supplemented by a financial grant from the Government of India to carry out the digital ID revamp project.

Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI) and Agri-tech: Sri Lanka is also on a journey on establishing digital public infrastructure (DPI) for agriculture sector which is currently supported by the Gates foundation and many other Development Agencies. We hope to incorporate latest technology through startups accelerated connected to a decision support system which will support decision making for government and farmers resulting in socio economic impact.

A state of the art Agri-tech platform encompassing sensor and image technology coupled with data analytics, will enable evidence based farming decisions. Bringing in demand supply equilibrium and optimum use of fertilizer and water will enable better farming practices producing higher yield at lower costs.

Starlink in Sri Lanka: Recently, Starlink was licensed to provide services in Sri Lanka. This move aims to improve internet services, particularly in rural areas, and grow Sri Lanka's ambitious digitalization rollout.

7. Future Plans of the Ministry

The Ministry has taken action to implement the two new projects in 2025

(a) National Data Exchange (NDX)

The National Data Exchange (NDX) is a proposed centralized platform designed to facilitate secure sharing and integration of data across Government agencies and stakeholders from various sectors. It aims to enable efficient collaboration, informed decision-making, and enhanced service delivery by establishing standardized frameworks for data exchange within a connected government framework. Steps have been taken to develop sector-specific blueprints, and proposal has been forwarded to the National Planning Department (NPD) for approval.

(b) DigiLocker

Aligning with the ‘Digital Economy Strategy 2030’, the Government of Sri Lanka plans to introduce DigiLocker (DL), a secure, cloud-based platform for document access, storage, sharing, and verification, marking a significant stride towards a digitally empowered nation. The Ministry has engaged in discussions with the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology of the Government of India to introduce this initiative to Sri Lanka. The proposal has been forwarded to the National Planning Department (NPD) for approval.

(c) Establishment of Digital Economy Authority (DEA)

The Ministry has initiated action to enact new legislation to further accelerate the digital economy and to establish a new institutional mechanism including the (Digital Economy Authority (DEA)) as well as other subject specific agencies in the digital eco system. The Cabinet has approved the creation of DEA in place of the ICTA, while an interim Project Management Unit under Ministry of Digital Economy has been also initiated.

Finances for Digitalization

The following Programmes, Projects and initiatives were identified for implementation under the additional Rs.3 billion allocated to the Ministry for 2025. In addition, several bilateral and multilateral financial and technical partnerships are underway to fast track the Digital Economy initiatives during the next three years.

Programme / Project / Initiative	Estimated Allocation (Rs.Mn)
1. National Data Exchange	300.00
2. Workforce Development	300.00
3. Digital Economic Authority	500.00
4. Start-up Funds of Funds Programme	300.00
5. Threat Hunting and Malware Analysis Lab	275.00
6. Digitalization of Terrestrial Television Broadcasting (DTTB)	125.00
8. National AI Drive	750.00
9. Lanka QR and GovPay Programme	200.00
10. Government Sector Official Email Drive – Phase-I	50.00
11. Project Management Unit (PMU) of Ministry of Digital Economy	100.00
12. DigiLocker	100.00
Total	3,000.00

Further, the following initiatives will be implemented under the regular budget of Rs.1.5 billion allocated to the Ministry in 2025

Programme / Project / Initiative	Estimated Allocation (Rs.Mn)
1. Establishment of Cyber Security Regulatory Authority (CSRA)	500.00
2. Digital Development Requests by other Government Entities	1,000.00
Total	1,500.00

Terrestrial TV Broadcasting (DTTB) project.

The Government decided to accelerate the much delayed project under a JICA soft loan. TRCSL will be able to release the 700 MHz bandwidth occupied by television operators once this bandwidth is released after completion of the Digital Terrestrial TV Broadcasting (DTTB) project. This will help expand broadband facilities, especially for rural areas, and promote 5G to support the country's digitalization endeavors. The topmost antenna mask at the Colombo Lotus Tower can be optimized by DTTB transmission. The expansion of 5G spectrum also opens new industrial opportunities.

Bilateral and Multilateral Relations

Partnership with China: Sri Lanka and China have agreed on more investment and economic cooperation, including aligning China's 'Belt and Road Initiative' with Sri Lanka's 2030 digital economy blueprint. This partnership is expected to bolster Sri Lanka's digital economy through infrastructure development and technological collaboration.

Partnership with India: An MoU for the Cooperation in the field of sharing successful digital solutions implemented at population scale for digital transformation has been finalized and will be signed soon.

