

India Extends Technical Assistance to Strengthen Sri Lanka's AML/CFT Framework Ahead of Mutual Evaluation

The Department of Revenue of India, in collaboration with the High Commission of India in Sri Lanka, continued its technical assistance programme aimed at supporting national preparations for the upcoming Mutual Evaluation (ME) on Anti-Money Laundering and Countering the Financing of Terrorism (AML/CFT). As a part of this initiative, two high-level Indian delegations visited Sri Lanka during September and November 2025, respectively.



The first visit took place in September 2025, focused on strengthening the AML/CFT framework, sharing of best practices and enhancing the collaboration between the two countries in the AML/CFT domain. It was steered by the experts from the Central Board of Direct Taxes, Central Bureau of Investigation, Financial Intelligence Unit, and the Financial Action Task Force Cell of the Ministry of Finance, Government of India. The high-level meeting with the Indian delegation was chaired by Dr. P Nandalal Weerasinghe, the Governor of the Central Bank of Sri Lanka (CBSL), with the participation of Hon. Justice (Rtd.) Buwaneka Aluwihare, P.C., Chairman, AML/CFT Task Force, Prof. Anil Jayantha Fernando, Hon. Minister of Labour and then Deputy Minister of Economic Development, Dr. Harshana Suriyapperuma, Secretary to the Treasury, Ministry of Finance, Mr. Harshana Nanayakkara, Hon. Minister of Justice and Mr. Parinda Ranasinghe P.C., Hon. Attorney General.

The technical sessions were attended by officials from Attorney Generals Department, Sri Lanka Police, Commission to Investigate Allegations of Bribery or Corruption, Inland Revenue, Sri Lanka Customs and Financial Intelligence Unit.

The second delegation included senior officials from key Indian regulatory and supervisory authorities, including the Reserve Bank of India, the Financial Intelligence Unit, the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority and the Securities and Exchange Board of India. Throughout the visit, the experts engaged extensively with Sri Lanka's regulatory and supervisory authorities of the financial sector, providing valuable technical insights and sharing practical experience gained from India's recently conducted ME.

A key highlight of the programme was the high-level discussion on Digital Payments and the Regulation of Virtual Asset Service Providers, which was chaired by the Governor of the CBSL. The discussion was attended by the Hon. Deputy Minister of Digital Economy, Eng. Eranga Weeraratne. Secretary to the Treasury, senior officials from the Ministry of Digital Economy, the Ministry of Finance, and the Inland Revenue Department.

This collaborative engagement reflects the strong partnership between India and Sri Lanka, as well as the shared commitment in strengthening Sri Lanka's AML/CFT framework. This continued support is expected to significantly strengthen the Sri Lanka's compliance with international standards and enhance the readiness of domestic stakeholders for the upcoming ME