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வெளிநாட்டு அலுவல்கள், வெளிநாட்டு வேலைவாய்ப்பு மற்றும் சுற்றுலாத்துறை அமைச்சு
MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, FOREIGN EMPLOYMENT AND TOURISM

Media Release

UK FCDO Press Release entitled “UK Sanctions for Human Rights Violations and Abuses during the Sri Lankan Civil War”

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Foreign Employment & Tourism takes note of the Press Release dated 24th March 2025, issued by the UK, Foreign Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO) entitled “UK Sanctions for Human Rights Violations and Abuses during the Sri Lankan Civil War”. As stated in the press release, the UK government has imposed sanctions on four individuals, three of whom are former military commanders of the Sri Lankan armed forces.

It is also noted that the UK FCDO Press Release refers to “a commitment made during the election campaign to ensure those responsible are not allowed impunity”.

In this regard, the Ministry wishes to underline that this is a unilateral action taken by the UK government which involves an asset freeze and travel ban on the individuals concerned. Such unilateral actions by countries do not assist but serve to complicate the national reconciliation process underway in Sri Lanka.

The government is in the process of strengthening domestic mechanisms on accountability and reconciliation and any past human rights violations should be dealt with through domestic accountability mechanisms.

The position of the Government of Sri Lanka was conveyed by Foreign Minister Vijitha Herath to the British High Commissioner to Sri Lanka, Andrew Patrick, today at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Foreign Employment & Tourism.

**Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Foreign Employment and Tourism
Colombo**

26 March 2025

Foreign Affairs

විදේශ කටයුතු
வெளிநாட்டு அலுவல்கள்



Republic Building, Colombo 1
ජනරජ ගොඩනැගිල්ල, කොළඹ 1
சுதேயரகக் கட்டிடம், கொழும்பு 1



2 325 373/5, 2 207 200/7



cypher@mfa.gov.lk

Foreign Employment

විදේශ රැකියා
வெளிநாட்டு வேலைவாய்ப்பு



17th Floor, "Mehewara Piyesa", Narahenpita, Colombo 5
17 වන මහල, "මෙහෙවර පියස", නාරාහේන්පිට, කොළඹ 5
17அவது தளம், "மெஹேவரபியேச", நாரஹேன்பிட்டி, கொழும்பு 5



2 331 200



info@mfe.gov.lk

Tourism

සංචාරක
சுற்றுலாத்துறை



696/4, Maradana Road, Colombo 10
696/4, මරදාන පාර, කොළඹ 10
696/4, மருதாண வீதி, கொழும்பு 10



2 381 798, 2 321 222



secretary@tourismmin.gov.lk