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The Gazette of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka

EXTRAORDINARY

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(Published by Authority)

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 the powers vested in him by Article 33 of the Constitution of the said Republic, to continue with the reconstruction and development work in districts affected by natural or manmade disasters in a more co-ordinated, cost-effective and expeditious manner.

Reconstruction and Development Agency managed by :

1. Tiran Alles Esquire
2. B. Abayagunawardena Esquire
3. Tilak Amunugama Esquire
4. Madam Shanthi Fernando
5. Saliya Wickremasuriya Esquire
6. W. W. Gamage Esquire

GREETINGS :

WHEREAS, it is observed that reconstruction and development work being executed by the Government in districts affected by manmade or natural disasters, could be done in a more co-ordinated, cost-effective and expeditious manner, if the several entities which are involved in executing such work could be merged and operated as a single institution.

And whereas the Government is desirous merging the several entities involved with such work *inter alia* including Rehabilitation of Persons, Properties and Industries Authority (REPPA), Task Force for Rebuilding the Nation (TAFREN) and Taskforce for Relief (TAFOR) as well as co-ordinating the various multilateral and bilateral donor funded programs and other funding programs associated with such work and placing them under the purview of a single entity, the proposed Reconstruction and Development Authority to, plan, takeover, undertake carryout and cause the carrying out of and to manage, supervise and coordinate ;

- (i) the development and execution of appropriate action plans to enable the implementation of such reconstruction and development work, having taken into account the extent of damages and the work already completed, so as to restore early normalcy to the people and businesses in such districts ;
- (ii) the development and execution of programs to ease poverty, suffering and distress of the people in such districts through the implementation of appropriate relief measures and thereby improve their livelihood and well-being ;
- (iii) facilitating and promoting investment for economic development in such districts ;
- (iv) Liaising with line ministries, Government Authorities and agencies, private sector organizations, non-governmental organization and all other relevant agencies to ensure timely execution of such reconstruction and development work ;
- (v) co-ordinating with the Ministry of Finance and Planning in relation to the required funding ;

And whereas, I am of the view that pending the establishment of the Reconstruction and Development Authority through a statute, it is vital that such work should be continued to give effect to the Government's policy on harmonized reconstruction 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, hereby create the Reconstruction and Development Agency to facilitate and assist the Government to continue with such reconstruction and development work in a more coordinated, cost effective and expeditious manner and declare that from this date, TAFREN and TAFOR will cease to function and all work carried out by TAFREN and TAFOR will come under the purview and be carried out by the Reconstruction and Development Agency. Further, any work being carried out by REPPIA shall also be coordinated by the Reconstruction and Development Agency. I, reposing great trust and confidence in your prudence, ability and fidelity, do, by these presents, appoint you the said ;

1. Tiran Alles Esquire
2. B. Abayagunawardena Esquire
3. Tilak Amunugama Esquire
4. Madam Shanthi Fernando
5. Saliya Wickremasuriya Esquire
6. W. W. Gamage Esquire

as the Board of Management of the Reconstruction and Development Agency and direct you to take all steps as may be necessary to proceed with the implementation of the tasks setout at (i) to (v) above and also to submit a draft Bill to the Parliament by January 2006 to setup a Reconstruction and Development Authority, to be the successor to the Reconstruction and Development Agency.

And I, further appoint Tiran Alles Esquire as the Chief Executive Officer of the Reconstruction and Development Agency, who shall also be the Chairman of its Board of Management ;

And I, do hereby authorize such Board of Management to issue instructions, make inquiries and investigate as may be necessary in relation to carrying out the tasks hereby entrusted ;

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

Given at Colombo under the seal of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, on this 28th day of November in the year Two Thousand and Five.

By His Excellency's command,

LALITH C. WEERATUNGA,
Secretary to the President.