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The Gazette of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka

EXTRAORDINARY

අංක 2222/13 - 2021 අප්‍රේල් මස 05 වැනි සඳුදා - 2021.04.05

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**PART I : SECTION (I) — GENERAL**

**Proclamations & c., by the President**

**PROCLAMATION BY HIS EXCELLENCY THE PRESIDENT**

Seal

GOTABAYA RAJAPAKSA

WHERE representations have been made to me that the Oil Palm cultivation already widespread in Sri Lanka has been causing soil erosion, drying of springs thus affecting bio diversity and life of the community,

And whereas, having regard to the fact that public dissatisfaction at the continued cultivation of Oil Palm by large scale Companies regardless of disastrous consequences that may affect to the caused on environment has been conveyed to the Cabinet of Ministers and that thereupon the Cabinet of Ministers has reached a decision to impose a ban on the Oil Palm cultivation,

And whereas, considering the fact that the Government is obliged to give effect to the directive principles of state policy prioritizing on protection of environment and welfare of the public as enshrined in articles 27(2)(c), (e) and 27(14) of the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka,

Emphasizing that it is a fundamental right to conserve a sustainable environmental system within the national development possess.

I do hereby virtue of the powers vested in me by Article 33 of the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka order that the cultivation of Oil Palm be totally prohibited in Sri Lanka.



Furthermore, I hereby direct that in order to systematically remove the Oil Palm cultivation and nurseries already launched action should be taken to utilize yearly about 10% of the land under Oil Palm cultivation for rubber planting or any other cultivation conducive to conservation of water resources.

Furthermore, I do hereby direct Hon. Ministers, Secretaries to Ministries and Heads of relevant Institutions, who have been delegated powers by the Gazette notification No. 2187/27 dated 09.08.2020 and relevant amendments thereto, to implement this decision and to give effect to relevant laws, rules and regulations in order to adopt measures incidental thereto and to discharge the responsibilities and functions assigned.

Furthermore, I hereby direct any state employees or any officer in any Ministry, Government Department, State Corporation or any other such Institution to carry out early such duties as are assigned as stated above.

Issued in Colombo on this 05<sup>th</sup> day of April, in the year Two Thousand and Twenty One.

By Order of His Excellency,

**P. B. JAYASUNDERA,**  
Secretary to the President.

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