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MINISTRY OF FINANCE, PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

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திகதி } May 11, 2026
Date }

Providing relief to the people directly affected by the war situation in the Middle East.

The Cabinet of Ministers have approved and hereby publish the following Cabinet Decision on the implementation of a relief program for the people affected by the war situation in the Middle East.

02. This relief program includes providing direct one-off cash payments for Aswesuma beneficiaries, a fertilizer subsidy for farmers, a fuel subsidy and relief for electricity consumers.

03. When providing the proposed fertilizer subsidy for the beneficiaries, action will be taken to follow the existing procedure adopted in arranging the fertilizer subsidy. Accordingly, arrangements will be made to increase the allowance per hectare for paddy farmers, up to a maximum of 2 hectares per farmer per season, from the current rate of Rs. 25,000 to Rs. 30,000, and allowance per hectare for other field crop cultivators in paddy lands, up to a maximum of 2 hectares per farmer per season, from the current rate of Rs. 15,000 to Rs. 18,000.

04. The fuel subsidy is being implemented with effect from 01 April 2026, and the relevant subsidy is granted based on the quantities of 92 Octane Petrol and Lanka Auto Diesel / Lanka Industrial Diesel supplied by all fuel suppliers. Accordingly, Ceylon Petroleum Corporation will be provided a fuel subsidy of Rs. 15 billion corresponding to 92 Octane Petrol and Lanka Auto Diesel / Lanka Industrial Diesel sold during the month of April and entitled by the Ceylon Petroleum Corporation, through the Ministry of Energy. Similarly, other fuel suppliers will also be granted the fuel subsidy, taking their respective fuel sales in the month of April.

05. Rs. 15 billion of financial provision that is proposed for providing relief to electricity consumers, will be provided to National System Operator (Private) Limited (NSO), in a lump sum, at the beginning of the month of May 2026. Accordingly, relief will be provided through the utilization of this financial provision to the electricity consumers with monthly electricity consumption of less than 180 units per month and to Hotels (Consumer Category H 1), Industries (Consumer Category I 1) and Businesses (Consumer Category G 1). Action will be

taken to apply the said relief from the commencement date of the next electricity tariff revision cycle to the commencement date of the subsequent electricity tariff revision cycle.

06. It is expected to utilize up to Rs. 100 Billion as required, provided through an on-budget allocation and allocation adjustment, within the approved expenditure limit subject to eligibility and implementation progress for this relief programme, which will be fully phased out by end of September 2026.