UN Agencies: A project for Civil Registration and Vital Statistics (CRVS) in Sri Lanka are now being financed through the United Nations SDG Fund, and UNDP with WHO assists the Registrar General's Department to develop a sharable digital database of individuals.

Engaging Global Business Leaders

During the recent visit of HE the President to Dubai, he invited several global companies to setup their R&D, development and educational centres in Sri Lanka, to server global demands. The new government is committed to increase the IT workforce in Sri Lanka from the current 85,000 to 200,000 by 2030 and will ensure the workforce development to meet the demand.

President's request from ORACLE Vice President to establish an Oracle AI & Cloud Innovation Hub in Sri Lanka, Deploy Oracle Infrastructure for Government & Banking, and Enable Public Sector Digital Transformation.

Sri Lanka's politically neutral position allows global players to serve all of South Asia (India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Nepal) from a single hub. The availability of high-skilled, cost-effective talent and SEZ zones with incentives can be make it an ideal base for AI, cloud computing, and digital transformation in the region.

The Chairman of Alibaba was asked to set up a Regional E-Commerce & Logistics Hub at Port City Colombo SEZ & Hambantota, leveraging Daraz's presence and positioning Sri Lanka as a trade hub for South Asia.

At the meeting with David Baszucki, CEO of Roblox, the President requested to establish a Global Roblox Game Development & Digital Creativity Hub in Jaffna, with a Specialized Unit Focused on Tamil-Speaking Content for South Asia and the Global Tamil Diaspora.

Sri Lanka Computer Emergency Readiness Team (SLCERT)

S/No	Project Name	Main Objective of the Project	Project Duration	Total Estimated Cost (TEC) (Rs. Mn)	Cumulative Expenditure (Rs. Mn) as at 31.12.2024	Physical Progress (%) as at 31.12.2024	Physical Progress
1	Establishment of Cyber Security Operations Centre (NCSOC)	Implementation of a national level Security Operations Center (SOC) to monitor the security of critical government networks and systems in a proactive manner, to provide a secure and reliable public service to citizens.	2018-2025	830.25	446.37	90%	Completed Hardware and Software Installation & Configuration completed One tenant is connected. It is expected to connect 10 tenants in 2025.
2	National Certificate Authority	Establishment of NCA as the overall governance and the standard setting entity required for the smooth and effective functioning of Certification Service Providers (CSPs) in Sri Lanka to facilitate secure electronic transactions.	2019-2025	477.69	460.47	85%	Annual Audit Completed Procurement of Infrastructure was in Progress Enabling Root Certificate to Browsers was in Progress Web Trust Seal was Obtained

S/No	Project Name	Main Objective of the Project	Project Duration	Total Estimated Cost (TEC) (Rs. Mn)	Cumulative Expenditure (Rs. Mn) as at 31.12.2024	Physical Progress (%) as at 31.12.2024	Physical Progress
3	Risk assessments for government organizations	Improve the Cyber Security Readiness of 10 Government Organizations by Conducting Risk Assessments, Vulnerability assessments and penetration testing, Information security Policy and Business Continuity /Disaster recovery plan development and conducting Trainings.	2020- 2024	130.00	8.56	100%	Risk Assessment completed in 10 Government Organizations.
4	Cyber Security Capacity building program	Conducting Training of Trainers Program and Train 10,000 government employees.	2020-2024	59.00	15.88	60%	3600 government officials were trained another 3000 will be trained in 2025
5	Legal Reforms on Cyber Security	This project aims to introduce legal reforms to ensure cyber security.	2024	10.00	0.18	20%	Stakeholder consultation held to obtain expert opinion to identify the gaps in the existing legal frameworks and to address risks in new technologies

S/No	Project Name	Main Objective of the Project	Project Duration	Total Estimated Cost (TEC) (Rs. Mn)	Cumulative Expenditure (Rs. Mn) as at 31.12.2024	Physical Progress (%) as at 31.12.2024	Physical Progress
6	Development of Policies and Standards for current and future technologies	This project aims to develop information security policies, guidelines and standards to implement security controls to protect digital assets.	2024	22.50	4.00	40%	Procurement to develop standards and policies completed. Procurement to develop technical standards for cyber security is completed
7	Raise awareness on on-line safety, cyber Security and Social Media Security	Increase the awareness of potential cyber threats and risks to ensure cyber security among stakeholders and enhance cyber resilience	2024-2025	20.00	2.30	50%	Ministry of Public Administration, Home Affairs and Local Government agreed to facilitate Sri Lanka CERT to conduct district wise Cyber Security awareness sessions for government organization., TikTok Green Channel to Sri Lanka CERT was obtained.
8	Enhance the Capabilities of Forensic Units	To optimize the digital forensic process, provide comprehensive support to law enforcement, and establish malware analysis facilities.	2024-2025	19.00	6.40	35%	Procurement of Software and Hardware is in progress. Workstation, NAS procurement completed.

