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தொழில் மற்றும் வெளிநாட்டு வேலைவாய்ப்பு அமைச்சு

Ministry of Labour and Foreign Employment

හයවන මහල, "මෙහෙවර පියෙස", නාරාහේන්පිට, කොළඹ 05, ශ්‍රී ලංකාව.
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Ministry of Labour and Foreign Employment Circular No: 02/2022

Scheme for granting permits licenses to import fully electric vehicles for Sri Lankans employed abroad

1. Approval was granted by the decision dated 16 August 2022 of the Cabinet of Ministers for the Cabinet Memorandum submitted by the Hon. Minister of Labour and Foreign Employment with a view to introducing various incentive schemes and the Cabinet Note incidental thereto in appreciation of the contribution made to the national economy by Sri Lankans employed abroad by remitting their foreign exchange earnings to the country.
2. This circular is issued enabling Sri Lankans employed abroad who remit foreign exchange to Sri Lanka through the banking system of the country to import a fully electric vehicle which is one of the schemes included therein.
3. In terms of this circular, the authority for issuing the vehicle import permit will be vested in the Ministry in charge of the subject of foreign employment.

4. Conditions

- 4.1 In order to be entitled for this benefit, at least 50% of the amount of foreign currency remitted through the banking system of the country by the Sri Lankan employed abroad should have been converted into Sri Lankan Rupees.
- 4.2 The provisions of this circular shall be in force only for the period specified in Table 4.4 herein and the foreign exchange remitted to the country through the banking system shall be used for the settlement of all expenditure inclusive of government taxes applicable to the importation of a vehicle.
- 4.3 In the event of this scheme being implemented exceeding the period stipulated in Table 4.4, a Sri Lankan employed abroad shall be entitled to import a vehicle once in every five year from the date of issuance of the first permit and permission is also granted to transfer the vehicle to a third party two (2) years after the registration.

4.4 The restrictions imposed in respect of the granting of vehicle permit are as follows.

Value of remittances USD	Type of vehicle	Period of remittance relevant to entitlement and CIF value of vehicle
3,000 or more	Electrically powered two wheel vehicles (Motor Bicycle-HS Code – 8711)	Less than or equal to 50% of the amount of foreign exchange remitted from 01 May 2022 to 30 April 2023 or to the date of applying for first vehicle permit before that date and subject to maximum CIF value of USD 25,000.
20,000 or more	Electrically powered vehicles with four wheels [Motor Car- HS Code-8703 Commercial vehicle –HS Code 8704 (Double Cab, Van, Tipper)	Less than or equal to 50% of the amount of foreign exchange remitted from 01 May 2022 to 31 December 2022 or to the date of applying for first vehicle permit before that date and subject to maximum CIF value of USD 65,000.

4.5 Legal action will be constituted under the laws currently in force in Sri Lanka against any person submitting forged documents or false information to obtain a vehicle permit to import an electrical vehicle under this scheme and he/she will be disqualified for a period of 10 years from receiving any benefit offered by the government/Sri Lanka Bureau of Foreign Employment to Sri Lankans employed abroad.

5. Criteria required to be fulfilled

5.1 The battery pack and electric motor of the electric vehicle should have a producer's guarantee at least for a period of 3 years and compliance should be ensured with the road safety standards for international electric vehicles (EV). A certificate issued by an authorized agent undertaking the responsibility for the proper disposal of the used battery in conformity with the approved/standard procedures/methods should be furnished.

5.2 High voltage battery and power management systems of the electric vehicle should conform to the requirements prescribed by the Department of Motor Traffic.

5.3 The vehicle should either be brand new or with a zero odometer and the electric vehicle and its battery should be imported to Sri Lanka within 06 months from the year of manufacturing.

- 5.4 In the case of a four wheel vehicle, the minimum travelling range on a single charge should be over 200 kilometers.
- 5.5 The funds required for the issuance of the Letter of Credit should be transferred to the relevant company through a licensed commercial bank from the bank account of the beneficiary himself/herself. (Evidence should be furnished to the effect that the total cost of importing the vehicle is borne from the money remitted by the beneficiary) The cost of the vehicle should be paid to the relevant parties from foreign currency. The applicable government tax should be paid in rupees, having converted the foreign exchange remitted to a licensed commercial bank by the beneficiary.

6. Operational Procedure

- 6.1 The application for the importation of an electric vehicle under this scheme can be downloaded either from the website of the Ministry of Labour and Foreign Employment (labourmin.gov.lk) or from the website of the Sri Lanka Bureau of Foreign Employment (www.slbfe.lk). The duly completed application should be handed over to the Ministry of Labour and Foreign Employment along with all the relevant documents.
- 6.2 A letter of confirmation stating the total annual remittances inclusive of the amount of foreign currency remitted to the country by Sri Lankans employed abroad who are eligible for the scheme and the amount of money converted into Rupees and the foreign currency saving should be furnished by the relevant bank. (A form will be introduced for this purpose)
- 6.3 Subsequent to the submission of the duly completed application by the Sri Lankan employed abroad and other documents by the said Sri Lankan or by a person duly authorized by him/her to the Ministry in charge of the subject of Foreign Employment, the said Ministry will issue the vehicle import permit and the permit so issued is valid for a period of six (06) months.

The authority for the authentication of any document submitted together with the application for the vehicle import permit under this scheme from the relevant authorities lies with the Ministry of Labour and Foreign Employment.

7. Interpretation

In this circular “a Sri Lanka employed abroad” means any Sri Lankan employed in any foreign country. For the confirmation of such, a copy of the contract of employment/ agreement or a letter issued by the employer confirming the employment or any other relevant document should be submitted.

8. Should you need any clarification on the matters contained herein, please contact the Senior Assistant Secretary (Administration) of this Ministry over telephone number +94 112 582 447.

This circular has been issued with the concurrence of the Ministry of Finance, Economic Stabilization and National Policies and the Central Bank of Sri Lanka.

Sgd/ R.P.A. Wimalaweera
Secretary
Ministry of Labour and Foreign Employment