

ශ්‍රී ලංකා ප්‍රජාතාන්ත්‍රික සමාජවාදී ජනරජයේ ගැසට් පත්‍රය

අති විශේෂ

The Gazette of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka
EXTRAORDINARY

අංක 1993/11 - 2016 නොවැම්බර් මස 16 වැනි බදාදා - 2016.11.16
No. 1993/11 - WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2016

(Published by Authority)

PART I : SECTION (I) — GENERAL

Government Notifications

INLAND REVENUE ACT, No. 10 OF 2006

Notice

IT is hereby notified under Section 97(1)(b) of the Inland Revenue Act, No. 10 of 2006, that the bilateral Agreement for affording relief from double taxation and prevention of fiscal evasion, entered into on 03.04.2014 between the Government of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka and the Government of the Republic of Singapore is set out in the Schedule hereto, has been approved by Parliament by resolution passed on 23.09.2015.

DR. R. H. S. SAMARATHUNGA,
Secretary,
Ministry of Finance.

Ministry of Finance,
Colombo 01,
04th November 2016.

AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE DEMOCRATIC SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF SRI LANKA AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE FOR THE AVOIDANCE OF DOUBLE TAXATION AND THE PREVENTION OF FISCAL EVASION WITH RESPECT TO TAXES ON INCOME

The Government of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka and the Government of the Republic of Singapore, desiring to conclude an agreement for the avoidance of double taxation and the prevention of fiscal evasion with respect to taxes on income.

Have agreed as follows :

ARTICLE I

PERSONS COVERED

This Agreement shall apply to persons who are residents of one or both of the Contracting States.



ARTICLE 2

TAXES COVERED

1. This Agreement shall apply to taxes on income imposed on behalf of a Contracting State or of its political subdivisions or local authorities, irrespective of the manner in which they are levied.

2. There shall be regarded as taxes on income all taxes imposed on total income, or on elements of income, including taxes on gains from the alienation of movable or immovable property.

3. The existing taxes to which the Agreement shall apply are in particular.

(a) in Singapore :

- the income tax
(hereinafter referred to as “Singapore Tax”) ;

(b) in Sri Lanka :

- the income tax, including the income tax based on the turnover of enterprises entered into agreements with the Board of Investment.

(hereinafter referred to as “Sri Lanka Tax”).

4. The Agreement shall apply also to any identical or substantially similar taxes that are imposed after the date of signature of the Agreement in addition to, or in place of, the existing taxes. The competent authorities of the Contracting States shall notify each other of any significant changes made in their taxation laws.

ARTICLE 3

GENERAL DEFINITIONS

1. For the purposes of this Agreement, unless the context otherwise requires :

(a) the term “Singapore” means the Republic of Singapore and, when used in a geographical sense, includes its land territory, internal waters and territorial sea, as well as any maritime area situated beyond the territorial sea which has been or might in the future be designated under its national law, in accordance with international law, as an area within which Singapore may exercise sovereign rights of jurisdiction with regards to the sea, the seabed, the subsoil and the natural resources ;

(b) the term “Sri Lanka” means the territory of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka as defined in the Constitution, including its land territory, internal waters and territorial sea, air space above them as well as the exclusive economic zone and continental shelf where the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka exercises or may hereafter exercise sovereign rights and jurisdiction in conformity with international law and its national legislation ;

(c) the terms “a Contracting State” and “the other Contracting State” mean Singapore or Sri Lanka as the context requires ;

(d) the term “person” includes an individual, a company and any other body of persons ;

(e) the term “company” means any body corporate or any entity that is treated as a body corporate for tax purposes ;

(f) the terms “enterprise of a Contracting State” and “enterprise of the other Contracting State” mean respectively an enterprise carried on by a resident of a Contracting State and an enterprise carried on by a resident of the other Contracting State ;

- (g) the term “international traffic” means any transport by a ship or aircraft operated by an enterprise of a Contracting State, except when the ship or aircraft is operated solely between places in the other Contracting State ;
- (h) the term “competent authority” means ;
- (i) in the case of Singapore, the Minister for Finance or his authorized representative ;
- (ii) in the case of Sri Lanka, the Commissioner General of Inland Revenue or an authorized representative of the Commissioner General ;
- (i) the term “national”, in relation to a Contracting State, means ;
- (i) any individual possessing the nationality or citizenship of that Contracting State ; and
- (ii) any legal person, partnership or association deriving its status as such from the laws in force in that Contracting State ;
- (j) the term “tax” means Singapore tax or Sri Lanka tax, as the context requires, but shall not include any penalty or fine imposed in respect of any default or omission in relation to the taxes to which this Agreement applies.

2. As regards the application of the Agreement at any time by a Contracting State, any term not defined therein shall, unless the context otherwise requires, have the meaning that it has at that time under the laws of that State for the purposes of the taxes to which the Agreement applies, any meaning under the applicable tax laws of that State prevailing over a meaning given to the term under other laws of that State.

