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### PART I : SECTION (I) — GENERAL

#### **Government Notifications**

#### WELFARE BENEFITS ACT, No. 24 OF 2002

BY virtue of powers vested in me by Section 09 of the Welfare Benefits Act, No. 24 of 2002, I, Ranil Wickremesinghe, Minister of Finance, Economic Stabilization and National Policies of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, do hereby declare the Aswesuma Welfare Benefit Payment Scheme as specified in the following Schedules with effect from January 01, 2024.

RANIL WICKREMESINGHE, Minister of Finance, Economic Stabilization and National Policies.

February 16, 2024.

#### Schedule I

#### Aswesuma Welfare Benefit Payment Scheme

Soc	Social Segment to receive the Welfare Benefits Payments		Number of Welfare Beneficiaries/Families	Proposed Monthly Welfare Allowance per Family Unit (Rs.)*
(i)	Transitional/ Vulnerable	From 01.01.2024 to 30.06.2024	800,000	5,000
		From 01.07.2024 to 31.12.2024	960,000	5,000



#### Schedule I (Contd.)

Social Segment to receive the Welfare Benefits Payments			Number of Welfare Beneficiaries/Families	Proposed Monthly Welfare Allowance per Family Unit (Rs.)*
(ii)	Poor	From 01.01.2024 to 30.06.2024	800,000	8,500
		From 01.07.2024 to 30.06.2026	960,000	
(iii)	Extremely Poor	From 01.01.2024 to 30.06.2024	400,000	15,000
		From 01.07.2024 to 30.06.2026	480,000	

<sup>\*</sup> Note - These figures may subject to slight changes on the basis of estimating the beneficiary families.

#### Schedule II

Payments to be made in respect of differently-abled persons, patients of chronic kidney disease of unknown etiology (CKDu), and recipients of the monthly allowance granted for elderly citizens.

Social Segment to receive the Welfare Benefits (1)		Projected Number of individuals to be eligible for welfare benefits (2)	Monthly Welfare Benefit Allowance (Rs.) (3)
(i)	Differently-abled persons receiving the aid	410,000	7,500
(ii)	Recipients of CKDU Allowance	50,000	7,500
(iii)	Recipients of the monthly allowance granted for elderly citizens	820,000	3,000

<sup>\*\*</sup> Note - Payments specified in the Schedule II shall be paid from 01.04.2024 to 31.03.2025. The payments in respect of the beneficiaries identified through the welfare beneficiary list shall be paid through Aswesuma Welfare Benefit Payment Scheme effective from 01.04.2024.

Aswesuma Welfare Benefit Payment Scheme published in the *Gazette* Notification No. 2328/13 dated April 21, 2023 is hereby rescinded and however, such payments related to Schedule II shall be made up to 31.12.2023 with respect to the beneficiaries whose payments have been delayed due to various reasons and to the applicants who will subsequently be entitled for this Scheme upon their eligibility for selection from those who have already forwarded their appeals and investigations are still underway.

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<sup>\*\*</sup> Note - In case where the number of family members stands at 02 or less than 02, only a half of the aforementioned allowance shall be paid to the beneficiaries.