

# **Briefing note on construction and maintenance of State and Semi-State buildings as environment friendly and green buildings**

## **01. Background**

Buildings are basic human needs and are being vastly constructed with the present rapid development process. Utilization of natural resource such as timber, sand, metal, clay has been exceeded the national capacity due to extensive demand for raw materials. If this trend is further continued, it will cause for severe irreversible impact to the environment. It is imperative to design buildings to face the disasters because present building industry contributes global crisis such as climate change.

## **02 Description**

2.1 The concept of '**green buildings**' has been introduced for reducing energy, water and other utilities while creating healthy atmosphere inside the buildings. Sri Lanka Green Building Council has developed criteria through introducing a green rating system for a built environment.

2.2 Adapting to the Green Building Concept, reduced greenhouse gas emissions and enhanced level of air quality at inside and outside could be achieved through conservation of energy and other natural resources. Thereby healthy, happy and comfort environment could be created.

2.3 Ministry of Environment, which is the focal point for conventions, protocol related to the environment such as Vienna Convention on Ozone layer protection, Montreal Protocol on Ozone Depleting Substances and Kyoto Protocol on Climate Change has been entrusted with responsibility to address the impending environment issues in order to grant healthy, comfortable environment to the nation. According to the proposed 'Blue-Green Era' for Sri Lanka, adverse impact to the environment should be minimized through a comfort building industry. For achieving of this target, it has been proposed to launch a programme for greening of the buildings construction sector. As a preliminary step, proposal has been formulated to introduce guidelines for construction and maintenance of State and Semi-State institutions buildings in environment friendly matter broadly. These guidelines are widely specified in details than those mentioned in Para 2.1 and also highlight the utilization in environment friendly.