The Conceptual Policy Framework on Food Security re-considered at the National Council Sub Committee

Date : 13-12-2023

- **Sri Lanka at the 79th position in terms of Food Security as 2022**

The Conceptual Policy Framework on Food Security was taken up for discussion at the Sub Committee on Identifying the Priorities in Formulation of Short-, Medium- & Long-Term National Policies. The discussion followed post incorporation of the policies in line with the Joint Mechanism formulated by the National Council Sub Committee to formulate a national policy on Food Security (Agricultural, Animal production and Fisheries).

This conceptual policy framework was taken up for discussion at length when the Sub Committee on Identifying the Priorities in Formulation of Short-, Medium- & Long-Term National Policies met recently (Dec. 08) under the Chairmanship of Hon. Namal Rajapaksa, in Parliament.

Moreover, the official presenting facts before the Committee disclosed that Sri Lanka at the 79th position in terms of Food Security as 2022.

The Committee considered the possibility of developing provisions to utilize uncultivated lands for cultivation purposed. Accordingly, The Committee Chair recommended that the officials present conduct a study with regards to the said.

Discussions were held on the revised, conceptual Frame Work on Food Security (Agricultural, Animal production and Fisheries) with the National Food Policy Committee, Food Security Division of Presidential Secretariate and the working Committee appointed by the Sub Committee to formulate a national policy on Food Security (Agricultural, Animal production and Fisheries)

A working committee headed by Hon. Asanka Navaratne, Member of Parliament was appointed to prepare a national policy for food security (agriculture, animal husbandry and fisheries) and the working committee met for approximately eight months to prepare this policy framework. This conceptual policy has been prepared jointly by the secretaries of various ministries including the Ministry of Irrigation, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Fisheries, Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Plantations, Ministry of Tourism and Lands, Ministry of Forests and Conservation, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Trade, Commerce and Food Security and the Ministry of Agriculture of the North West Province, as well as the University Grants Commission, the Food and Agriculture Organization, the Attorney General's Department and the Legal Draftsman's Department which contains a range of medium and long-term ideas to ensure food security in the country.

Accordingly, following the discussions held, Hon. Namal Rajapaksa, Chair of the Sub Committee on Identifying the Priorities in Formulation of Short-, Medium- & Long-Term National Policies recommended that the particulars discussed be incorporated and be submitted to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Food Security for their views and to present the finalized report to Parliament in January 2024.

Committee News - The Conceptual Policy Framework on Food Security re-considered at the National Council Sub Committee

Members of Parliament Hon. Asanka Navaratne, Hon. Kapila Athukorala, Hon. D. Weerasingha, Secretaries to respective Ministries and government officials were present at this Committee meeting held.