ARTICLE 4

RESIDENT

1. For the purposes of this Agreement, the term “resident of a Contracting State” means any person who, under the laws of that State, is liable to tax therein by reason of his domicile, residence, place of incorporation, place of management or any other criterion of a similar nature, and also includes that State and any political subdivision, local authority or statutory body thereof.

2. Where by reason of the provisions of paragraph I and individual is a resident of both Contracting States then his status shall be determined as follows :

- (a) he shall be deemed to be a resident only of the State in which he has a permanent home available to him ; if he has a permanent home available to him in both States, he shall be deemed to be a resident only of the State with which his personal and economic relations are closer (centre of vital interests) ;
- (b) if the State in which he has his centre of vital interests cannot be determined, or if he has not a permanent home available to him in either State, he shall be deemed to be a resident only of the State in which he has an habitual abode ;
- (c) if he has an habitual abode in both States or in neither of them, he shall be deemed to be a resident only of the State of which he is a national ;
- (d) in any other case, the competent authorities of the Contracting States shall settle the question by mutual agreement.

3. Where by reason of the provisions of paragraph 1 a person other than an individual is a resident of both Contracting States, then it shall be deemed to be a resident only of the State in which its place of effective management is situated. If the State in which its place of effective management is situated cannot be determined, then the competent authorities of the Contracting States shall settle the question by mutual agreement.

ARTICLE 5

PERMANENT ESTABLISHMENT

1. For the purposes of this Agreement, the term “permanent establishment” means a fixed place of business through which the business of an enterprise is wholly or partly carried on.

2. The term “permanent establishment” includes especially :

- (a) a place of management ;
- (b) a branch ;
- (c) an office ;
- (d) a factory ;
- (e) a workshop ; and
- (f) a mine, an oil or gas well, a quarry or any other place of extraction of natural resources.

3. The term “permanent establishment” also encompasses :

- (a) a building site, a construction, assembly or installation project, a drilling rig or ship used for exploration or development of natural resources, including supervisory activities in connection therewith, but only if such site, project or activities lasts for a period of more than 183 days within any 12-month period ;
- (b) the furnishing of services, including consultancy services, by an enterprise of a Contracting State through employees or other personnel engaged by the enterprise for such purpose, but only if activities of that nature continue (for the same or a connected project) within the other Contracting State for a period or periods aggregating more than 183 days within any 12-months period.

4. Notwithstanding the preceding provisions of this Article, the term “permanent establishment” shall be deemed not to include :

- (a) the use of facilities solely for the purpose of storage, display or delivery of goods or merchandise belonging to the enterprise ;
- (b) the maintenance of a stock of goods or merchandise belonging to the enterprise solely for the purpose of storage, display or delivery ;
- (c) the maintenance of a stock of goods or merchandise belonging to the enterprise solely for the purpose of processing by another enterprise ;
- (d) the maintenance of a fixed place of business solely for the purpose of purchasing goods or merchandise or of collecting information, for the enterprise ;
- (e) the maintenance of a fixed place of business solely for the purpose of carrying on, for the enterprise, any other activity of a preparatory or auxiliary character ;
- (f) the maintenance of a fixed place of business solely for any combination of activities mentioned in subparagraphs (a) to (e), provided that the overall activity of the fixed place of business resulting from this combination is of a preparatory or auxiliary character.

5. Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraphs 1 and 2, where a person - other than an agent of an independent status to whom paragraph 7 applies - is acting in a Contracting State on behalf of an enterprise of the other Contracting State and has, and habitually exercises, in that Contracting State an authority to conclude contracts in the name of the

enterprise, that enterprise shall be deemed to have a permanent establishment in that state in respect of any activities which that person undertaken for the enterprise, unless the activities of such person are limited to those mentioned in paragraph 4 which, if exercised through a fixed place of business, would not make this fixed place of business a permanent establishment under the provisions of that paragraph.

6. Notwithstanding the preceding provisions of this Article, an insurance enterprise of a Contracting State shall, except in regard to re-insurance, be deemed to have a permanent establishment in the other Contracting State if it collects premiums in the territory of that other State or insures risks situated therein through a person other than an agent of an independent status to whom paragraph 7 applies.

7. An enterprise of a Contracting State shall not be deemed to have a permanent establishment in the other Contracting State merely because it carries on business in that other State through a broker, general commission agent or any other agent of an independent status, provided that such persons are acting in the ordinary course of their business. However, when the activities of such an agent are devoted wholly or almost wholly on behalf of that enterprise, and conditions are made or imposed between that enterprise and the agent in their commercial and financial relations which differ from those which would have been made between independent enterprises, he will not be considered an agent of an independent status within the meaning of this paragraph.