Developments in Cyber Security and Personal Data Protection

3. Enactment of Cyber Security Act

Sri Lanka has drafted the cyber security bill with a focus on establishing a regulatory framework to address the civilian aspects of cybersecurity. This includes strengthen legal provisions to protect Critical National Information Infrastructure (CNII), establishment of Cyber Security Regulatory Authority (CSRA) of Sri Lanka, and create a safe and secure cyber environment for citizens. This legal framework is critical in regulating the cyber Security sectors in preventing, detecting, mitigating, and responding to cyber incidents effectively. This act will be enacted in the first quarter of 2025.

4. Cyber Security Strategy 2025-2029

With respect to cyber security the government has taken necessary steps to draft the Nation's Cyber Security Strategy which will be implemented from 2025 to 2029. Sri Lanka launched the nation's first National Information and Cyber Security Strategy in 2019 and implemented till December 2023 and achieved significant milestones. Sri Lanka's progress after the successful implementation of this strategy is reflected in its recognition as an "Advancing" country in the Global Cyber Security Index (GCI), which highlights its commitment to enhancing cyber security practices across multiple pillars.

With the support of the World Bank, Sri Lanka CERT has developed the second iteration of the National Cyber Security Strategy of Sri Lanka: 2025 – 2029, to specifically address the civilian aspects of cybersecurity. This strategy aims to address the evolving cybersecurity challenges facing the nation and further strengthen the resilience and trustworthiness of the cyber ecosystem of the country. This cyber security strategy serves as a roadmap for strengthening the country's cybersecurity posture while supporting the broader goals of digital transformation, innovation, and economic growth outlined in the DoiT 5.0 Digital Policy for Sri Lanka.

This new Strategy provide the road map for building the required legal and regulatory framework that mainly focuses on strengthen legal provisions to protect CNII, strengthen cybercrime legal frameworks, introducing legal review and reforms, establish mechanisms, including processes, policies and standards, to identify and mitigate risks associated with relatively new technologies, such as Internet of Things (IoT) and blockchain, as well as emerging technologies, such as machine learning and Artificial Intelligence (AI). The other priorities include deepening Sri Lanka's cybersecurity skills through advanced education and professional training opportunities, enhancing the country's ability to monitor, prevent and respond to cyber incidents as well as strengthen recovery abilities, increasing cooperation on a global scale and leverage local partnerships to build a robust cybersecurity ecosystem, including public-private partnerships for coordination and building trust.

3. The Information and Cyber Security Policy for Government Organizations

Approved by the Cabinet of Ministers in 2022, this policy strengthens the cybersecurity posture of Sri Lanka's public sector by mandating its implementation in all government entities designated as “Public Authorities” under the Right to Information Act. The policy is built on international standards such as ISO 27001 and the NIST ((National Institute of Standards and Technology) Cybersecurity Framework and employs a risk-based approach to establish organizational cybersecurity programs. It outlines a comprehensive set of actions for identifying and protecting assets, detecting and responding to cybersecurity incidents, and recovering from cyberattacks effectively. This initiative ensures government organizations are well-equipped with necessary technologies, standards and legal frameworks in safeguarding citizen data, building digital trust in government services, and contributing to a secure and resilient digital economy.

These initiatives reflect Sri Lanka’s holistic approach to promoting a secure digital ecosystem and supporting its broader goals of digitalization, innovation, and digital economic growth. By addressing emerging challenges and leveraging global best practices, the Sri Lankan government is paving the way for a future-ready, digitally empowered nation.

Future Plans - SLCERT

Establishment of a Threat Hunting and Malware Analysis Lab

Objective of this initiative is to establish a dedicated Threat Hunting and Malware Analysis Laboratory with state-of-the-art tools and technologies for detecting, analyzing, and mitigating malware and Advanced Persistent Threats (APTs). A Team of Professionals will be trained to specialize in threat hunting and malware analysis. Protocols for proactive threats detection, analysis and response will be formulated and implemented. It is expect to establish strategic partnership with international cyber security organizations for knowledge sharing and threat intelligence. The proposal has been forwarded to National Planning Department for approval.

