Sectoral Oversight Committee focus in the planning of bringing 5 million tourists to Sri Lanka in the year 2024 and simultaneous preparation of infrastructure development

Date : 11-12-2023

Sectoral Oversight Committee on National Economic and Physical Plans directs its attention towards bringing 5 million tourists to Sri Lanka in the year 2024 and in the simultaneous preparation of infrastructure development.

This was taken up for discussion when the Sectoral Oversight Committee on National Economic and Physical Plans met in Parliament recently (Dec. 08) under the Chairmanship of Hon. Mahindananda Aluthgamage.

Addressing the Committee, officials of the Ministry of Tourism and Lands mentioned that they have planned to implement the Home Stay concept. The officials also pointed out that plans have been made to bring wealthy tourists to Sri Lanka in the coming year.

Furthermore, in order to attract more tourists to Sri Lanka, the Committee pointed out that the general society of Sri Lanka should be prepared to welcome such tourists. Accordingly, the Members of Parliament present mentioned that they should stop cheating on money from tourists and prepare a system to welcome tourists respectfully. The officials pointed out that training programs are already being conducted in selected areas.

Furthermore, the Committee also pointed out that it is important to identify the places with tourist attractions at the local level and prepare methods to promote them.

In addition, approval was given following consideration of the 2022 annual report of the Ministry of Tourism and Lands, the 2020 annual report of the Tourism Promotion Bureau, the 2022 annual report of the Ministry of Industry and the 2022 annual report of the Registrar of Companies Department, the 2019/2020 annual reports of Kahatagaha Graphite Lanka Limited, the 2021/2022 annual reports of Lanka Phosphate Limited, the 2020 annual report of the Sri Lanka Institute of Textile and Apparel.
Members of Parliament, Hon. Eran Wickramaratne, Hon. Ashok Abeysinghe, Hon. Sudath Manjula, Hon. Madhura Withanage and Hon. Gunathilaka Rajapaksha were present at this Committee meeting held.

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