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எச். எம். விஜித ஹேரத், பா. உ.
H. M. Vijitha Herath, M. P.

විදේශ කටයුතු, විදේශ රැකියා සහ සංචාරක අමාත්‍ය
வெளிநாட்டு அலுவலர்கள், வெளிநாட்டு வேலைவாய்ப்பு மற்றும் சுற்றுலாத்துறை அமைச்சர்
Minister of Foreign Affairs, Foreign Employment and Tourism

Message of the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Foreign Employment and Tourism on the occasion of the Sinhala and Tamil New Year

The Sinhala and Tamil New Year, which begins with the Sun's transition from Pisces (*Meena Rashi*) to Aries (*Mesha Rashi*), is the key festival that reflects Sri Lankan cultural identity. This cultural festival, intertwined with nature, is a bridge connecting the hearts of all Sri Lankans whose core values are coexistence and togetherness.

As Sri Lankans scattered across the world welcome the New Year, the joy of the season is often touched by a quiet ache - for it is never easy to celebrate such a deeply rooted tradition away from one's homeland and the warmth of loved ones. We understand that you have travelled across the seas to make the dreams of your children, your parents, your relatives and friends come true. Let me make the opportunity to recall that your unwavering courage and dedication is the greatest asset of energy and strength for the well-being of our motherland.

I sincerely appreciate your efforts in collectively organizing New Year celebrations in your countries of residence. These efforts help showcase the pride of Sri Lankan culture to those countries and familiarize Sri Lankan children with the New Year customs. It is indeed a display of the true spirit of the Sri Lankan identity and your true love for the country.

I warmly welcome all the tourists visiting Sri Lanka to enjoy the season and its festivities. During this turbulent time in the world, we believe that the festival of the New Year and its celebrations will make you joyous and happy.

I wish all the Sri Lankans, their family members, foreign visitors, and especially the Sri Lankans living abroad a very happy New Year filled with peace, happiness, and prosperity!

Suba Aluth Auruddak Wewa!

Vijitha Herath

Minister of Foreign Affairs, Foreign Employment and Tourism

14 April 2026