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தொழில்நுட்ப அமைச்சு  
MINISTRY OF TECHNOLOGY

1106-1108, 11 වන මහල, වත් ගෝල් ෆේස්, # 1 ඒ, මැද පාර, කොළඹ 02  
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எனது இல  
My No.

MOT/Circular/GovWeb

ඔබේ අංකය  
உமது இல  
Your No.

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திகதி  
Date

2022-07-07

All Secretaries of Ministries  
All Secretaries of the State Ministries  
All Secretaries of Provincial Chief Ministries  
All District Secretariats  
All Heads of Departments  
All Heads of Corporations and Statuary Boards

**SECURING OF GOVERNMENT WEBSITES AND WEB APPLICATIONS**

01. With the rapid adoption of digital technologies within Sri Lanka in the recent years, Government Websites and Web Applications have become prime targets of cyber-attacks with a significant increase in website compromises, which could affect the national security and safety, economic, social and cultural dimensions of country.
02. Therefore, this Ministry in collaboration with the Information and Communication Technology Agency of Sri Lanka (ICTA) and Sri Lanka Computer Emergency Readiness Team (Sri Lanka CERT) issues this circular with the aim of increasing the cyber resilience of government institutes' websites and web applications. Thus, all government institutes and statutory bodies are required to adhere to the instructions mentioned herein to prevent or mitigate website or web application compromise.
03. The Websites and Web Applications of government institutions shall be developed with security measures inbuilt into its respective structure. A security by design approach will be utilized to ensure security measures are taken into considerations through the development lifecycle. Websites and Web Applications shall be designed with the technical assistance of ICTA.
04. All new websites and web applications require security assessments to be conducted by Sri Lanka CERT prior to the production release to ensure that these are risk free at the time of launch.
05. The government organization is responsible for the security of its websites and web applications.
06. It is mandatory that government organizations carry out a Security Assessment through Sri Lanka CERT at least on an annual basis. Further, it is required to carry out a Security Assessment in the following instances:
  - (a). after an incident has occurred
  - (b). after a major change is made
  - (c). after changes have been made to the platform or hosting environment
  - (d). after the spread of virus/malware
  - (e). after changes to policies, standards, and guidelines or
  - (f). as determined by the organization
07. The government organizations shall follow the instructions outlined in the following security guidelines published by Sri Lanka CERT.
  - (a). Website Security Guidelines for Government Organizations,
  - (b). Web Application Security Guidelines for Government Organizations

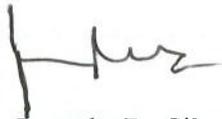
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- (c). Annexure of Web Application / Website Security Guideline
- (d). Technical Guide for Website and Web Application Security

08. The aforementioned guidelines can be downloaded from the following websites;  
[www.cert.gov.lk](http://www.cert.gov.lk) : Refer “Knowledge base – Resource” tab.  
[www.onlinesafety.lk](http://www.onlinesafety.lk) : Refer “Resource” tab.
09. All Security Assessments shall be conducted by Sri Lanka CERT at a nominal fee based on the scope of the engagement. The fee should be allocated from the annual budget of the government organizations.
10. It is mandatory to report occurrences of any cyber incident related to the government organization’s website and web applications to Sri Lanka CERT by the respective organization. (Maximum within 24 hours)
11. Sri Lanka CERT shall provide assistance to the Government Organizations for cyber security related issues. ICTA shall provide infrastructure support and assisting in implementation.
12. In addition to the security guidelines in this circular, you are advised to follow the “Guidelines for Developing Sri Lanka Government Websites” <https://bit.ly/gosl-website-guide> document by ICTA to ensure your websites are developed and maintained as specified by the ICTA.
13. For any further clarifications Government Organizations may contact Sri Lanka CERT (0112691692, [websec@cert.gov.lk](mailto:websec@cert.gov.lk)) and ICTA (0112369099, [info@icta.lk](mailto:info@icta.lk)).



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