8. The fact that a company which is a resident of a Contracting State controls or is controlled by a company which is a resident of the other Contracting State, or which carries on business in that other State (whether through a permanent establishment or otherwise), shall not of itself constitute either company a permanent establishment of the other.

ARTICLE 6

INCOME FROM IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

1. Income derived by a resident of a Contracting State from immovable property (including income from agriculture or forestry) situated in the other Contracting State may be taxed in that other Contracting State.

2. The term "immovable property" shall have the meaning which it has under the law of the Contracting State in which the property in question is situated. The term shall in any case include property accessory to immovable property, livestock and equipment used in agriculture and forestry, rights to which the provisions of general law respecting landed property apply, usufruct of immovable property and rights to variable or fixed payments as consideration for the working of, or the right to work, mineral deposits, sources and other natural resources, ships, boats and aircraft shall not be regarded as immovable property.

3. The provisions of paragraph 1 shall apply to income derived from the direct use, letting or use in any other form of immovable property.

4. The provisions of paragraphs 1 and 3 shall also apply to the income from immovable property of an enterprise and to income from immovable property used for the performance of independent personal services.

ARTICLE 7

BUSINESS PROFITS

1. The profits of an enterprise of a Contracting State shall be taxable only in that State unless the enterprise carries on business in the other Contracting State through a permanent establishment situated therein. If the enterprise carries on business as aforesaid, the profits of the enterprise may be taxed in the other State but only so much of them as is attributable to that permanent establishment.

2. Subject to the provisions of paragraph 3, where an enterprise of a Contracting State carries on business in the other Contracting State through a permanent establishment situated therein, there shall in each Contracting State be attributed to that permanent establishment the profits which it might be expected to make if it were a distinct and separate enterprise engaged in the same or similar activities under the same or similar conditions and dealing wholly independently with the enterprise of which it is a permanent establishment.

3. In determining the profits of a permanent establishment, there shall be allowed as deductions all expenses, including executive and general administrative expenses, which would be deductible if the permanent establishment were an independent enterprise, insofar as they are reasonably allocable to the permanent establishment, whether incurred in the Contracting State in which the permanent establishment is situated or elsewhere.

4. No profit shall be attributed to a permanent establishment by reason of the mere purchase by that permanent establishment of goods or merchandise for the enterprise.

5. In so far as it has been customary in a Contracting State to determine the profits to be attributed to a permanent establishment on the basis of an apportionment of the total profits of the enterprise to its various parts, nothing in paragraph 2 shall preclude that Contracting State from determining the profits to be taxed by such an apportionment as may be customary, the method of apportionment adopted shall, however, be such that the result shall be in accordance with the principles contained in this Article.

6. For the purposes of the preceding paragraphs, the profits to be attributed to the permanent establishment shall be determined by the same method year by year unless there is good and sufficient reason to the contrary.

7. Where profits include items of income which are dealt with separately in other Articles of this Agreement, then the provisions of those Articles shall not be affected by the provisions of this Article.

ARTICLE 8

SHIPPING AND AIR TRANSPORT

1. Profits derived in a Contracting State by an enterprise of the other Contracting State from the operation of ships in international traffic may be taxed in the first mentioned State, but the tax so charged shall be reduced by an amount equal to 50 per cent thereof.

2. Profits derived in a Contracting State by an enterprise of the other Contracting State from the operation of aircraft in international traffic shall be taxable only in that other State.

3. The provisions of paragraphs 1 and 2 shall also apply to profits from the participation in a pool, a joint business or an international operating agency.

4. For the purposes of this Article, profits from the operation of ships or aircraft in international traffic shall include :

- (a) profits from the rental on a bareboat basis of ships or aircraft ; and
- (b) profits from the use, maintenance or rental of containers (including trailers and related equipment for the transport of containers) used for the transport of goods or merchandise.

where such rental or such use, maintenance or rental, as the case may be, is incidental to the operation of ships or aircraft in international traffic.

ARTICLE 9

ASSOCIATED ENTERPRISES

1. Where

- (a) an enterprise of a Contracting State participate directly or indirectly in the management, control or capital of an enterprise of the other Contracting State, or
- (b) the same persons participate directly or indirectly in the management, control of capital or an enterprise of a Contracting State and an enterprise of the other Contracting State,

and in either case conditions are made or imposed between the two enterprises in their commercial or financial relations which differ from those which would be made between independent enterprises, then any profits which would, but for those conditions, have accrued to one of the enterprises, but, by reason of those conditions, have not so accrued, may be included in the profits of that enterprise and taxed accordingly.

2. Where a Contracting State includes in the profits of an enterprise of that State and taxes accordingly - profits on which an enterprise of the other Contracting State has been charged to tax in that other State and the profits so included are profits which would have accrued to the enterprise of the first-mentioned State if the conditions made between the two enterprises had been those which would have been made between independent enterprises, then that other State shall make an appropriate adjustment to the amount of the tax charged therein on those profits. In determining such adjustment, due regard shall be had to the other provisions of this Agreement and the competent authorities of the Contracting States shall, if necessary, consult each other.