Department for Registration of Persons (DRP)

S/No	Project Name	Main Objective of the Project	Project Duration	Total Estimated Cost (TEC) (Rs. Mn)	Cumulative Expenditure (Rs. Mn) as at 31.12.2024	Physical Progress (%) as at 31.12.2024	Physical Progress
1	e-NIC Project	Establishment of a secure, centralized Electronic Storage for registration of Citizens who are of 15 years and above (National Register of Persons- NRP) and Issuance of Electronic National Identity Card	2015-2025	6,000.89	4,394.55	84%	335 Divisional-DRP units and Provincial DRP units in 5 Provinces established. Disaster Recovery Data Centre (DRDC) in Nuwara Eliya and Main Data Centre at Head Office - DRP have been established. Island-wide data capturing program to get Biographic, Biometric and ICAO Standard Photograph of every eligible Citizen will be commenced in 2nd quarter 2025. Implementation of SLUDI in collaboration with eNIC project under Cabinet approval.

Telecommunications Regulatory Commission of Sri Lanka (TRCSL)

S/No	Project Name	Main Objective of the Project	Project Duration	Total Estimated Cost (TEC) (Rs. Mn)	Cumulative Expenditure (Rs. Mn) as at 31.12.2024	Physical Progress (%) as at 31.12.2024	Physical Progress
1	Smart School Project Provide smart boards to 1000 schools	Enhancing ICT infrastructure in schools to digitalized general education	2024-2025	700.00	1,063.00	60%	1000 smart boards were imported and tested. Will be distributed to the schools in collaboration with MOE
2	School fiber connectivity project	Provide high speed internet connectivity to the schools	2024-2025	500.00	3.00	50%	Connectivity provided for 500 schools. It is expected to provide connectivity to another 500 schools in 2025.
3	Gamata Sannivedanaya – Connect Sri Lanka Project (construction of Towers)	To establish a technology driven society and fully digitalized Sri Lanka by ensuring comprehensive 4G / fiber broadband coverage across the country.	2021-2025	1,367.5	486.06	21%	The scope of the project is as follows; Ratnapura - 35 Kurunegala – 35 Matara – 21 Kandy – 33 Anuradhapura – 31 Badulla – 34 Kalutara – 34 Kegalle – 34 Jaffna – 11 Trincomalee – 08 Matale - 21 Total 297 Achievement is shown in the below table

**Financed by TRCSL funds*

Gamata Sannivedanaya – Progress Summary as at 31.12.2024

District	Total Towers	Documents not yet submitted	Authority approvals processing	Final approval granted by TRCSL (construction not yet started or construction in progress)	On-aiored
Ratnapura	35	02	01	01	31
Kurunegala	35	03	07	04	21
Matara	21	06	07	05	03
Kandy	33	20	05	08	-
Anuradhapura	31	13	14	04	-
Badulla	34	21	07	05	01
Kalutara	34	07	16	10	01
Kegalle	34	08	09	11	06
Jaffna	11	08	-	03	-
Trincomalee	08	07	01	-	-
Matale	21	19	-	02	-
Total	297	114	67	53	63

*02 sites temporarily on-aiored by mobitel (Kalutara – Wawella / Kegalle – Dickellakanda)

Sri Lanka Telecommunications (Amendment) Act No. 39 of 2024

This Act has been amended after 28 years and passed by the Parliament on 17/07/2024. These amendments has allowed introducing regulations to create a more competitive and fair market in the telecommunication sector in accordance with the accepted global standards.

Implementation of Number Portability

By implementing this, fixed or mobile subscriber can change the operator while retaining the original number. Commission has granted approval for the number portability rules and guidelines. Sinhala and Tamil translations are being done. Financial evaluation is in progress. It will be operational within next three months.

Information and Communication Technology Agency of Sri Lanka (ICTA)

S/No	Project Name	Main Objective of the Project	Project Duration	Total Estimated Cost (TEC) (Rs. Mn)	Cumulative Expenditure (Rs. Mn) as at 31.12.2024	Physical Progress (%) as at 31.12.2024	Physical Progress
1	Technical Diffusion Project	development of new technologies, diffusion of existing and new technologies to local and global businesses and transforming the businesses by effectively adopting the technologies	2021-2024	1,002.00	0.19	23%	Technology adaptation had been done for 37 agriculture-related SMEs- 37 SME were supported and they adopted smart agriculture. 12 workshops and seminars conducted with 806 participants to increase the technical know-how among industries and Govt. stakeholders through local tech companies.
2	Capacity Building Programme for Digitally inclusive Sri Lanka	- Empowering citizen to adopt digital technologies - Make future ready employable work force - Improving Capacities and digital competencies of government employees	2021-2024	1,005.00	4.40	55%	The Integrated Capacity Building Model has been developed. 150 Master trainers and 1,799 government officials trained under NextGenGov initiative.

