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வீடமைப்பு, நிர்மாணிப்பு மற்றும் நீர் வழங்கல் அமைச்சு
Ministry of Housing, Construction and Water Supply

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Date

27 02.2026

Director General,
Construction Industry Development Authority.

Amendments to Regulation 35 (Registration of Construction Contractors) of CID Act No 33 of 2014

Directive on temporary implementation of proposed amendments until such amendments are published in the relevant gazette notification

This is with reference to your letters 1/2/95 dated 25.02.2026 and 26.02.2026 citing a series of correspondence on the captioned matter requesting the issuance a temporary directive to implement the proposed revision to the criteria of registration of construction contractors.

It is observed that, during the previous years, due to the financial crisis and the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, many contractors have faced difficulties in fulfilling the required experience and qualification criteria for grading assessments.

Further, in the aftermath of the devastation caused by Cyclone Dithwah, major construction projects are currently being implemented under the “Rebuild Sri Lanka” Programme. However, contractors are experiencing practical constraints in meeting the existing qualification requirements for registration.

In considering the said request, following matters were duly taken into account;

- (1) The Approvals duly obtained from the Board of Management of CIDA (Board Decisions Nos: 25-12-4.3 dated 03.12.2025, 26-01-6.6 dated 29.01.2026 and 26-02-6.1 dated 26.02.2026);
- (2) Repeated requests of national associations representing construction contractors and individual contractors;
- (3) The time required to complete the statutory amendment process, including legal drafting and Gazette publication.
- (4) Consultation held with members of the Construction Contractor Registration Panel on 25.02.2026.

Accordingly, directive is hereby granted to provisionally implement the proposed amendments to the “First Schedule” of Gazette No. 2430/13 dated 01.04.2025, with immediate effect.

This directive is hereby issued as a temporary administrative measure and shall remain valid until the formal Gazette Notification incorporating the relevant amendments under Section 35 of the Construction Industry Development Act No. 33 of 2014 is duly published.

Accordingly, the Registration Panel is hereby directed to give effect to the following changes, as reflected in the draft First Schedule (attached hereto) intended for publication.

Changes for the Criteria for Registration of Construction Contractors

- I. To increase the period for counting works experience of Contractors from Five (05) years to Ten (10) years
- II. To withhold the enhanced entry qualification (works experience) for enrolment as Contractors introduced by the gazette 2430/13 for a temporary period of 03 years, and to replace the previous criteria stipulated in the gazette 2057/5 of 05.02.2018
- III. To remove the CBO registration requirement of registering under the Voluntary Social Services (Registration & Supervision) Act No 31 of 1980, and accept a relevant registration (a valid statutory documents issued for its registration by a relevant authority) as stipulated in the gazette 2057/5 of 05.02.2018.

You are kindly requested to take necessary action to inform all relevant officers and ensure strict compliance with this directive until the statutory amendments are formally effected in accordance with the CID Act.

You are further requested to liaise with the Legal Draftsman's Department to expedite the drafting process for incorporating the above amendments into regulations under section 35 of CID Act, with a view to facilitating the early Gazette publication.



Eng. L.B. Kumudu Lal

Secretary

Ministry of Housing, Construction and Water Supply

Copy:

- I. Chairman, CIDA - f.i & n. a. pls
- II. Legal Officer, CIDA - f. n.a. pls
- III. Construction Contractor Registration Panel members
 - i. Eng. H.M.U. Herath
Director (Engineering – Construction Policy)
Representative from the Ministry of Housing, Construction and Water Supply - f.n.a.pls.
 - ii. Eng.(Ms.). D.M.P.T Dissanayake
Representative from the National Construction Association of Sri Lanka (NCASL)-f. n.a.pls.
 - iii. Eng. N.S. Wathukarawaththe, Director, (Development), CIDA - f. n.a.pls

16th February 2026

Eng. S. Amarasekara,
Director General,
Construction Industry Development Authority,
"Sawsiripaya", 123,
Wijerama Mawatha,
Colombo 07

Dear sir,

Request to Follow the Previous Gazette Provisions for Contractor Registration as a Temporary Measure

Reference is made to your letter dated 19th January 2026 regarding the "Request to issue a Direction to CIDA to consider the requirement related to Turnover of Last 10 Years when evaluating Applications for Renewal and Upgrading of CIDA Grades of Contractors based on the Approval of the CIDA Board."

Following the National Construction Association of Sri Lanka (NCASL) bringing this matter to your attention, particularly considering the hardships experienced by contractors due to the recent economic downturn, we appreciate the decision taken to amend the provisions of the Extraordinary Gazette No. 2430/13 dated 01st April 2025 by revising the turnover consideration period to 10 years.

However, it is observed that, subsequent to the drafting process with the Legal Draftsman's Department, the implementation of the said amendment is likely to be delayed by several more months. At present, a significant number of infrastructure reconstruction and rehabilitation works have commenced following Cyclone Ditwah, and, with the recent budget allocations, many government institutions have already initiated procurement processes for new construction projects. Under these circumstances, contractors may not be able to benefit from the proposed amendment, as most tenders would have closed by the time the new Gazette is enacted.

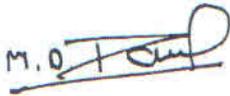
This situation would adversely affect both contractors and public institutions, potentially undermining the integrity of the public procurement process due to the limited availability of eligible contractors, reduced competition, and the unequal distribution of opportunities among bidders. Consequently, only a limited number of contractors would remain eligible to participate in such procurements.

In view of the above, as an interim remedial measure, we hereby propose that, until the amended Gazette comes into force, approval be obtained from the Secretary of the Ministry of Housing, Construction and Water Supply and CIDA Board to follow the contractor registration methodology that prevailed prior to Extraordinary Gazette No. 2430/13 dated 01st April 2025 for a period of six (06) months.

Your favourable consideration of this request would be greatly appreciated.

Yours Faithfully,

National Construction Association of Sri Lanka.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. D. Paul', written over a horizontal line.

M D Paul
Chairman

Copies:

- Secretary - Ministry of Housing, Construction and Water Supply