3. The provisions of paragraph 2 shall not apply where judicial proceedings have resulted in a final decision that by action giving rise to an adjustment of profits under paragraph 1, one of the enterprises concerned is liable to penalty with respect to fraud.

ARTICLE 10

DIVIDENDS

1. Dividends paid by a company which is a resident of a Contracting State to a resident of the other Contracting State may be taxed in that other State.

2. However, such dividends may also be taxed in the Contracting State of which the company paying the dividends is a resident and according to the laws of that State, but if the beneficial owner of the dividends is a resident of the other Contracting State, the tax so charged shall not exceed :

- (a) 7.5 per cent of the gross amount of the dividends if the beneficial owner is a company which holds directly at least 25 per cent of the capital of the company paying the dividends ;
- (b) 10 per cent of the gross amount of the dividends in all other cases.

The provisions of this paragraph shall not affect the taxation of the company in respect of the profits out of which the dividends are paid.

3. The term “dividends” as used in this Article means income from shares, “jouissance” shares or “jouissance”, rights, mining shares, founders’ shares or other rights, not being debt-claims, participating in profits, as well as income from other corporate rights which is subjected to the same taxation treatment as income from shares by the laws of the State of which the company making the distribution is a resident.

4. The provisions of paragraph 1 and 2 shall not apply if the beneficial owner of the dividends, being a resident of a Contracting State, carries on business in the other Contracting State of which the company paying the dividends is a resident, through a permanent establishment situated therein, or performs in that other State independent personal services from a fixed base situated therein, and the holding in respect of which the dividends are paid is effectively connected with such permanent establishment or fixed base. In such case the provisions of Article 7 of Article 14, as the case may be, shall apply.

5. Where a company which is a resident of a Contracting State derives profits or income from the other Contracting State, that other State may not impose any tax on the dividends paid by the company, except insofar as such dividends are paid to a resident of that other State or insofar as the holding in respect of which the dividends are paid is effectively connected with a permanent establishment or a fixed base situated in that other State, nor subject the company’s undistributed profits to a tax on the company’s undistributed profits, even if the dividends paid or the undistributed profits consist wholly or partly of profits or income arising in such other State.

ARTICLE 11

INTEREST

1. Interest arising in a Contracting State and paid to a resident of the other Contracting State may be taxed in that other State.

2. However, such interest may also be taxed in the Contracting State in which it arises and according to the laws of that state, but if the beneficial owner of the interest is a resident of the other Contracting State, the tax so charged shall not exceed 10 per cent of the gross amount of the interest.

3. Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph 2

(a) interest arising in a Contracting State and paid to the Government of the other Contracting State shall be exempt from tax of the first-mentioned Contracting State ; and

(b) interest derived and beneficially owned by a banking or financial institution of a Contracting State shall be exempt from tax in the other State.

4. The term “interest” as used in this Article means income from debt-claims of every kind, whether or not secured by mortgage and whether or not carrying a right to participate in the debtor’s profits, and in particular, income from government securities and income from bonds or debentures, including premiums and prize attaching to such securities, bonds or debentures. Penalty charges for late payment shall not be regarded as interest for the purpose of this Article.

5. The provisions of paragraphs 1 and 2 shall not apply if the beneficial owner of the interest, being a resident of a Contracting State, carries on business in the other Contracting State in which the interest arises, through a permanent establishment situated therein, or performs in that other State independent personal services from a fixed base situated therein, and the debt-claim in respect of which the interest is paid is effectively connected with such permanent establishment or fixed base. In such case the provisions of Article 7 or Article 14, as the case may be, shall apply.

6. Interest shall be deemed to arise in a Contracting State when the payer is a resident of that State. Where, however, the person paying the interest, whether he is a resident of a Contracting State or not, has in a Contracting State a permanent establishment or a fixed base in connection with which the indebtedness on which the interest is paid was incurred, and such interest is borne by such permanent establishment of fixed base, then such interest shall be deemed to arise in the State in which the permanent establishment of fixed base is situated.

7. Where, by reason of a special relationship between the payer and the beneficial owner or between both of them and some other person, the amount of the interest, having regard to the debt-claim for which it is paid, exceeds the amount which would have been agreed upon by the payer and the beneficial owner in the absence of such relationship, the provisions of this Article shall apply only to the last-mentioned amount. In such case, the excess part of the payments shall remain taxable according to the laws of each Contracting State, due regard being had to the other provisions of this Agreement.

ARTICLE 12

ROYALTIES

1. Royalties arising in a Contracting State and paid to a resident of the other Contracting State may be taxed in that other State.