S/No	Project Name	Main Objective of the Project	Project Duration	Total Estimated Cost (TEC) (Rs. Mn)	Cumulative Expenditure (Rs. Mn) as at 31.12.2024	Physical Progress (%) as at 31.12.2024	Physical Progress
3	Employee Trust Fund (ETF) Management System	To improve efficiency and effectiveness of the ETF management process through implementing a centralized solution (Develop an ICT solution for the Employment Trust Fund Board (ETFB) fund management system and related services to offer efficient services.	2016-2018 extended up to 2024	100.00	80.64	99%	Completed the ETF system, 11 change requests and User Acceptance Test (UAT). Completed the user training and TOT.
4	National Spatial Data Infrastructure (NSDI) - Phase II	Development of a single platform to share spatial data and for effective decisions making	2016-2022	530.00	175.27	90%	NSDI platform successfully completed and functioning (www.nsdi.gov.lk). NSDI policy and NSDI Road Map for 2022-2024 have been prepared. Cabinet approval to be obtained for the NSDI Policy.
5	Management and Operation of Government Information Centre (GIC)	Establish fully functional Government Information Centre with up to date information on government Services	2016-2022 extended up to date	105.90	341.78	100%	Operation and maintenance is on-going. Improvements are being done.

S/No	Project Name	Main Objective of the Project	Project Duration	Total Estimated Cost (TEC) (Rs. Mn)	Cumulative Expenditure (Rs. Mn) as at 31.12.2024	Physical Progress (%) as at 31.12.2024	Physical Progress
6	Technology Industry Development Programme (To improve competitiveness of the IT BPM industry and enhance job opportunities through new technology-based businesses)	To improve competitiveness of the IT-BPM industry and enhance job opportunities through new technology –based businesses	2021-2024	759.00	2.94	41%	Increased export readiness of 30 IT-BPM companies. 15 IT-BPM firms on-boarded for one-on-one business coaching. 260 employees of IT-BPM firms were supported to re-skill and up-skill. National digital consortia held with Multi National companies to invest in Sri Lanka
7	Start-up and Scale -up Programme	To improve competitiveness of the Technology Industry of Sri Lanka	2021-2024	625.00	24.32	81%	Market access opportunities for 30 businesses was facilitated. 20 start-ups have been supported with grant funding by brandix worth 25 Mn.

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8	Regional Cluster Development	To establish a conducive ecosystem for effectively functioning regional technology cluster which provide entrepreneurship innovation, technology diffusion and more technology based jobs in the region	2021-2024	163.00	1.40	50%	Established the Jaffna Tech Diffusion Cell is in progress. The conceptualization phase has been successfully completed. A location for establishing the Learning and Innovation Center (LIC) in the Matale district has been finalized in collaboration with SLT and District Secretariat. A need assessment to identify requirements for the Learning and Innovation Center and the identification of stakeholders' requirements has also been completed. Virtual startup clinic conducted in collaboration with Registrar of Companies (ROC) and three other clinics conducted for selected startups.
9	ICT Solution for Government Analyst Department (GAD)	To increase the efficiency and effectiveness of the process carried out by the GAD. Both internal and external stakeholders of GAD and citizens will be benefitted in numerous ways by introducing proper ICT solutions	2016-2018 extended up to 2024	40.00	30.02	90%	The User Acceptance Test (UAT) and user training have been completed.

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10	Government Digital Forms	Establish fully fledged platform to produce digital forms for government organizations	2021-2024	84.00	7.17	50%	Completed the development of forms.gov.lk solution in 2022. Established the solutions in 9 institutions on a pilot basis. 7 active live forms are available.

* As ICTA is in the liquidation process, limited activities will be carried out by ICTA in 2025.

Data Protection Authority (DPA)

- DPA structure under the law makes it an autonomous body with broad objectives under Section 31. It is governed & administered by Chairman & the Board of Directors, appointed by President based on several criteria in the Personal Data Protection Act (PDPA) (Sec 29 & 30). Day to day operations and regular functions are managed by Director-General appointed by the Board.
- Key Priorities of the DPA are as follows :
 - Institutional capacity building
 - Driving compliance and promoting responsible innovation
 - Safeguarding and empowering people through a better understanding of their rights and our role
 - Effective investigation and enforcement
 - International and regional cooperation
- The Board took the initiative to Issue the following of Orders [notifications published by Minister (former President)] Gazette Order, dated 8th January 2024 appointing the following dates to operationalize several Parts of PDPA:
 - 1st December 2023 as the date on which the provisions of Part VI, VIII, IX and X of the Act becomes operative
 - 18th March 2025 as the date on which the provisions of part I, II, III and VII of the Act becomes operative

