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வெளிநாட்டு அலுவல்கள், வெளிநாட்டு வேலைவாய்ப்பு மற்றும் சுற்றுலாத்துறை அமைச்சு  
MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, FOREIGN EMPLOYMENT AND TOURISM

## Media Release

### Sri Lanka to elevate its engagement with the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO)

Minister of Foreign Affairs, Foreign Employment and Tourism Vijitha Herath held productive discussions with the Secretary-General of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) Nurlan Yermekbayev today (20/05) at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Foreign Employment and Tourism, during the Secretary General's official visit to Sri Lanka from 19th to 21st May 2026. This visit, which is the first visit by a Secretary General of the SCO to Sri Lanka, will contribute towards elevating Sri Lanka's engagement with the SCO.

The discussions focused on further strengthening and deepening cooperation between SCO and its partner countries across several sectors, particularly tourism, transport and logistics, and agriculture. Minister Herath conveyed Sri Lanka's strong interest in joining SCO initiatives and sought the Secretary-General's support in promoting Sri Lanka as a dynamic investment and tourist destination.

The Secretary General also had constructive discussions with the Minister of Ports and Civil Aviation Anura Karunathilaka, Minister of Agriculture, Livestock, Land, and Irrigation K.D. Lal Kantha and Deputy Minister of Tourism Prof. Ruwan Ranasingha during the visit.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Foreign Employment and Tourism

Colombo 01

21 May 2026

#### Foreign Affairs

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வெளிநாட்டு அலுவல்கள்

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(சூடியரசுக் கட்டிடம், கொழும்பு 1)

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#### Foreign Employment

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17 වන මහල, "මෙහෙවර පියස", නාරාහේන්පිට, කොළඹ 5  
17 அலக்து தளம், "மெஹேவர பியேச", நாரஹேன்பிட்டி, கொழும்பு 5

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#### Tourism

සංචාරක  
சுற்றுலாத்துறை

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අංක 03, ටයිම්ස් ගොඩනැගිල්ල, බ්‍රිස්ටල් වීදිය (සර් රාසික් ෆරේඩ් මාවත), කොළඹ 1  
இல.03, டைம்ஸ் கட்டிடம், பிரிஸ்டல் தெரு (சர் ராசிக் ஃபரீத் மாவத்தை), கொழும்பு 1

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