2. However, such royalties may also be taxed in the Contracting State in which they arise and according to the laws of that State, but if the beneficial owner of the royalties is a resident of the other Contracting State, the tax so charged shall not exceed 10 per cent of the gross amount of the royalties.

3. The term “royalties” as used in this Article means payments of any kind received as a consideration for the use of, or the right to use, any copyright of literary, artistic or scientific work including cinematograph films or films or tapes

used for television or radio broadcasting any patent, trade mark, design or model, plan, secret formula or process, or for the use of, or the right to use, industrial, commercial or scientific equipment, or for information concerning industrial, commercial or scientific experience.

4. The provisions of paragraphs 1 and 2 shall not apply if the beneficial owner of the royalties, being a resident of a Contracting State, carries on business in the other Contracting State in which the royalties arise, through a permanent establishment situated therein, or performs in that other State independent personal services from a fixed base situated therein, and the right or property in respect of which the royalties are paid is effectively connected with such permanent establishment or fixed base. In such case, the provisions of Article 7 or Article 14, as the case may be, shall apply.

5. Royalties shall be deemed to arise in a Contracting State when the payer is a resident of that State. Where, however, the person paying the royalties, whether he is a resident of a Contracting State or not, has in a Contracting State a permanent establishment or a fixed base in connection with which the liability to pay the royalties was incurred, and such royalties are borne by such permanent establishment or fixed base, then such royalties shall be deemed to arise in the Contracting State in which the permanent establishment or fixed base is situated.

6. Where, by reason of a special relationship between the payer and the beneficial owner or between both of them and some other person, the amount of the royalties, having regard to the use, right or information for which they are paid, exceeds the amount which would have been agreed upon by the payer and the beneficial owner in the absence of such relationship, the provisions of this Article shall apply only to the last-mentioned amount. In such case, the excess part of the payments shall remain taxable according to the laws of each Contracting State, due regard being had to the other provisions of this Agreement.

ARTICLE 13

CAPITAL GAINS

1. Gains derived by a resident of a Contracting State from the alienation of immovable property referred to in Article 6 and situated in the other Contracting State may be taxed in that other State.

2. Gains from the alienation of movable property forming part of the business property of a permanent establishment which an enterprise of a Contracting State has in the other Contracting State or of movable property pertaining to a fixed base available to a resident of a Contracting State in the other Contracting State for the purpose of performing independent personal service, including such gains from the alienation of such a permanent establishment (alone or with the whole enterprise) or of such fixed base, may be taxed in that other State.

3. Gains derived by a resident of a Contracting State from the alienation of ships or aircraft operated in international traffic, or movable property pertaining to the operation of such ships or aircraft, shall be taxable only in that State.

4. Gains derived by a resident of a Contracting State from the alienation of shares of a company, other than shares traded on a recognized stock exchange, deriving more than 50 per cent of their value from immovable property situated in the other Contracting State may be taxed in that other Contracting State.

5. Gains from the alienation of any property other than that referred to in the preceding paragraphs of this Article shall be taxable only in the Contracting State of which the alienator is a resident.

ARTICLE 14

INDEPENDENT PERSONAL SERVICES

1. Income derived by an individual who is a resident of a Contracting State in respect of professional services or other activities of an independent character shall be taxable only in that State except in the following circumstances, when such income may also be taxed in the other Contracting State :

- (a) if he has a fixed base regularly available to him in the other Contracting State for the purpose of performing his activities ; in that case, only so much of the income as is attributable to that fixed base may be taxed in that other Contracting State ; or

- (b) if his stay in the other Contracting State is for a period or periods exceeding in the aggregate 183 days in any 12-month period, in that case, only so much of the income as is derived from his activities performed in that other State may be taxed in that other State.

2. The term “professional services” includes especially independent, scientific, literary, artistic, educational or teaching activities as well as the independent activities of physicians, lawyers, engineers, architects, dentists and accountants.

ARTICLE 15

DEPENDENT PERSONAL SERVICES

1. Subject to the provisions of Articles 16, 18 and 19, salaries, wages and other similar remuneration derived by a resident of a Contracting State in respect of an employment shall be taxable only in that State unless the employment is exercised in the other Contracting State. If the employment is so exercised, such remuneration as is derived therefrom may be taxed in that other Contracting State.

2. Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph 1, remuneration derived by a resident of a Contracting State in respect of an employment exercised in the other Contracting State shall be taxable only in the first-mentioned State if ;

- (a) the recipient is present in that other Contracting State for a period or periods not exceeding in the aggregate 183 days in any 12-month period ; and
- (b) the remuneration is paid by, or on behalf of, an employer who is not a resident of that other Contracting State ; and
- (c) the remuneration is not borne by a permanent establishment or a fixed base which the employer has in that other Contracting State.

3. Notwithstanding the preceding provisions of this Article, remuneration derived in respect of an employment exercised aboard a ship or aircraft operated in international traffic by an enterprise of a Contracting State shall be taxable only in that State.

