## PRESS RELEASE

Miloda Academy of Financial Studies (AFS) was established in 2013 with the financial assistance of the Japan International Cooperation Center (JICE). This financial assistance came in the form of a grant initially for a period of two years. Through this grant, a mandate was given to Miloda to utilize the funds to enhance the capacities of the staff in the Ministry of Finance. The term of the grant came to an end in July 2016.

With the intervention of Mr. Ravi Karunanayake, Hon. Minister of Finance, the Japanese government has extended the term of the Grant for another two years effective from July 2016. Japan has been assisting Sri Lanka over the years in numerous ways, and this initiative by the Japanese government shows the magnitude of friendly relationship between the two countries.

Miloda Academy of Financial Studies established under the Ministry of Finance and located in the Times Building in Colombo Fort is blessed with state of the art facilities at international standards. Under the new management the institute has increased the number of programs and expanded the capacity building programs for the Ministry of Finance. The lecture rooms, computer labs, auditoriums, conference and meeting halls are comparable with those institutes of global repute.

Miloda is centrally located in the heart of Colombo with easy access to road and railway transport. Programmes are arranged both in the form of residential and non-residential, and tailor made programmes are undertaken by Miloda on the request of organizations to address specific training needs. The AFS recently signed a MOU with the World Bank to conduct a Joint-Certification program in Public Procurement

Miloda provides Training Consultancies and Management Consultancies to government and private sector organizations in addition to its scheduled programmes which are specifically conducted for the Ministry if Finance for the year. The new training schedule had been prepared for the next 2 years. The strategic location of the institute provides easy access to all star class hotels in and around the city, and Miloda undertakes full complement of accommodation and other arrangements on the request of clients in the event of conducting programmes in the institute. For further information, interested parties can log on to: www.afs.gov.lk