- Preparation of a Strategy and an Operationalization Road Map (*with the technical assistance of the European Commission*)
- Preparation of a Procedures Manual for HR and Administration (*by technical assistance by UNOPS*)
- Initiated and work is in progress to develop Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for complaint handling, investigation, and enforcement (*with the technical assistance of European Commission*)
- Internal Committees namely Audit Committee, Legal Committee of the Board, Marketing and Communication Subcommittee and HR and Administration (including IT infrastructure) Subcommittee established to coordinate respective matters and report to the Board
- The first DP Circular was issued in all 3 languages (Circular No. 01/2024 dated 13th September 2024) titled ‘Application of the PDPA in Public sector & Introduction to DPA’
- Other legal and policy documents and about DPA, including nine (9) Directives, Guidelines, rules and regulations published in the DPA’s website in Draft form for stakeholder comments.
- DPA Board Members and officials have been part of many awareness creation sessions/forums on the PDPA which includes sessions/forums of Friedrich Naumann Foundation, SLASSCOM, Bar Association, The Sri Lanka Institute of Directors, The Ceylon Chamber of Commerce, Ministry of Finance, The German AHK Association, and Ada Derana. They were invited for consultations in USA (Washington DC) and Germany (Bonn/Berlin).
- The Board resolved to appoint Advisory Committees, starting from the following five (05) priority thematic areas
 - Health Services
 - Finance, Banking and Capital Markets, Telecom and Insurance
 - Employment
 - Children and related Issues
 - Tourism
- The Board of Directors have noted that the Act requires some minor amendments, and worked out a draft to be formalized by the Legal Draftsman’s Dept. – **Cabinet approved the key amendments and to extend the enforcement date beyond previously appointed 18th March 2025.**

Sri Lanka Telecom (SLT)

Completed Key Projects in the Last Year

1. SLT Fiber Project:

This project focused on expanding the fiber optic network to provide high speed fiber availability in every district secretariat areas and enable fiber new connections aimed to residential and commercial customers. Fiber technology assures internet speed and reliability for customers, ensuring better connectivity and improved service quality. By improving fiber infrastructure, this project supports the country's digital economy by enabling public and businesses to access information and operate more efficiently. SLT capital expenditure on fiber project in year 2024 was Rs 17.2 Billions in year inclusive of previous committed project payments as well as delivered nearly 104 K new connections within the year.

2. Data Centre and Cloud Enhancement Project:

This initiative involved upgrading the existing data center infrastructure to support advanced features, capacity expansions and also emerging cloud services. The enhancements included increased storage capacity, improved security measures, and the integration of cutting-edge technologies to offer scalable and efficient cloud solutions to clients. This project boosts the digital economy by providing businesses with reliable and secure data centre and cloud services, facilitating digital transformation, and supporting the growth of tech startups and enterprises. Data Centre capacity enhanced by 60 additional colocation spaces inclusive of additional storage capacities. Further multicloud environment and OpenShift based Kubernetes cluster introduced for corporate. Data centre network architecture also transformed in to Software define network architecture to cater future demands.

3. School Fiberisation Project

The School Fiberisation Project aimed at connecting rural schools to the internet by laying high speed fiber connectivity and expand the fiber footprint to cover secondary level schools which are deprived of latest technology. By providing high-speed internet access, the project facilitated digital learning and educational resources for students and teachers in remote areas, bridging the digital divide and promoting educational equity. This project supports the country's educational development by equipping the future workforce with essential digital skills and knowledge, fostering a more inclusive and skilled society. SLT already connected 550 secondary schools as guided by the Ministry of Education and TRCSL and the project will continue to connect 1000 Schools by this project completion bridging the digital gaps. SLT has almost connected 3000+ schools with fiber with previously done school fiberisation projects as well.

Projects in 2025

1. SMW 6

This project involves investing in the South-East Asia–Middle East–Western Europe 6 (SMW 6) submarine cable system between Marseille and Singapore, with a cable length of approximately 11500 kilometers and having a capacity of 126 Tbps. The investment aims to enhance international connectivity, providing faster and more reliable internet services by linking multiple countries across continents. Sri Lanka will be a full landing station and so far the cable landing investments and landing station development has been progressing. This project will enable seamless global communication, enhancing trade opportunities, and attracting international businesses to the country. SLT will be completing nearly Rs15 Bn investment for this project up to completion.