ARTICLE 16

DIRECTORS’ FEES

Directors’ fees and other similar payments derived by a resident of a Contracting State in his capacity as a member of the board of directors of a company which is a resident of the other Contracting State may be taxed in that other State.

ARTICLE 17

ARTISTES AND SPORTSPERSONS

1. Notwithstanding the provisions of Article 14 and 15, income derived by a resident of a Contracting State as an entertainer, such as theatre, motion picture, radio or television artiste, or a musician, or as a sportsperson, from his personal activities exercised in the other Contracting State, may be taxed in that other State.

2. Where income in respect of personal activities exercised by an artiste or a sportsperson accrues not to the artiste or sportsperson himself but to another person, that income may, notwithstanding the provisions of Article 7, 14 and 15, be taxed in the Contracting State in which the activities of the artiste or sportsperson are exercised.

3. The provisions of paragraphs 1 and 2 shall not apply to income derived from activities exercised in a Contracting State by an artiste or a sportsperson if the visit to that State is wholly or mainly supported by public funds of one or both of the Contracting State or political subdivisions or local authorities or statutory bodies thereof. In such case, the income shall be taxable only in the Contracting State in which the artiste or the sportsperson is a resident.

ARTICLE 18

PENSIONS AND ANNUITIES

1. Subject to the provisions of paragraph 2 of Article 19, any pension or other similar remuneration, and any annuity, paid to a resident of a Contracting State from a source in the other Contracting State in consideration of past employment in that other Contracting State may be taxed in that other State.

2. The term “annuity” means a stated sum payable periodically at stated times during life or during a specified or ascertainable period of time under an obligation to make the payments in return for adequate and full consideration in money or money’s worth.

3. Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph 1, pensions paid and other payments made under a public scheme which is part of the social security system of a Contracting State shall be taxable only in that State.

ARTICLE 19

GOVERNMENT SERVICE

1. (a) Salaries, wages and other similar remuneration, other than a pension paid by a Contracting State or a political subdivision, a local authority or a statutory body thereof to and individual in respect of services rendered to that State or subdivision, authority or body shall be taxable only in that State.

(b) However, such salaries, wages and other similar remuneration shall be taxable only in the other Contracting State if the services are rendered in that State and the individual is a resident of that State who :

(i) is a national of that State ; or

(ii) did not become a resident of that State solely for the purpose of rendering that services.

2.(a) Any pension paid by, or out of funds created by a Contracting State or a political subdivision, a local authority or a statutory body thereof to an individual in respect of services rendered to that State or subdivision, authority or body shall be taxable only in that State.

(b) However, such pension shall be taxable only in the other Contracting State if the individual is a resident of, and a national of, that other State.

3. The provisions of Articles 15, 16, 17 and 18 shall apply to salaries, wages and other similar remuneration, pensions and annuities, in respect of services rendered in connection with a business carried on by a Contracting State or a political subdivision, a local authority or a statutory body thereof.

ARTICLE 20

STUDENTS

Payments which a student or business apprentice, who is or was immediately before visiting a Contracting State a resident of the other Contracting State and who is present in the first-mentioned State solely for the purpose of his education or training, received for the purpose of his maintenance, education or training shall not be taxed in that State, provided that such payments arise from sources outside that State. This is notwithstanding that such student or business apprentice may receive remuneration for personal services rendered in the first-mentioned Contracting State, where such remuneration is incidental to, or is to supplement, the payments received by him for the purpose of his education or training.

ARTICLE 21

OTHER INCOME

Items of income not dealt with in the foregoing Articles of this Agreement and arising in a Contracting State may be taxed in that State.

ARTICLE 22

ELIMINATION OF DOUBLE TAXATION

1. In Singapore, double taxation shall be avoided as follows :

Where a resident of Singapore derives from Sri Lanka which, in accordance with the provisions of this Agreement, may be taxed in Sri Lanka, Singapore shall, subject to its laws regarding the allowance as a credit against Singapore tax of tax payable in any country other than Singapore, allow the Sri Lanka tax paid, whether directly or by deduction, as a credit against the Singapore tax payable on the income of that resident. Where such income is a dividend paid by a company which is a resident of Sri Lanka to a resident of Singapore which is a company owing directly or indirectly not less than 10 per cent of the share capital of the first-mentioned company, the credit shall take into account the Sri Lanka tax paid by that company on the portion of its profits out of which the dividend is paid.

2. In Sri Lanka, double taxation shall be avoided as follows :

(a) Where a resident of Sri Lanka derives income from Singapore which in accordance with the provisions of this Agreement, may be taxed in Singapore, Sri Lanka shall allow as a deduction from the tax on the income of that resident, an amount equal to the tax paid in Singapore.

Such deduction shall not, however, exceed the portion of the tax as computed before the deduction is given, which is attributable to the income which may be taxed in Singapore.

