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MINISTRY OF FINANCE, PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

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 எனது இல. } DFD/MD/GPPP/Yala-2026
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 திகதி } 21.08.2026
 Date }

Media Release

Accelerated Programme for the Purchase of Paddy during Yala Season - 2026

The Government has decided to purchase quality paddy through small and medium scale paddy millers and Cooperative Societies to ensure that farmers received a fair price for their paddy harvest while maintaining the Government's Guaranteed Price Policy, the availability of rice in the market at affordable prices for consumers and supporting small and medium scale paddy millers. This programme will be implemented by the District Secretaries and the Department of Agrarian Development, with the support of the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Land and Irrigation, under the supervision of the Presidential Secretariat and the Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development.

Implementing mechanism of the Programme

- Registered small and medium scale paddy millers with a maximum daily milling capacity of 25 metric tons, and Cooperative Societies owning a paddy mill with a similar milling capacity are eligible to this programme.
- An interest free concessional financial facility of up to a maximum of Rs. 25 million will be provided to eligible small and medium scale paddy millers and Cooperative Societies participating in the programme.
- The quantity of paddy recommended by the Agricultural Research and Production Assistant (ARPA) in the relevant area must be purchased at the Government's guaranteed price by the small and medium scale paddy millers and cooperative societies registered under this programme.
- Registered small and medium scale paddy millers and Cooperative Societies must purchase standardized red and white Nadu paddy at the Government guaranteed price of Rs. 120 per kilogram, and standardized Samba paddy at Rs. 130 per kilogram from farmers Under this program.
- Total amount of facility obtained should be settled within a maximum period of 240 days by small and medium scale paddy millers and cooperative societies selling the purchased paddy in the market. Interest, commission or other charges shall not be levied for this purpose.

Since the paddy purchasing programme in Yala Season 2026 commenced on 12.08.2026 in accordance with the above mechanism, small and medium scale paddy millers and cooperative societies that satisfy the prescribed criteria are requested to register at the relevant District Secretariat in order to participate in this programme.