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 அமைச்சரவை அலுவலகம்
 OFFICE OF THE CABINET OF MINISTERS

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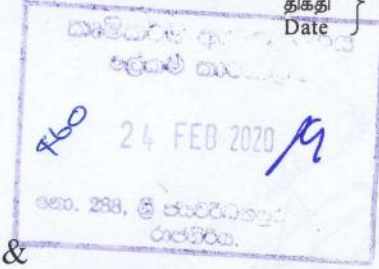
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 எனது இல. } 19/2869/104/089
 My No. }

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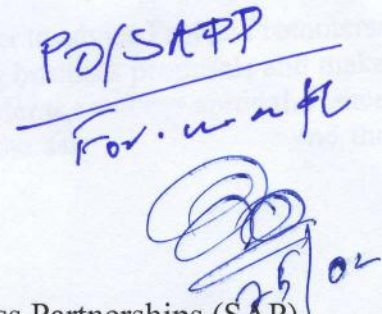
Secretary,
 Ministry of Mahaweli, Agriculture, Irrigation, &
 Rural Development

**Cabinet Decision Taken on 29th October 2019 on Declaration of Moragahakanda –
 Kaluganga, Mahaweli System 'F' as a Toxic Free Organic Agricultural Produce
 Sustainable Development Zone**

This has reference to the letter dated 2020-02-08 by Dr. Yasantha Mapatuna, Programme Director, Smallholder Agribusiness Partnerships (SAP) Programme (a copy of the letter is attached).

02. As requested therein, I send herewith a copy of the Cabinet Memorandum No. 19/2869/104/089 dated 2019-09-30 and the relevant Cabinet decision dated 2019-10-29 referred to in the above letter for necessary action please.


 G.C.S. Thilakarathne
 Senior Assistant Secretary,
 for Secretary to the Cabinet of Ministers.



Copy to : Programme Director, Smallholder Agribusiness Partnerships (SAP)
 Programme : Please make arrangements to collect the said documents
 from the Secretary to the Ministry of Mahaweli, Agriculture, Irrigation
 & Rural Development.

(B) Agenda Items :

(I) Cabinet Papers - General

14. Cabinet Paper No.19/2869/104/089, a Memorandum dated 2019-09-30 by the Minister of Mahaweli Development and Environment on "**Declaration of Moragahakanda - Kaluganga, Mahaweli System 'F' as a Toxic Free Organic Agriculture Produce Sustainable Development Zone**" - the above Memorandum was considered along with the observations of the Minister of Finance. After discussion, it was decided to grant approval to the recommendations (i) to (v) in paragraph 03 of the Memorandum, subject to taking action as indicated in paragraphs 1 and 2 of the observations submitted by the Minister of Finance in this regard.

Action by: **My/Mahaweli Development and Environment** - above observations annexed.

Copied to: **Secretary to the President** - copy of Memorandum and above observations annexed.

Secretary to the Prime Minister - copy of Memorandum and above observations annexed.

My/National Policies, Economic Affairs, Resettlement & Rehabilitation, Northern Province Development and Youth Affairs - copy of Memorandum and above observations annexed.

My/Finance

My/Industry & Commerce, Resettlement of Protracted Displaced Persons, Co-operative Development and Vocational Training & Skills Development - copy of Memorandum and above observations annexed.

My/Agriculture, Rural Economic Affairs, Irrigation and Fisheries & Aquatic Resources Development - copy of Memorandum and above observations annexed.

Chief Secretary, Central Province - copy of Memorandum and above observations annexed.

District Secretary/Government Agent, Matale - copy of Memorandum and above observations annexed.

Checked by : 1...
2...
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Ministry Of Mahaweli Development and Environment

CABINET MEMORANDUM

Cabinet Memo No: 80/2019

Ministry Ref. No: MDE /AD/03/CAB_PA/2019

Declaration of Moragahakanda - Kaluganga, Mahaweli System "F" as Toxic Free Organic Agriculture Produce Sustainable Development Zone

01. Background

Moragahakanda - Kaluganga Development Project formulated during 1964 -1968 implemented under Mahaweli Master Plan. This project was executed by the current government with the financial support from China Development Bank, Kuwait Fund for Arab Development, Saudi Fund for Development, OPEC Fund for International Development.

A new Mahaweli System known as System "F" was established having settled affected people of Moragahakanda - Kaluganga Development Project in Laggala Pallegama area. Water from Kaluganga reservoir released for the agricultural and drinking water purposes of the people of this area and presently Mahaweli system "F" has become a village set under Blue Green Concept.

This area has settled with 2874 farm families and proposed to cultivate 1900 ha on the left bank and 1700 ha on the right bank in Maha season.

02. Justification

- i. People in dry zones currently suffering seriously from kidney diseases. Using chemical fertilizers for a long period, consumption of foods manufactured using pesticides and drinking contaminated water are the main causes for it. Mahaweli System "F" where the displaced families from Kaluganga reservoir construction were resettled prevailed virginally. Further, Knuckles catchment mountain range which nourished Kaluganga reservoir with fresh water is still prevailing as unpopulated area.
- ii. The new System "F" is a suitable area to introduce modern agriculture system and also suits for the cultivations only using organic manure and clean water out from synthetic crop systems.
- iii. Presently the local and foreign tourists mostly desire in without poisonous foods and also there is a trend of inclining the restaurants and other tourist hotels towards it.
- iv. The new Mahaweli System "F" sustained by Kaluganga reservoir has been declared as zone of Agricultural production without poisonous by the Mahaweli Authority of Sri Lanka.

- v. by using organic mechanisms whilst engaging agriculture activities will reduce environmental damages, minimizing the soil erosion and protect the quality of water by maintaining biotic soil condition at its maximum level.

03. Recommendations

Accordingly, the approval of the Cabinet of Ministers is sought;

- (i) to declare System "F" known as Moragahakanda - Kaluganga Left and Right Bank Settlement Areas as a Sustainable Development Zone Exclusively for Organic Toxic Free Agriculture Production;
- (ii) to declare the upper catchment areas of Kaluganga and Ambanganga that feed these two rivers from Knuckles mountain range as Contamination Free Watershed Zones and an area of using organic fertilizer for agriculture but does not supply water for any industrial purpose;
- (iii) to obtain financial assistance from United Nations Agencies and other international donor organizations including International Fund for Agriculture Development (IFAD) to provide agricultural facilities to farmers and to open access to the international market for supplying organic productions;
- (iv) by obtaining fund from International Fund for Agriculture Development (IFAD) and SAP accomplishing assistance to the farmers for organic food production in Mahaweli System F zone (a) Training on water management; (b) strengthen the Farmer Organizations; (c) create awareness on water and soil management among the farmers; (d) improve the capacities on technical, organizational, managerial and financial control of Farmer Organizations; (e) formulate required operational management mechanism by Mahaweli Authority of Sri Lanka to provide required agricultural advises and recommendations to the respective farmer organizations;
- (v) allocate required funds from the General Treasury to the Ministry of Mahaweli Development and Environment for establishment, maintain and supervise the System "F" as Toxic Free Organic Agricultural produce Sustainable Development Zone;

Sgd\ **Maithripala Sirisena**
Minister of Mahaweli Development &
Environment

Ministry of Mahaweli Development & Environment
No 500, T.B Jayah Mawatha,
Colombo 10.
30.09.2019