(b) Where in accordance with any provision of the Agreement income derived by a resident of Sri Lanka is exempt from tax in Sri Lanka, Sri Lanka may nevertheless, in calculating the amount of tax on the remaining income of such resident, take into account the exempted income.

ARTICLE 23

NON - DISCRIMINATION

1. Nationals of a Contracting State shall not be subjected in the other Contracting State to any taxation or any requirement connected therewith, which is other or more burdensome than the taxation and connected requirements to which nationals of that other State in the same circumstances, in particular with respect to residence, are or may be subjected.

2. The taxation on a permanent establishment which an enterprise of a Contracting State has in the other Contracting State shall not be less favourably levied in that other State than the taxation levied on enterprises of that other State carrying on the same activities.

3. Nothing in this Article shall be construed as obliging a Contracting State to grant to :

(a) residents of the other Contracting State any personal allowances, reliefs and reductions for tax purposes which it grants to its own residents ; or

(b) nationals of the other Contracting State those personal allowances, reliefs and reductions for tax purposes which it grants to its own nationals who are not residents of that State or to such other persons as may be specified in the taxation laws of that State.

4. Enterprises of a Contracting State, the capital of which is wholly or partly owned or controlled, directly or indirectly, by one or more residents of the other Contracting State, shall not be subjected in the first-mentioned State to any taxation or any requirement connected therewith which is other or more burdensome than the taxation and connected requirements to which other similar enterprises of the first-mentioned State are or may be subjected.

5. Where a Contracting State grants tax incentives to its nationals designed to promote economic or social development in accordance with its national policy and criteria, it shall not be construed as discrimination under this Article.

6. The provisions of this Article shall apply to the taxes which are the subject of this Agreement.

ARTICLE 24

MUTUAL AGREEMENT PROCEDURE

1. Where a person considers that the actions of one or both of the Contracting States result or will result for him in taxation not in accordance with the provisions of this Agreement, he may, irrespective of the remedies provided by the domestic law of those States, present his case to the competent authority of the Contracting State of which he is a resident or, if his case comes under paragraph 1 of Article 23, to that of the Contracting State of which he is a national. The case must be presented within three years from the first notification of the action resulting in taxation not in accordance with the provisions of the Agreement.

2. The competent authority shall endeavour, if the objection appears to it to be justified and if it is not itself able to arrive at a satisfactory solution, to resolve the case by mutual agreement with the competent authority of the other Contracting State, with a view to the avoidance of taxation which is not in accordance with the Agreement. Any agreement reached shall be implemented notwithstanding any time limits in the laws of the Contracting States.

3. The competent authorities of the Contracting State shall endeavour to resolve by mutual agreement any difficulties or doubts arising as to the interpretation or application of the Agreement. They may also consult together for the elimination of double taxation in cases not provided for in the Agreement.

4. The competent authorities of the Contracting State may communicate with each other directly for the purpose of reaching an agreement in the sense of the preceding paragraph.

ARTICLE 25

EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION

1. The competent authorities of the Contracting States shall exchange such information as is foreseeably relevant for carrying out the provisions of this Agreement or to the administration or enforcement of the domestic laws concerning taxes of every kind and description imposed on behalf of the Contracting States, or of their political subdivisions or local authorities insofar as the taxation thereunder is not contrary to the Agreement. The exchange of information is not restricted by Articles 1 and 2.

2. Any information received under paragraph 1 by a Contracting State shall be treated as secret in the same manner as information obtained under the domestic laws of that State and shall be disclosed only to persons or authorities (including courts and administrative bodies) concerned with the assessment or collection of, the enforcement or prosecution in respect of the determination of appeals in relation to the taxes referred to in paragraph 1, or the oversight of the above. Such persons or authorities shall use the information only for such purposes. They may disclose the information in public court proceedings or in judicial decisions.

3. In no case shall the provisions of paragraph 1 and 2 be construed so as to impose on a Contracting State the obligation.

- (a) to carry out administrative measures at variance with the laws and administrative practice of that or of the other Contracting State ;
- (b) to supply information which is not obtainable under the laws or in the normal course of the administration of that or of the other Contracting State ;
- (c) to supply information which would disclose any trade, business, industrial, commercial or professional secret or trade process, or information, the disclosure of which would be contrary to public policy (ordre public)

4. If information is requested by a Contracting State in accordance with this Article, the other Contracting State shall use its information gathering measures to obtain the requested information, even though that other State may not need such information for its own tax purposes. The obligation contained in the preceding sentence is subject to the limitations of paragraph 3 but in no case shall such limitations be construed to permit a Contracting State to decline to supply information solely because it has no domestic interest in such information.

5. In no case shall the provisions of paragraph 3 be construed to permit a Contracting State to decline to supply information solely because the information is held by a bank, other financial institution, nominee or person acting in an agency or a fiduciary capacity or because it relates to ownership interest in a person.