2. Fiber New Connections 2025

Continuing the efforts from the SLT Fiber Project, this initiative will focus on extending fiber optic connections to new customers. The goal is to expand the network coverage, ensuring that more households and businesses can benefit from high-speed internet access. It is expected to connect additional 120K customers to the network

Statement of Financial Performance
for the period ended 31st December 2024

Revised Budget Allocations 2024 Rs.		Note	Actual	
			2024 Rs.	2023 Rs.
20,400,000,000	Revenue Receipts		18,222,160,662	-
-	Income Tax	1	-	-
20,400,000,000	Taxes on Domestic Goods & Services	2	18,211,160,662	19,182,056,557
-	Taxes on International Trade	3	-	-
-	Non Tax Revenue & Others	4	11,000,000	-
20,400,000,000	Total Revenue Receipts (A)		18,222,160,662	19,182,056,557
-	Non Revenue Receipts		-	-
-	Treasury Imprests		3,996,041,000	2,201,309,000
-	Deposits		13,892,817	13,286,624
800,000	Advance Accounts		2,435,972	1,674,236
-	Other Main Ledger Receipts		-	-
800,000	Total Non Revenue Receipts (B)		4,012,369,789	2,216,269,860
20,400,800,000	Total Revenue Receipts & Non Revenue Receipts C = (A)+(B)		22,234,530,451	21,398,326,417
-	Remittance to the Treasury (D)		11,955,539	-
20,400,800,000	Net Revenue Receipts & Non Revenue Receipts E = (C)-(D)		22,222,574,912	21,398,326,417
-	Less: Expenditure			
-	Recurrent Expenditure			
71,000	Wages, Salaries & Other Employment Benefits	5	48,948,946	42,017,327
3,010,390,000	Other Goods & Services	6	2,924,200,438	1,252,018,412
497,010,000	Subsidies, Grants and Transfers	7	476,894,752	578,906,778
-	Interest Payments	8	-	-
-	Other Recurrent Expenditure	9	-	-
3,578,400,000	Total Recurrent Expenditure (F)		3,450,044,136	1,872,942,517
-	Capital Expenditure			
9,900,000	Rehabilitation & Improvement of Capital Assets	10	1,610,609	6,695,156
34,000,000	Acquisition of Capital Assets	11	8,733,669	2,575,593
200,000,000	Capital Transfers	12	53,990,972	319,608,621
-	Acquisition of Financial Assets	13	-	-
2,500,000	Capacity Building	14	312,390	425,500
5,110,000,000	Other Capital Expenditure	15	897,125,432	83,800
5,356,400,000	Total Capital Expenditure (G)		961,773,072	329,388,669
6,000,000	Deposit Payments		13,271,720	13,032,721
-	Advance Payments		4,393,022	1,861,617
-	Other Main Ledger Payments		-	-
6,000,000	Total Main Ledger Expenditure (H)		17,664,742	14,894,338
8,940,800,000	Total Expenditure I = (F+G+H)		4,429,481,950	2,217,225,525
11,460,000,000	Balance as at 31st December J = (E-I)		17,793,092,962	19,181,100,892
-	Balance as per the Imprest Adjustment Statement		17,793,092,962	19,181,100,892
-	Imprest Balance as at 31st December		-	-
			17,793,092,962	19,181,100,892

Statement of Financial Position
As at 31st December 2024

		Actual	
	Note	2024	2023
		Rs	Rs
<u>Non Financial Assets</u>			
Property, Plant & Equipment	ACA-6	39,282,273	36,810,333
<u>Financial Assets</u>			
Advance Accounts	ACA-5/5(a)	10,744,412	8,787,363
Cash & Cash Equivalents	ACA-3	-	-
Total Assets		50,026,685	45,597,696
<u>Net Assets / Equity</u>			5,486,973
Net Worth to Treasury		4,586,972	3,251,019
Property, Plant & Equipment Reserve		39,282,273	36,810,333
Rent and Work Advance Reserve	ACA-5(b)	5,257,440	5,257,440
<u>Current Liabilities</u>			
Deposits Accounts	ACA-4	900,000	278,903
Unsettled Imprest Balance	ACA-3		
Total Liabilities		50,026,685	45,597,696

Detail Accounting Statements in ACA format Nos. 1 to 7 presented in pages from ..7..to..42.. and Annexures to accounts presented in pages from ..43.. to ..65.. form an integral part of these Financial Statements. **The Financial Statements have been prepared in accordance with the Government Financial Regulations 150 & 151 and State Accounts Guideline No. 06/2024, dated 16.12.2024** and hereby certify that figures in these Financial Statements, Notes to accounts and other relevant accounts were reconciled with the Treasury Books of Accounts and found in agreement.

