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The Gazette of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka

EXTRAORDINARY

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PART I : SECTION (I) — GENERAL

Proclamations &c., by the President

PRESIDENTIAL DIRECTIVE



MAHINDA RAJAPAKSA.

ESTABLISHMENT of a Special Agency by His Excellency the President of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka in the exercise of powers vested in him by Article 33 of the Constitution of the said Republic, to assist the Government to plan, coordinate and facilitate research in Science and Technology so as to build a vibrant national scientific and technological community in the country to derive the maximum benefit.

To:-

1. Prof. Ulpagoda Pathira-arachchige Eric Hamilton Karunanayake
2. Prof. Mohamed Abdul Careem
3. Prof. Weerathunga Arachchige Janendra Mathalee De Costa
4. Prof. Hithanadura Janaka de Silva
5. Prof. Wiranjith Priyan Solomon Dias
6. Prof. E. R. Jansz
7. Deshamanya Eng. Dr. Nihal Jinasena
8. Prof. Kathirgamanathan Kandasamy
9. Prof. Atulugamage Asiri Nanayakkara
10. Mr. Moksevi Prelis
11. Dr. Galbada Arachchige Sirimal Premakumara
12. Dr. Samson Rajapaksa
13. Prof. Kirthi Tennakone
14. Prof. (Mrs.) Myrtle Iranganie Thabrew
15. Dr. Aruni Tilakaratne

Greetings:

Whereas it is observed that while Science and Technology Development Act No. 11 of 1994 provides for certain aspects of the development of science and technology effort directed towards the furtherance of national interest, the research effort in the field of Science and Technology by scientists, who are working in the Scientific Research and Development Organizations in the Public Sector does not appear to be adequately addressed;

And whereas on my instructions, the Secretary to the President has already communicated on May 29, 2006, my first Directive to the National Research Council on “Objectives of the NRC”;

And whereas the National Research Council has been identified through the Budget Speech 2007 for a greater role to ensure that funds allocated for research in the Science and Technology Institutes will be utilized on national priorities;

And Whereas the need has now arisen to replace the first Directive with a new one in the light of the provisions in the Chapter on Science and Technology of the Development Framework 2006-2016 issued by the Ministry of Finance and Planning under the title, “Mahinda Chintana: Vision for a New Sri Lanka”;

And Whereas the government is therefore desirous of formalizing the establishment of and strengthening the existing National Research Council to enable Sri Lanka to achieve, by 2017, the status of a knowledge and science based, newly developed country, more particularly;

- (i) to bring in private sector and industry representation in addition to the highly productive academics into the Council;
- (ii) to promote fundamental and applied research and facilitate human resource development in all disciplines of Science by funding University based Research Students registered for Higher Research Degrees;
- (iii) to plan and coordinate the research effort of researchers in each Public Sector Scientific Research and Development Institutes;
- (iv) to facilitate the research and evaluate the performance of individual researchers in the Public Sector Scientific Research and Development Institutes and make periodic recommendations through the Presidential Secretariat to the Treasury for funding such research;
- (v) to promote, fund and facilitate collaborative research programmes between Researchers in Public Sector Scientific Research and Development Institutes and Universities leading to the award of Higher Research Degrees by the Universities;
- (vi) to promote and facilitate partnerships among the industry, Universities and the Public Sector Scientific Research and Development Institutes;
- (vii) to develop systems of national recognition and awards for successful research and innovations; and;
- (viii) to foster and sustain a Science and Technology Research Culture and Community in Sri Lanka that would respond productively to national development needs.

And Whereas, I am of the view that pending the establishment of the National Research Council through a statute, it is vital that such work should be continued to give effect to the Government’s Policies on Scientific Research and Development, in the interest of the national economy.

Now, therefore, I, Mahinda Rajapaksa in pursuance of the provisions of Article 33 of the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka do hereby create the National Research Council to undertake and execute the said duties and responsibilities.

And reposing great trust and confidence in your prudence, ability and fidelity, do by these presents, appoint you the said;

1. Prof. Ulpagoda Pathira-arachchige Eric Hamilton Karunanayake
2. Prof. Mohamed Abdul Careem
3. Prof. Weerathunga Arachchige Janendra Mathalee De Costa

4. Prof. Hithanadura Janaka de Silva
5. Prof. Wiranjith Priyan Solomon Dias
6. Prof. E. R. Jansz
7. Deshamanya Eng. Dr. Nihal Jinasena
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9. Prof. Atulugamage Asiri Nanayakkara
10. Mr. Moksevi Prelis
11. Dr. Galbada Arachchige Sirimal Premakumara
12. Dr. Samson Rajapaksa
13. Prof. Kirthi Tennakone
14. Prof. (Mrs.) Myrtle Iranganie Thabrew
15. Dr. Aruni Tilakaratne.

as the members of the National Research Council and direct you to take all steps as may be necessary to proceed with the implementation of the tasks set out at (i) to (viii) above.

And I, further appoint Prof. Ulpagoda Pathira-arachchige Eric Hamilton Karunanayake as Chairman of the National Research Council.

And I, do hereby authorize the National Research Council to issue directions, make inquiries and investigate matters as may be necessary in relation to the carrying out of the tasks it is hereby entrusted with;

And I, do hereby require and direct all public officers and such other persons to whom the National Research Council may issue instructions or apply for assistance for information, to comply with such instructions, render all such assistance and furnish all such information as may properly be complied with rendered and furnished, in that behalf.

Given at Colombo under the seal of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka on this 24th day of July in the year Two Thousand and Seven.

By His Excellency's command,

LALITH WEERATHUNGA,
Secretary to the President.

July 24, 2007

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