

## **The Official Launching of the National Evaluation Policy Implementation Framework (NEPIF) of Sri Lanka**

The National Evaluation Policy Implementation Framework of Sri Lanka (NEPIF) has officially been launched under the patronage of His Excellency the President, Ranil Wickremesinghe on 8<sup>th</sup> September 2023, at the Temple Trees. Hon. Prime Minister, Dinesh Gunawardene, Hon. State Ministers of Finance, Economic Stabilization and National Policies, Chairman of the Committee on Public Accounts, Diplomatic Corps, Development Partners, Evaluation Practitioners, Academia, and Senior Officials of the public sector witnessed this occasion.

The National Evaluation Policy of Sri Lanka (NEP) gained approval from the Cabinet of Ministers and was tabled in the Parliament in 2018 by the Department of Project Management and Monitoring (PMMD) with the blessings of the then Prime Minister who holds the Presidentship at present. As per the Cabinet Decision, the PMMD of the Ministry of Finance, Economic Stabilization and National Policies developed the NEPIF to introduce a set of comprehensive guidelines, standards, and tools to effectively practice evaluation.

This Framework introduces the mechanism to perform evaluation in the public sector utilizing the existing institutional arrangements and resources *without creating new institutions especially focused on evaluation*. This Framework has been developed by a group of local experts in the evaluation field, through a comprehensive stakeholder consultation process. Therefore, the NEPIF is a home-grown, country-specific national guide on evaluation. The main objective of the launching of the NEPIF is to encourage all interested parties to undertake evaluation by adhering to a common set of norms, ethics, standards, and guidelines, thereby creating a culture of evaluation in the country targeting improved results delivery.