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**Sri Lanka Successfully Co-hosted Asian Regional Public Debt Management Forum
2026 Bringing Together Over 120 Delegates from 30 Countries**



Against the backdrop of growing global economic uncertainty, rising debt vulnerabilities, and increasing climate-related risks, senior policymakers, public debt managers, economists, and representatives from leading international financial institutions gathered in Colombo from 27–29 May 2026 for the *Asian Regional Public Debt Management Forum 2026*, held under the theme “*Climate Resilience and Debt Sustainability in Asia.*”

The high-level regional forum served as an important platform for advancing dialogue, regional cooperation, and knowledge sharing on strengthening fiscal resilience and sustainable public debt management across the Asia-Pacific region.

The forum was jointly organized by the Public Debt Management Office (PDMO) of the Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development of Sri Lanka and the Asian Development Bank (ADB), with the objective of promoting policy dialogue, enhancing institutional cooperation, and strengthening debt management capacity across the region.

The event officially commenced with opening remarks by Dr. Anil Jayantha Fernando, Deputy Minister of Finance and Planning of Sri Lanka, and Ms. Roberta Casali, Vice President (Finance and Risk Management) of the Asian Development Bank. Addressing the gathering, Dr. Fernando emphasized the importance of strengthening public debt

management frameworks and enhancing regional cooperation to support macroeconomic stability, fiscal resilience, and sustainable economic growth.

The forum was also attended by Dr. Harshana Suriyapperuma, Secretary to the Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development; Dr. Chandranath Amarasekara, Deputy Governor of the Central Bank of Sri Lanka; senior government officials; and representatives from regional and international institutions.

The event convened over 120 delegates, including experts and representatives from prominent international and regional organizations such as the Asian Development Bank (ADB), International Monetary Fund (IMF), Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), European Central Bank (ECB), Commonwealth Secretariat, United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), and S&P Global Ratings, as well as senior officials from finance ministries and public debt management offices representing 30 countries across the Asia-Pacific region.

Over the course of the three-day forum, participants deliberated on a broad range of emerging issues relating to public debt management and fiscal sustainability. Discussions focused on the global and regional economic outlook, debt sustainability analysis, effective debt management under prevailing macroeconomic conditions, disaster risk financing, and the impact of high public debt levels on monetary policy.

The forum also explored key policy areas including green and sustainable financing, the development of local currency debt markets, and the growing role of artificial intelligence and digital technology in debt management operations. In addition, the forum provided a valuable opportunity for regional debt management leaders to share experiences, lessons learned, challenges, and success stories relating to institutional reforms, governance improvements, and the management of public debt and climate-related vulnerabilities.

A dedicated session on Sri Lanka's experience in establishing the Public Debt Management Office provided important insights into the country's recent institutional reforms and ongoing efforts to strengthen debt management capacity, governance arrangements, operational efficiency, and debt management practices in line with international best practices.

The forum officially concluded on 29 May 2026.

The event underscored the collective commitment of participating countries and institutions to advancing resilient, transparent, and sustainable public debt management frameworks capable of supporting long-term economic stability and inclusive growth across the region.

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