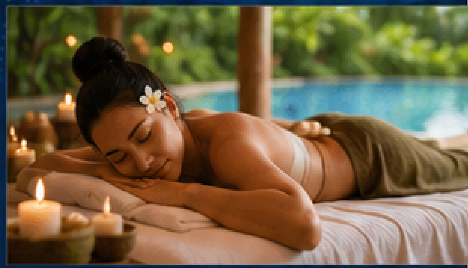
DPR INVESTMENT CONSULTANTS

The gateway to invest in Sri Lanka

Issue 01 | Covering June 2026 News



Sri Lanka Investment & Business News Digest

Monthly intelligence-style newsletter for business communities, embassies, chambers of commerce, trade delegations and investors interested in Sri Lanka.

Upper-Middle	67th	No. 2	No. 1
World Bank country classification effective July	Global Peace Index 2026 rank	South Asia peace position	Wellness travel trend ranking

- Sri Lanka regains upper-middle-income status in the World Bank Group 2026 classification.
- Sri Lanka is ranked South Asia's second most peaceful country in the 2026 Global Peace Index.
- Sri Lanka is named the world's top trending wellness destination for 2026.
- Sri Lanka is named the world's best island destination in Big 7 Travel's 2026 list.
- Sri Lanka explores AI data centres and regional digital infrastructure opportunities.
- Belgium-Luxembourg economic mission strengthens trade and investment links with Sri Lanka.
- New appointments are announced at the Board of Investment of Sri Lanka.
- IRD issues June tax notices covering Inland Revenue Act amendments, VAT, SSCL and interest relief.

Economic Progress | Tourism & Wellness | Island Excellence | Technology & Innovation | Global Partnerships | Policy & Tax Updates

Focus of this issue: Latest investor-relevant business, economic, tourism, tax, technology and international trade news relating to Sri Lanka.

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Published in the first week of every month

ECONOMY, POLICY & BUSINESS CONFIDENCE

ECONOMY

Sri Lanka regains upper-middle-income status

Sri Lanka has been reclassified by the World Bank Group as an upper-middle-income economy in its latest country income classification, effective from July 2026. The update has attracted attention as a milestone in the country's recovery after a period of economic pressure and reform.

Source: News.lk / World Bank classification, 2 July 2026

POLICY

IMF programme remains central to reform discussion

Reuters reported that Sri Lanka is being urged to maintain economic reforms as the country nears later stages of its IMF-supported programme. The report highlighted public finances, tax collection, foreign reserves, energy pricing and private investment as key themes in the continuing reform debate.

Source: Reuters, 3 July 2026

BANKING

Central Bank developments remain closely watched

Businesses continued to watch monetary policy, inflation, foreign exchange and banking sector developments. These indicators remain important for credit cost, import planning, working capital, consumer demand and the wider business operating environment.

Source: Central Bank-related market reporting, June 2026

FISCAL

Fiscal policy updates continue under public finance reforms

The Ministry of Finance continued to publish fiscal and policy-related updates connected with public finance management, budget reporting and digital administration. These updates remain relevant to companies, professional firms and business groups following Sri Lanka's reform agenda.

Source: Ministry of Finance, June 2026

Monthly observation

June's economy-related news continued to show Sri Lanka's recovery narrative moving through international classification changes, reform continuity, fiscal-policy communication and banking-sector monitoring. For business readers, these developments provide a concise picture of the country's evolving macroeconomic environment.

TOURISM, WELLNESS & GLOBAL RANKINGS

WELLNESS

Sri Lanka named world's top trending wellness destination

Time Out Asia reported that BookRetreats.com's State of Retreats 2026 report ranked Sri Lanka as the world's top trending wellness destination for 2026. The recognition highlights global interest in Ayurveda, yoga, meditation, retreats, spa experiences and nature-based wellness travel.

Source: Time Out Asia / BookRetreats.com, 24 June 2026

TOURISM

Sri Lanka named world's best island destination

Sri Lanka was ranked No. 1 in Big 7 Travel's 2026 list of the world's best islands. The ranking has been widely reported and highlights Sri Lanka's coastline, culture, wildlife, heritage, food, hill country and compact destination diversity.

Source: News.lk / Big 7 Travel, 3 July 2026

GLOBAL MEDIA

Vogue recognises Sri Lankan wellness experience

Vogue's Global Spa Guide 2026 recognised Santani Spa in Sri Lanka among leading global spa experiences. This continued global coverage supports Sri Lanka's brand in premium wellness, eco-luxury, Ayurveda and nature-based hospitality.

Source: Vogue Global Spa Guide 2026, May 2026

TOURISM ZONES

Sri Lanka plans 20 new tourist zones

Sri Lanka's plan to gazette 20 new tourist zones received media attention in June. The planned zones are part of a broader effort to support regional tourism development, infrastructure, destination planning and sector expansion.

Source: News First reporting, June 2026

REGULATION

New Tourism Act reform discussion moves forward

The tourism sector continued to follow proposed reforms to the Tourism Act. Earlier coverage of the reform process highlighted plans to strengthen regulation, address informal-sector registration and improve sector governance.

