



07.10.2021

Chief Editor / News Editor
Director (News) / News Manager
Web Editor

Release No : 1030/2021
Release Time : 08.30

SRI LANKA AIMS TO GO DIGITAL WITH THE INTRODUCTION OF BLOCKCHAIN TECHNOLOGY AND CRYPTOCURRENCY MINING

Keeping in line with the National Policy Framework - Vistas of Prosperity and Splendour - which highlights the importance and values of a technology-based society, Cabinet approved the proposal made by the Hon. Minister of Project Coordinating and Monitoring Namal Rajapaksa to appoint a committee to report to the Cabinet on the Acts, Rules and Regulations to attract investments and investors in the areas of Digital Banking, Blockchain & Blockchain related industries such as crypt- currency

The necessity of developing an integrated system of digital banking, blockchain and cryptocurrency mining technology has been identified to pace on par with the global partners in the region while expanding trade to the International markets.

This committee will be mandated to study the regulations and initiatives of other countries such as Dubai, Malaysia, Philippines, EU, and Singapore etc, and propose a suitable framework for Sri Lanka.

The committee will also study the laws and regulations of other countries in terms of anti-money laundering, terrorism financing, criminal activities, and the Know Your Customer processes.

The committee comprises the following experts in their field: Mr Sujeewa Mudalige (Chairman), Mr Sadun Hapugoda, Mr D. Kumarathunge, Mr Jayantha Fernando and, Mr Milinda Rajapaksha.

Profiles of the Committee

1. Mr. Sujeewa Mudalige - Chairman
Managing Partner PricewaterhouseCoopers Sri Lanka.

Sujeewa Counts over 30 years of experience as a Chartered Accountant. Sujeewa is a FCA (ICA - SL), FCMA (CIMA – UK), FCCA (ACCA – UK) and FCPA (CPA – Australia). He has vast experience as the Audit Committee Chair and as an independent non executive director in both public and private sector organizations.

2. Mr. Sandun Hapugoda - Committee Member
Director - Mastercard Sri Lanka & Maldives

With over 19 years of experience in Banking and Payments Industry, currently work as a Director in Sri Lanka and Maldives for Mastercard. He has led several digital financial innovations in Sri Lanka and South Asia region throughout his career at Different Finance institutions. Sandun holds a M.Sc. from Staffordshire University, UK.

3. Mr. Dharmasri Kumarathunge - Committee Member
Director, Payments & Settlements - Central Bank Of Sri Lanka

Dharmasri Kumaratunge has more than 30 years' experience in Central Bank. As the Director of the Payments & Settlements of the CBSL he works as Country Director of the SAARC Payment Council (SPC), Alternate Country Director of Sri Lanka in Asian Clearing Union (ACU), Alternate Country Director of SWFIT Alliance, Board Member of Lanka Financial Services Bureau Ltd, Board Member of National Institute of Business Management (NIBM), Member of the National Transit Card Implementation Project, Secretary of the National Payment Council which is the highest decision making body of the Payment system of Sri Lanka.

4. Mr. Jayantha Fernando - Committee Member
Chief Legal Officer - ICTA.

Jayantha Fernando has over 20 years International & South East Asian experience in a broad range of ICT legal and policy issues. He is an Attorney by profession with a specialized Masters Degree in Law (LLM) in Telecommunications & IT Law. He was responsible for drafting Sri Lanka's Electronic Transactions Act, Computer Crimes Act and advised Legal Draftsman on the final draft of the Payment & Settlement Systems Act. He chairs Sri Lanka's Data Protection law Drafting Committee. He is a British Chevening Scholar (2002) and an Eisenhower Fellow (2012).

5. Mr. Milinda Rajapaksha : Convener to the Committee & Committee Member
Additional Director General, Dept. Govt. Information

Milinda Rajapaksa is a published author and experienced political activist. He holds a MBA and is a fellow of University of Miami, Florida on Development Communication. He has 15+ experience in political and corporate communications strategy formulation. Having worked for the United Nations, Ministry of Youth Affairs and co-chaired the World Conference on Youth in 2014, Milinda has a keen interest in the role of youth in politics and development.



Mohan Samaranayake
Director General of Government Information