ARTICLE 26

MEMBERS OF DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS AND CONSULAR POSTS

Nothing in this Agreement shall affect the fiscal privileges of members of diplomatic missions or consular posts under the general rules of international law or under the provisions of special agreements.

ARTICLE 27

ENTRY INTO FORCE

1. Each of the Contracting States shall notify to the other the completion of the procedures required by its law for the bringing into force of this Agreement.

2. The Agreement shall enter into force on the date of the later of these notifications and its provisions shall have effect :

(a) in Singapore :

- (i) in respect of taxes withheld at source on amounts liable to be paid, deemed paid or paid (whichever is the earliest) on or after 1 January of the calendar year next following the year in which the Agreement enters into force ;
- (ii) in respect of tax chargeable (other than taxes withheld at source) for any year of assessment beginning on or after 1 January in the second calendar year following the year in which the Agreement enters into force ; and
- (iii) in respect of Article 25, for request made on or after the date of entry into force of this Agreement.

(b) in Sri Lanka :

- (i) in respect of taxes withheld at source on amounts paid or payable on or after 1 January of the calendar year next following the year in which the Agreement enters into force ;
- (ii) in the case of other taxes, in respect of taxes levied for taxable year beginning on or after 1 January of the calendar year next following the year in which the Agreement enters into force ; and
- (iii) in respect of Article 25, for requests made on or after the date of entry into force of this Agreement.

3. The Convention between the Government of the Republic of Singapore and the Government of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with respect to Taxes on income, signed on 29 May 1979, shall terminate and cease to have effect when the provisions of this Agreement come into force in accordance with paragraph 2 of this Article.

ARTICLE 28

TERMINATION

This Agreement shall remain in force until terminated by a Contracting State. Either Contracting State may terminate the Agreement, through diplomatic channels, by giving notice of termination at least six months before the end of any calendar year after the expiration of a period of five years from the date of its entry into force, in such event, the Agreement shall cease to have effect :

(a) in Singapore :

- (i) in respect of taxes withheld at source on amounts liable to be paid, deemed paid or paid (whichever is the earliest) after the end of that calendar year in which the notice is given ;
- (ii) in respect of tax chargeable (other than taxes withheld at source) for any year of assessment beginning on or after 1 January in the second calendar year following the year in which the notice is given ; and
- (iii) in all other cases, after the end of that calendar year in which the notice is given.

(b) in Sri Lanka :

- (i) in respect of taxes withheld at source on amounts paid or payable on or after the end of that calendar year in which the notice is given ;
- (ii) in the case of other taxes, in respect of taxes levied for taxable year beginning on or after 1 January of the calendar year next following the year in which the notice is given ; and
- (iii) in all other cases, after the end of that calendar year in which the notice is given.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the undersigned being duly authorised thereto have signed this Agreement.

DONE in duplicate at Colombo on this 03rd day of April 2014 in the English and Sinhala languages, both texts being equally authentic in the case of divergence in interpretation, the English text shall prevail.

Sgd/Prof. G. L. PEIRIS,
For the Government of
the Democratic Socialist Republic of
Sri Lanka.

Sgd/K. SHANMUGAN,
For the Government of
the Republic of Singapore.

PROTOCOL

The Government of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka and the Government of the Republic of Singapore have agreed at the signing of the Agreement for the avoidance of double taxation and the prevention of fiscal evasion with respect to taxes on income, that the following provisions shall form an integral part of the said Agreement.

1. With reference to the Agreement the term “statutory body” means a body constituted by statute and performing only non-commercial functions which would otherwise be performed by the Government of a Contracting State.

2. With reference to Article 8 (Shipping and Air Transport) of the Agreement, it is understood that interest on funds connected with the operations of ships or aircraft in international traffic shall be regarded as profits derived from the operation of such ships or aircraft where such interest is incidental to the operations of ships or aircraft in international traffic in such case, the provisions of Article 11 shall not apply in relation to such interest.

3. With reference to Article 12 (Royalties) of the Agreement, it is understood that in relation to payments for computer software, such payments are royalties only if the payments are made for the right to use and exploit the copyright in the program.

4. With reference to Article 18 (Pensions and Annuities) of the Agreement, it is understood that paragraph 3 of this Article shall be applicable to payments made, in the case of Singapore, under the Central Provident Fund.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the undersigned being duly authorised thereto have signed this Protocol.

DONE in duplicate at Colombo on this 03rd day of April 2014 in the English and Sinhala languages, both texts being equally authentic. In the case of divergence in interpretation, the English text shall prevail.

Sgd/Prof. G. L. PEIRIS,
For the Government of
the Democratic Socialist Republic of
Sri Lanka.

Sgd/K. SHANMUGAN,
For the Government of
the Republic of Singapore.

12-334