CENTRAL BANK OF SRI LANKA



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OF THE MONETARY BOARD TO THE HON. MINISTER OF FINANCE

FOR THE YEAR

2019

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Deshamanya Professor W D Lakshman Governor

Central Bank of Sri Lanka

30, Janadhipathi Mawatha Colombo 01, Sri Lanka.

23 April 2020

Hon. Mahinda Rajapaksa

Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, Economic and Policy Development Ministry of Finance, Economic and Policy Development The Secretariat Colombo 01.

Dear Sir,

Annual Report of the Monetary Board 2019

In terms of Section 35 of the Monetary Law Act (Chapter 422), within four months after the end of each financial year, the Monetary Board of the Central Bank of Sri Lanka is required to submit an Annual Report to the Honourable Minister of Finance on the condition of the Central Bank and a review of the policies and measures adopted by the Monetary Board during the financial year and an analysis of the economic and financial circumstances which prompted those policies and measures. The Seventieth Annual Report of the Monetary Board of the Central Bank, in respect of the year 2019, is submitted herewith in fulfilment of this obligation.

As the Honourable Prime Minister is aware, this Report was compiled by the staff of the Central Bank of Sri Lanka during a lockdown period, while Sri Lanka and the rest of the world were grappling with the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic and its socio-economic effects.

Yours sincerely,

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Definitions and Explanatory Notes on Statistical Tables

The following general notes supplement the footnotes given below the individual tables:

- 1. In an attempt to bring the material up-to-date, provisional figures are included in some tables.
- 2. Figures in some tables have been rounded off to the nearest final digit. Hence, there may be a slight discrepancy between the total as shown and the sum of its components.
- 3. Differences as compared with previously published figures are due to subsequent revisions.
- 4. Values indicated within parenthesis are negative values.
- 5. The following symbols have been used throughout:-

... = negligible

- = nil

n.a. = not available

n.e.c. = not elsewhere classified

n.e.s. = not elsewhere specified

n.i.e. = not included elsewhere

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