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இலங்கை மத்திய வங்கி  
CENTRAL BANK OF SRI LANKA

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வெளிநாட்டுச் செலாவணித் திணைக்களம்

Department of Foreign Exchange

Ref: 66/07/010/0001/001

08 May 2026

Ms. Malkanthi Rajapaksha  
Director General  
Sri Lanka Tourism Development Authority  
No. 80, Galle Road  
Colombo 03

Dear Ms. Rajapaksha

**Requirement to obtain a permit under the provisions of Foreign Exchange Act, No. 12 of 2017 to engage in money changing business activities by hotel service providers registered under the Sri Lanka Tourism Development Authority**

Reference is made to the meeting held with you and your officials on 05 May 2026 at the Boardroom of the Sri Lanka Tourism Development Authority (SLTDA) regarding the above matter.

2. As highlighted during the aforesaid meeting, the Department of Foreign Exchange (DFE) of the Central Bank of Sri Lanka has observed that certain hotel service providers in Sri Lanka have been engaging in money changing business activities without obtaining a valid permit issued by the DFE, which constitutes a violation of the provisions of the Foreign Exchange Act, No. 12 of 2017.

3. In view of the above, we kindly request you to take immediate action to communicate the following message among all hotel service providers registered under SLTDA at your earliest convenience.

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### **Notice to All Hotel Service Providers in Sri Lanka**

The Department of Foreign Exchange (DFE) of the Central Bank of Sri Lanka wishes to inform all hotel service providers that, in terms of the provisions of the Foreign Exchange Act, No. 12 of 2017 (FEA), any person or entity intending to engage in money changing business activities, including the buying, selling, or exchanging of foreign currency notes, is required to obtain a valid permit issued by the DFE.

Accordingly, any hotel service provider engaged in such money changing business activities without a valid permit issued by the DFE shall be considered in violation of the provisions of the FEA and may be subject to imposition of a penalty.

In view of the above, the DFE hereby urges all hotel service providers to immediately refrain from engaging in any money-changing business activities within hotel premises unless a valid permit has been obtained from the DFE.

Hotel service providers interested in obtaining a permit to engage in money-changing business activities may contact the DFE for further information via 011 2477245 or 011 2477375.

4. Your cooperation in this regard is highly appreciated.

Yours sincerely



**W Sudath Prasanna**  
**Director**