We hereby certify that an effective internal control system for the financial control exists in the Reporting Entity and carried out periodic reviews to monitor the effectiveness of internal control system for the financial control and accordingly make alterations as required for such systems to be effectively carried out.


.....
Chief Accounting Officer
Name :
Designation :
Date : 25/02/2025


.....
Accounting Officer
Name :
Designation :
Date : 25/02/2025


.....
Chief Financial Officer/ Chief Accountant/
Director (Finance)/ Commissioner (Finance)
Name :
Date : 25/02/2025

Waruna Sri Dhanapala
Secretary (Acting)
Ministry of Digital Economy

Waruna Sri Dhanapala
Secretary (Acting)
Ministry of Digital Economy

K.D. Dileepa Rathnayake
Chief Financial Officer
Ministry of Digital Economy

**Statement of Cash Flows
for the Period ended 31st December 2024**

	Actual	
	2024 Rs.	2023 Rs.
<u>Cash Flows from Operating Activities</u>		
Total Tax Receipts	-	-
Fees, Fines, Penalties and Licenses	-	-
Profit	-	-
Non Revenue Receipts	-	-
Revenue Collected on behalf of Other Revenue Heads	3,247,406	1,648,447
Imprest Received	3,996,041,000	2,201,309,000
Recoveries from Advance	2,629,457	1,735,853
Deposit Received	13,892,817	13,286,624
Total Cash generated from Operations (A)	4,015,810,680	2,217,979,925
<u>Less - Cash disbursed for:</u>		
Personal Emoluments & Operating Payments	2,972,981,884	1,293,794,639
Subsidies & Transfer Payments	476,894,752	578,906,778
Expenditure incurred on behalf of Other Heads	188,533	995,500
Imprest Settlement to Treasury	11,955,539	6,500,000
Advance Payments	4,393,022	1,861,617
Deposit Payments	13,271,720	13,032,721
Total Cash disbursed for Operations (B)	3,479,685,450	1,895,091,255
NET CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES(C)=(A)-(B)	536,125,230	322,888,669
<u>Cash Flows from Investing Activities</u>		
Interest	-	-
Dividends	-	-
Divestiture Proceeds & Sale of Physical Assets	-	-
Recoveries from On Lending	-	-
Total Cash generated from Investing Activities (D)	-	-
<u>Less - Cash disbursed for:</u>		
Purchase or Construction of Physical Assets & Acquisition of Other Investment	547,125,230	329,388,669
Total Cash disbursed for Investing Activities (E)	547,125,230	329,388,669
NET CASH FLOW FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES(F)=(D)-(E)	(547,125,230)	(329,388,669)
NET CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING & INVESTMENT ACTIVITIES (G)=(C) + (F)	(11,000,000)	(6,500,000)
<u>Cash Flows from Financing Activities</u>		
Local Borrowings	-	-
Foreign Borrowings	-	-
Grants Received	11,000,000	6,500,000
Total Cash generated from Financing Activities (H)	11,000,000	6,500,000
<u>Less - Cash disbursed for:</u>		
Repayment of Local Borrowings	-	-
Repayment of Foreign Borrowings	-	-
Total Cash disbursed for Financing Activities (I)	-	-
NET CASH FLOW FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES (J)=(H)-(I)	11,000,000	6,500,000
Net Movement in Cash (K) = (G) + (J)	-	-
Opening Cash Balance as at 01st January	-	-
Closing Cash Balance as at 31st December	-	-

Explanation for the Variances between Actual Revenue and Revised Revenue Estimate

Revenue Accounting Officer : Ministry of Digital Economy

Expenditure Head No : 186

Rs.

Revenue Code	Description	Revised Revenue Estimate	Actual Revenue	Difference between Revised Revenue Estimate and Actual Revenue	Variance as a % of Revised Revenue Estimate	Reasons for the Variance
1002.11.00	Telecommunications Levy	18,500,000,000	15,927,326,277	(2,572,673,723)	-14%	-
1002.14.00	Cellular Tower Levy	1,600,000,000	1,685,680,675	85,680,675	5%	-
1002.15.00	SMS Advertising Levy	300,000,000	598,153,711	298,153,711	99%	-

25/02/2025

Date



Signature and Name of Chief Financial Officer/
Chief Accountant / Head of Finance

K.D. Dileepa Rathnayake
Chief Financial Officer
Ministry of Digital Economy



Signature of Revenue Accounting Officer
Name of Revenue Accounting Officer:
Designation of Revenue Accounting Officer:

Waruna Sri Dhanapala
Secretary (Acting)
Ministry of Digital Economy