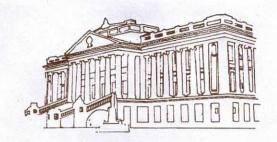


ජනාධිපති කාර්යාලය சனாதிபதி அலுவலகம் PRESIDENTIAL SECRETARIAT



My No: PS/GPA/Circular/01/2020

January 13, 2020

To: All Secretaries of Ministries

All Secretaries of State Ministries

All Chief Secretaries

All Secretaries to Governors

All Heads of Departments

All Heads of Statutory Organizations

Positioning the Information and Communication Technology Agency (ICTA) of Sri Lanka to drive National Digital Initiatives of the Government

It has been observed that many government agencies are implementing information technology based solutions in isolation and in a compartmentalized culture of service delivery. This, in addition, has resulted in a lack of a cohesive, coordinated approach to build a whole-of-government framework where data should be shared across systems for providing citizen-centric services effectively and efficiently.

Furthermore, despite such initiatives outcomes have not been efficient, cost effective and public centric. Instead, due to the demand for extra employees, buildings and logistic facilities, service delivery cost has risen. It has also led to wasteful public expenditure programmes in the national budget. This compartmentalized strategy has also tapped foreign funding from different sources, engaged consultants and project management teams, and created wasteful expenditure on non-compatible systems and equipment.

In this background, His Excellency the President has directed that all ICT/digital solutions having an impact on citizen service delivery should be implemented under the overall management and supervision of the Information and Communication Technology Agency (ICTA) of Sri Lanka to ensure the following:

- a. Provide public service delivery to the people in a cost-effective and people-friendly manner.
- b. Ensure full compliance with the National Digital Policy and strategies of the government adopted by the Cabinet of Ministers from time to time.
- c. Ensure optimal use of national-level ICT infrastructure (Lanka Government Cloud, Lanka Government Network, Payment Gateway, SMS gateway etc) as defined by the ICTA from time to time.
- d. Ensure compliance with the technical and data architecture and standards formulated by the ICTA and approved by the Cabinet of Ministers from time to time.
- e. Ensure compliance with digital law requirements such as the Electronic Transactions Act and data protection legislation.
- f. Eliminate duplication of IT related work by several agencies and minimize the cost of repeated data collection and data entry efforts.
- g. Enforce digital identity sharing to avoid inconvenience to citizens who transact online.

Please convey the above instructions to all organizations and Project Directors under your purview and instruct to transfer such projects and programmes, including financial provision to the ICTA in a suitable manner in consultation with the Treasury regarding transfer of funding procedure. Any queries in the above regard may be directed to Chief Executive Officer of ICTA (email: ceo@icta.lk) with copy to Chairman, ICTA (email: chairman@icta.lk).

P B Jayasundera

Secretary to the President

CC: Secretary to the Prime Minister

Secretary to the Cabinet of Ministers

Secretary to the Treasury

Auditor General

Chairman, Information and Communication Technology Agency (ICTA) of Sri Lanka