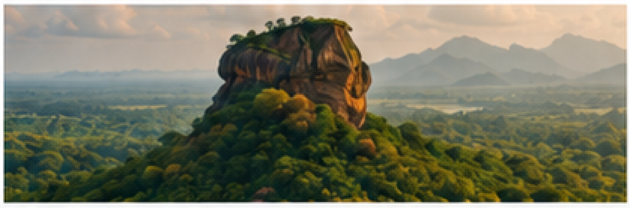
Source: The Morning / SLTDA context, 2026

COUNTRY BRAND

Global rankings strengthen destination visibility

The combination of island, wellness and peace rankings gave Sri Lanka stronger visibility in international travel and business discussions. These rankings are useful signals for the country's destination-brand momentum in 2026.

Source: Multiple international and local sources, 2026



TECHNOLOGY, BOI & INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS LINKS

DIGITAL ECONOMY

Sri Lanka explores AI data centres

Newswire reported that Sri Lanka is exploring the establishment of AI data centres aimed at meeting domestic and regional demand. Daily Mirror also reported that the Government's strategy centres on Sri Lanka's location along submarine cable routes linking Europe, the Middle East and Asia.

Source: Newswire, 10 June 2026; Daily Mirror, 2026

BOI

BOI announces new leadership appointments

New leadership appointments took place at the Board of Investment of Sri Lanka, with Duminda Hulangamuwa appointed as Chairman and Dr. J.G.L.S. Jayawardhana appointed as Director General. BOI leadership updates are closely followed by business chambers, foreign missions and investment stakeholders.

Source: Local business press / BOI-related reporting, 2026

BUSINESS DELEGATION

Belgium-Luxembourg economic mission visits Sri Lanka

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs reported that the Belgium-Luxembourg Economic Mission to Sri Lanka strengthened trade and investment partnerships. The BELGOLUX-Sri Lanka Business Forum was held on 18 June 2026 at Hilton Colombo Residences.

Source: Ministry of Foreign Affairs, June 2026

B2B LINKS

MoU signed during BELGOLUX-Sri Lanka engagement

A key highlight of the BELGOLUX-Sri Lanka Business Forum was the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between the BELGOLUX-Sri Lanka Business Council and the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce, strengthening institutional business links.

Source: Ministry of Foreign Affairs, June 2026

RANKING

Sri Lanka ranked South Asia's second most peaceful country

Sri Lanka improved in the 2026 Global Peace Index, ranking 67th globally and second in South Asia. News.lk reported that Sri Lanka moved up 14 places in the latest index.

Source: Global Peace Index / News.lk, 10 June 2026

SECTOR WATCH

Industrial, digital and regional themes gain attention

June discussions continued around digital infrastructure, tourism zones, logistics, export-linked activity and international B2B engagement. These themes reflect Sri Lanka's current positioning across technology, tourism, services and trade.

Source: Business and government news round-up, June 2026

TAX, REGULATORY & BUSINESS NOTICES

TAX

IRD publishes Inland Revenue Act amendment notices

The Inland Revenue Department published taxpayer notices on amendments to the Inland Revenue Act, No. 24 of 2017, dated 8 June and 18 June 2026. These notices formed part of the June tax-administration updates followed by companies and tax professionals.

Source: IRD News and Notices, June 2026

VAT / SSCL

VAT and SSCL June notices issued

IRD issued notices on 16 June 2026 relating to VAT payments and returns for May 2026, Social Security Contribution Levy payments for May 2026 and VAT on Financial Services payments for May 2026.

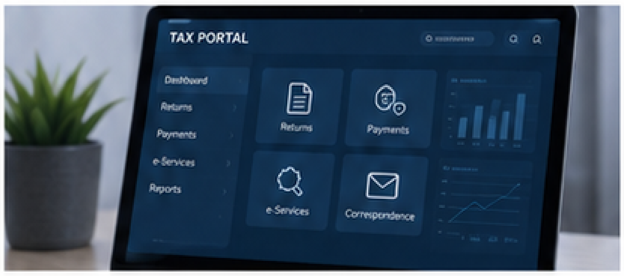
Source: IRD News and Notices, 16 June 2026

COMPLIANCE

Interest relief notice for late and underpayments

IRD also published a notice dated 8 June 2026 on interest relief for underpayments and late payments. The notice was issued in connection with provisions under recent Inland Revenue amendments.

Source: IRD Notice to Taxpayers, 8 June 2026



DIGITAL TAX

Digital tax and public finance reform stay in focus

Digital tax administration, online compliance processes, public finance management and fiscal reporting continued to be important themes in official communications and professional tax updates during June 2026.

Source: Ministry of Finance / IRD updates, June 2026

About the Publisher

DPR Investment Consultants (Pvt) Limited publishes DPR Investment Monthly as a compact business and investment news digest for professional circulation among embassies, chambers of commerce, business councils, trade delegations, corporate contacts and overseas business communities.

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Selected Source References

News.lk; World Bank country classification; Reuters; Time Out Asia; BookRetreats.com State of Retreats 2026; Big 7 Travel; Vogue Global Spa Guide 2026; Ministry of Foreign Affairs Sri Lanka; Global Peace Index 2026; Inland Revenue Department; Ministry of Finance; Newswire; Daily Mirror; News First.